National Night Out scheduled for Willis Tucker Park, Aug. 7

Join your neighbors for crime prevention tips and fun during this year’s National Night Out Against Crime event on Tuesday, Aug. 7, at its new location, Willis Tucker Community Park.

Sponsored by the Snohomish County Executive Office in partnership with the Snohomish County Sheriff’s Office, local police departments and area nonprofits, the annual event will feature free food, face painting, games and more, including live music by Jètte and the Resonators.

NNO visitors will have the opportunity to learn how local law enforcement is working to reduce crime and protect families as well as learn steps they can take to increase public safety.

“Improving public safety is something each of us can do,” said Snohomish County Executive Aaron Reardon. “National Night Out is a great annual event for learning new ways to keep our community safer.”

Families can visit booths hosted by the Snohomish County Department of Emergency Management, Naval Station Everett (which won a national award for its booth last year) and local police department and fire districts. Emergency vehicles and personnel will be onsite to offer demonstrations and crime prevention information.

There also will be free food including hot dogs, sno-cones and corn-on-the-cob.

The event will be held from 5 to 8 p.m. at Willis Tucker, 6705 Puget Park Drive in Snohomish. More than 1,000 people attended last year’s National Night Out at McCollum Park.

State approves county’s new shoreline protection plan

Snohomish County’s updated shoreline master program has been approved by the Washington Department of Ecology (Ecology).

The county’s updated program replaces its 1974 shoreline program – a set of guidelines that
will result in significant improvements in the protection, use, development and restoration of the county’s estimated 2,000 miles of freshwater and marine shorelines.

“The adoption of our updated Shoreline Master Program is a tremendous accomplishment for Snohomish County. It was truly a coordinated effort between the county, our citizens and many key stakeholders,” said Snohomish County Executive Aaron Reardon. “This plan ensures that the goals of the Shoreline Management Act are being met and that our shorelines will continue to be protected for this and future generations.”

The update combines local plans for future development and preservation with new development ordinances and related permitting requirements. The update also significantly improves alignment of shoreline codes with environmental protection and with the county’s current comprehensive land-use plan and other codes.

The revised master program combines local plans for future shoreline development and preservation with new shoreline development ordinances and related permitting requirements.

Snohomish County brought diverse local interests to the table to plan and develop the update, beginning with a thorough inventory of existing land-use patterns and environmental conditions. These groups included shoreline property owners, scientists, tribal representatives, environmental interest groups, and state and local resource agency staff.

McMahon Duet brings bluegrass to County Plaza, July 25

Looking for some Allison Krauss- and Gillian Welch-inspired bluegrass fun? If so, you’ll want to check out Wednesday’s “Music on the Plaza” featuring the Steve and Jane McMahon Duet.

The duet is the third performance in the free eight week program, presented by the Snohomish County Executive Office and held at the Snohomish County Campus amphitheater, located at Rockefeller Avenue and Wall Street in Everett. Although a duet, the pair plays a number of instruments including the upright bass, guitar, harmonica, banjo and autoharp.

Don’t miss other great bands and musical styles – including local jazz and rock 'n' roll – between 11:30 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. each Wednesday through Aug. 29. Bring a sack lunch or treat yourself to kettle corn, burgers and brats from the Comcast Arena Grill. Grab some fresh flowers from local Hmong growers while you explore other vendors and savor the summer.

Remaining concert series schedule:
Aug. 1 Crème Tangerine, Beatles-Covers
Aug. 8 Preacher’s Wife, Twang-Pop

Sincerely,
Aaron Reardon
County’s Project Homeless Connect serves 1,000 in need

As many as 1,000 individuals and families needing human services attended Snohomish County’s fourth annual Project Homeless Connect at Cascade High School.

Approximately 400 volunteers and agency staff provided services, which included medical and dental care, rent assistance, veterinary services, legal services, hearing and vision services and veteran’s services. Everyone was offered a hot meal.

“We know there are families and individuals still struggling to meet their own needs, pay their rent, find a job or secure housing,” said Snohomish County Executive Aaron Reardon. “While there are signs of economic recovery, we still must do all we can to provide critical assistance to those that need it.”

Snohomish County’s Human Services Department collaborates with the city of Everett, The Homeless Policy Task Force, United Way, Community Health Center, Snohomish Health District, Medical Teams International, DSHS, numerous housing and social services providers, and community members to provide services.

This year, approximately 1,150 meals were served. More than 670 bags and backpacks containing toiletries were distributed by the YWCA and an additional 290 backpacks containing substance-abuse prevention materials were provided to youth by Snohomish County’s Human Services Alcohol and Other Drugs Division. About 130 people received foot care, 127 pets received basic care, 102 people received dental services and 144 households were provided housing information.

Donations are still being collected to offset expenses and to begin planning for next year’s event. To make monetary donations, please make checks payable to: The Everett Gospel Mission c/o Project Homeless Connect, PO Box 423, Everett, WA 98201-0423.

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.