Veterans Day -- an opportunity to remember

Tomorrow is Veterans Day, an opportunity for each of us to thank the women and men who have served and continue to serve in our U.S. military. About 60,000 veterans call Snohomish County home, and on Nov. 16, those who serve on the USS Ford will return to Naval Station Everett following a six-month deployment to the Western Pacific.

In Snohomish County, we are continuing to expand our services geared toward veterans and their families. In September, we unveiled the Network of Care for Service Members, Veterans & Their Families Program, which is designed to bring together multiple services geared toward and dedicated to veterans and their families in a one-stop-shopping format.

Through the Network of Care Program, Snohomish County can now link veterans to everything from how and where they can find out what federal benefits they are eligible for to what state and local services might be available for employment, housing assistance, counseling, transportation or even childcare.

In an effort to increase transitional housing for veterans, Snohomish County announced in October that we also are proceeding with development of a local housing project at Filbert Road. The county hopes to construct affordable, supportive and transitional housing for veterans.

We are looking at other ways to increase our Veterans’ Assistance Program, which helps local veterans solve many of the problems they may face when returning home. If you are a veteran in need, please call our office at 425-388-7255.

We must never take for granted the freedoms we have here in the United States, and we must always remember the sacrifices our veterans make every day. We owe each of them our greatest respect and admiration.

Sincerely,
Did you know that you can track how well the County is meeting its performance goals?

The SnoStat system tracks how well the County is delivering services, the costs of those services, and the efficiency and effectiveness of service delivery.

Simply visit our SnoStat Web site.

Contact me:

3000 Rockefeller Ave.
M/S #407
Everett, WA 98201

Phone: 425.388.3460
Fax: 425.388.3434

Send me an email.

Sincerely,

Aaron Reardon

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Parks unveils arch along Centennial Trail

Last Saturday, Snohomish County’s Parks Department dedicated “Resilience” by artist Joe Powers. The sculpture is a centerpiece along the Centennial Trail north of Arlington.

Snohomish County looks to promote tourism

Snohomish County is currently accepting applications from private, public and nonprofit agencies for projects that develop and promote tourism in the county under the new Tourism Promotion Area program.

The purpose of the funds is to grow the county’s tourism economy through increased visitor spending at Snohomish County lodging establishments as well as increase retail, restaurant, transportation, attraction and other local spending. Annually, the travel industry generates about 9,000 jobs and $798 million in direct visitor spending in Snohomish County.

Project applications will be reviewed by the Tourism Promotion Area Board of Directors, which will make recommendations to the Snohomish County Executive and County Council for final approval.

Funds will be available beginning in January and will be awarded on a competitive basis to applicants whose projects will generate overnight room stays in lodging establishments throughout the county.

Details of eligibility and other program requirements are included in the application package, which must be filled out and returned to the
Snohomish County Office of Economic Development by 5 p.m. Monday, Dec. 19. Applications received after that time and date will not be considered.

Applications are available by contacting the Office of Economic Development at 3000 Rockefeller Avenue, M/S #411, Everett, WA, 98201.

For more information on the program, contact Wendy Becker at 425-388-3186 or wendy.becker@snoco.org.

County seeks members for noxious weed control board

Snohomish County is seeking volunteers to serve on its Noxious Weed Control Board in Districts 2, 3, 4 and 5, which serve areas from Arlington to the southern border of Snohomish County.

The Noxious Weed Control Board designs and administers Snohomish County’s noxious weed control program under existing state law and county policies.

New members will begin serving in 2012 after appointment by the county executive. Terms are for four years. The board meets seven times during the year with meetings scheduled the second Thursday of February, March, April, May, July, September and December 2012.

At least four of the voting members must be involved in some sort of agricultural activity. Eligible persons must also reside in the district in which they are applying. To view information on the district boundaries, click here.

A written application along with the signatures of 10 registered voters residing in the same district is required. Members serve as volunteers but are compensated for expenses related to their duties.

Applications can be obtained at the Snohomish County Noxious Weed Control Board office at 26718 115th Ave. NE, Arlington. For more information, call 360-435-7830 or 360-708-8166. Applications will be accepted until the positions are filled.

The next board meeting will be held at 10:30 a.m. at the county’s Road Maintenance Conference Room located at 19700 67th Ave. NE, Arlington.

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.