Message from Exec. Reardon on Newtown tragedy

We are all shocked and devastated by the tragic loss of life today in Newtown, Connecticut.

I encourage everyone to keep your thoughts and prayers with the souls of those violently taken that they receive eternal peace.

As a nation, we grieve for the families who have lost their loved ones and pray that God holds them and comforts them during their time of need.

Please pray for all humanity that the better nature of our hearts compels us all to protect the most vulnerable of society, to condemn acts of violence everywhere and to commit ourselves to the never-ending pursuit of civility and compassion in our own communities.

Today's act of violence should never be forgotten, nor should we as a society become familiarized with such heinous acts.

Let us all honestly commit ourselves to addressing the factors that culminated in this horror and work to ensure no family or community suffers such a tragedy in the future.

Sincerely,

County seeks photos, stories of Centennial Trail

Rail spur between Snohomish and Bryant during 1930-1976 is focus

Snohomish County, which is designing an interpretive education project along the Centennial Trail, is collecting historical information on how the former rail line was used.

Sponsored by the county’s Economic Development Department with grant funding from the Washington State

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Sincerely,
Department of Archaeology & Historic Preservation, the project seeks to elevate the rich history of the Centennial Trail while exploring the dynamic future of this region in industry, technology, recreation and mobility.

“The Centennial Trail Interpretive Project offers a rare opportunity to share the exceptional history of an amazing community resource,” said Snohomish County Executive Aaron Reardon. “We are always looking for ways to bring together our history, culture and environment.”

The project will consist of interpretive signs, an educational video and a website dedicated to telling the story of the Centennial Trail area along its 28 miles of trailheads from the city of Snohomish in the south to the new Nakashima Farm site in the north.

The county is asking residents to share photos, stories, memories and other information to help create a compelling cultural resource for the community and generations to come.

Email historic information for the interpretive program to info@centennialtrail.com or by regular mail at:

Site Story
Attn: Centennial Trail
2513 Eleventh Avenue West
Seattle, WA 98119

To learn more about the project, click here. For more information on the trail, click here.

**Work in Marysville will prevent substance abuse**

Snohomish County’s Human Services Department will be working with Marysville Middle School and the Marysville community to keep youth, young adults and others free of alcohol and other drug misuse, while creating a healthier community.

The project will support training, technical assistance, and community and school-based prevention programs, and is funded by Washington State Department of Social and Health Services’ Division of Behavioral Health and Recovery (DBHR) under its Prevention Redesign Initiative program.

“Marysville’s selection as one of 19 communities statewide to be funded shows community leaders’ willingness to tackle the difficult issues facing children nationwide,” said Snohomish County Executive Aaron Reardon.

The initiative will focus community and school-based prevention resources in Marysville, increasing opportunities to see community-wide changes to drug prevalence rates and associated consequences.

The Marysville Together Coalition will begin services no later than July, 1, 2013, and invites community members to be involved with planning and implementing programs.
A number of factors were considered in selecting Marysville and the Marysville School District for services. These included a variety of data related to substance abuse along with Marysville School District’s readiness to benefit from these services.

Marysville Together is represented by parents, grandparents, youth, health-care professionals, educators, law enforcement, faith leaders, civic and volunteer groups, government, substance-abuse prevention and treatment organizations, business, media, schools and youth-serving organizations.

To achieve the primary goal of reducing underage drinking and the related negative consequences such as juvenile crime, community members will identify the highest prevention needs, plan and implement evidence-based strategies, leverage local resources and evaluate the impact of selected programs.

Prevention Redesign Initiative communities, such as the one in Marysville, will focus on reducing underage drinking among 8th and 10th graders, improving academic performance, and reducing juvenile crime.

“The state’s goal in targeting prevention services will help cities such as Marysville that are ready to tackle the problem of drug abuse in their communities,” Reardon said.

Information and tips for parents for preventing underage drinking can be found here.

**Residents urged to prepare for emergencies**

What do earthquakes, windstorms, heavy rain and flooding have in common? All have impacts that can be alleviated when residents become better prepared for disaster situations.

Snohomish County’s Department of Emergency Management (DEM), the Everett Office of Emergency Management and Emergency Services Coordinating Agency are joining together to encourage residents to make their households more prepared.

“Because we cannot control when a disaster event may occur in our region, taking steps toward preparedness is important for our families’ comfort and safety when something happens,” said Snohomish County Executive Aaron Reardon. “Preparedness can reduce panic and help us return to normal faster.”

Preparedness can include many things — disaster supplies, household communication plans, alternative route planning and home evacuation plans — and doesn’t have to be expensive to be effective. Disaster supply kits should include basic first-aid items such as bandages, cleaning and disinfecting products, over-the-counter fever reducers and pain relievers.

Kits also should include non-perishable, canned or dehydrated foods as well as water. Each person needs one gallon of water per day. It is also important to think about ways to heat and purify water for consumption or sanitation. Families should think through the unique daily requirements of each household member including pets, infants and small children.
Residents also should keep basic supplies in their cars or commuter bags. These supplies might change based on the weather, but should always include a flashlight, food, water and protection from the elements, perhaps a rain poncho or “space” blanket.

There are many sites that can help families prepare for disasters, but a great place to start is Emergency Management’s preparedness web page.

Thank you very much for taking the time to read my electronic newsletter.

If you would like to send me your comments and feedback, or if you would like to unsubscribe, simply reply to this message.

You may also contact me directly by phone at 425.388.3460.