Reardon joins staff for ATS Components facility opening

Snohomish County Executive Aaron Reardon joined nearly 100 staff at ATS Components on Thursday as they officially dedicated their new facility. ATS, an aircraft maintenance, repair and overhaul company, provides comprehensive component services to customers worldwide, primarily for Boeing aircraft. The new facility houses about 100 staff, but ATS has plans to double its capacity in coming years. Pictured with Executive Reardon is ATS President and CEO Matt Yerbic for a ceremonial ribbon cutting that was also attended by other regional officials including Rogers Weed, Washington’s Department of Commerce director; Everett Mayor Ray Stephanson; and Bob Drewel, executive director of the Puget Sound Regional Council.

Airport’s Community Council meets Feb. 15
The Paine Field Community Council will hold its winter meeting at 7 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 15, at the Future of Flight, 8415 Paine Field Blvd., Mukilteo.

The Paine Field Community Council was formed in 1980 with the purpose of reviewing, assessing and making recommendations to the airport director and affected governmental entities with regard to the airport. In addition, the Community Council promotes mutual cooperation and understanding between the airport, residential communities and airport users.

The Community Council meets three times a year and reviews current issues relating to the airport. Council members receive no compensation for their efforts. The Community Council will be welcoming new members at this meeting and airport staff will present operational summaries, project updates, air service updates, tenant updates and local aviation attractions.

For more information about the Paine Field Community Council, go to www.painefield.com or contact Jennifer Eckman at 425-388-5101.

Dial 9-1-1, not text, for emergency assistance

Need help fast? Dial 9-1-1.

Local 9-1-1 officials are reminding residents to call, not text, when they have an emergency. While the ability to include text messaging options for 9-1-1 reporting is being tested, reliable methods still don’t exist, and text messages to 9-1-1 in most parts of the country, including Snohomish County, can’t be received.

Voice calls to 9-1-1 automatically route to the closest emergency call center based on where the call is made, and there is an immediate confirmation with the 9-1-1 operator that the call has been received. Texting technology doesn’t yet provide specific location information and there is no way for the sender to confirm their text was received.

“Snohomish County will continue making upgrades to our system, benefiting our residents,” said Snohomish County Executive Aaron Reardon. “We’ll also continue looking at texting infrastructure for future use.”

Since 2010, Snohomish County has invested more than $2 million in 9-1-1 equipment upgrades using local 9-1-1 excise tax revenues.

In August 2011, the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) announced a five-step plan for making texting to 9-1-1 centers a reality, but that plan is still in the early stages. Snohomish County is watching carefully as 9-1-1 texting and related projects are developed and tested around the United States.

Special systems such as TDD/TTY (Telecommunication Device for the Deaf) have been in place for years for the hearing-impaired community and those remain fully integrated into
DUI promotions help limit Super Bowl arrests

Snohomish County law enforcement arrested four drivers suspected of impaired driving during Super Bowl Sunday, signaling that strong “Don’t Drink and Drive” promotions had been successful.

Target Zero Teams in Snohomish, King and Pierce counties contributed to 47 arrests statewide on Super Bowl Sunday, one of the lowest in comparison to other, more recent emphasis patrols. About a dozen city officers, deputies and troopers worked Snohomish County roadways during the Target Zero emphasis patrol.

“This is positive progress in our fight against impaired driving,” Snohomish County Executive Aaron Reardon said. “Any death attributed to impaired driving is senseless and completely avoidable.”

In 2010, there were 32 people killed on roadways in Snohomish County, with 19 of those deaths involving an impaired driver.

The most significant incident occurred at 1 a.m. Monday morning, when a Mill Creek police officer arrested an alleged impaired 29-year-old driver after he left the roadway and crashed into a Snohomish County Public Works trailer on Seattle Hill Road.

While the trailer was severely damaged, no one was injured.

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