"Snohomish County is taking no chances"

From job creation to job training, from transportation to higher education, Snohomish County is working together to get the job done right.

We’re the only major government in the state of Washington to balance its budget and build a rainy day fund without ever raising general fund taxes.

We are meeting our obligations to our taxpayers and building for the future. Responsible fiscal planning such as Snohomish County uses is the underpinning to economic growth.

This morning, the Seattle Times ran an editorial pointing out our past and recent efforts.

Titled “Success is fragile, and Snohomish County is taking no chances,” it says, “In a dicey economy, future success cannot be left to chance. Snohomish County, with so much to lose, and so much to gain, gets it.”

As your county executive, I’m committed to keeping this county on track, in the black and moving forward.

If you missed the editorial, click here.

Sincerely,

County finalizes Lake Roesiger purchase

Snohomish County and the Washington State Department of Natural Resources finalized its purchase of nearly 2,900 acres near Lake Roesiger for conservation and park purposes earlier this week.
The Department of Natural Resources (DNR) has purchased 2,845 acres, located west of Lake Roesiger between Dubuque Road and Carpenter Road.

Snohomish County purchased a 200-acre conservation easement on part of that land as well as an additional 40 acres. The remainder of the DNR land will be managed for timber.

“The cooperative effort leading to this land purchase will afford Snohomish County residents, as well as those living throughout the state, new recreational opportunities,” County Executive Aaron Reardon said. “County staff, including our world-class Parks Department, has worked hard to turn a concept into a reality.”

Snohomish County worked closely with the DNR and Cascade Land Conservancy (CLC) to secure this private property for public ownership. The CLC served as an agent negotiating purchase terms to assist in the land’s conservation.

Snohomish County, through its Parks and Recreation department, is now working with DNR concerning future public uses of this property, which will include camping and hiking.

Reardon joins Evergreen Speedway to protect environment

Snohomish County Executive Aaron Reardon will serve as the Evergreen Speedway’s Grand Marshal on Sunday, waving the first green flag of the day to start the races and protect the environment.

Snohomish County’s Evergreen Speedway is teaming up with NASCAR this weekend to promote its “NASCAR Green Clean Air” initiative, which will include tree-planting projects at the Evergreen State Fairgrounds.

Every time the green flag drops at Sunday’s NASCAR K&N Pro Series West race, NASCAR will donate 10 Leyland Cyprus trees to be planted at the northern end of the fairgrounds where the speedway is located.

“Snohomish County is pleased to be a part of NASCAR’s push to reduce its environmental footprint,” Reardon said. “This program will not only enhance our popular fairgrounds and raceway, but it will also raise awareness of the need to conserve our resources.”

The Evergreen Speedway is one of five NASCAR tracks nationwide selected to be part of the initiative this year. Trees will be planted between the raceway’s northern end and the world-class equine facilities also located at the fairgrounds. The trees will double as a protective

How are we doing?

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,
buffer and clean the air.

Sunday’s Coors Light 300 is made up of two races. The GM Crate National 100 at 1 p.m. will be followed by the K&N Pro Series West 200 at 3:15 p.m. These events bring racers from the western United States, Canada and Mexico to Snohomish County, and will be aired on the SPEED Channel at 3 p.m., July 28.

Friday, from 2 to 10 p.m., Evergreen Speedway will host a Community Block Party off North Kelsey Street in Monroe with live music, local merchant booths and food. Local and national NASCAR drivers and teams will have haulers and cars on display for autographs.

Saturday night’s race features five local and touring divisions as well as practice and time trials for Sunday’s races. The Beacon Plumbing Freakin’ 200 begins at 6 p.m.

Discount tickets are available at the Speedway office through Saturday, and reserved seats can be purchased at www.evergreenspeedway.com.

Executive department honored for work

Snohomish County’s Human Resources Department has been awarded the Western Region IPMA-HR Agency Award of Excellence.

This International Public Management Association for Human Resources award recognizes innovations and improvements to multiple human resource programs between 2008 and 2010 at Snohomish County.

“Continued improvement is what we expect from our departments and employees,” Snohomish County Executive Aaron Reardon said. “Human Resources always steps up to and succeeds in that task.”

Considered for the award were the county’s Equal Opportunity, Diversity and Inclusion; Wellness; Outplacement Services; and Workplace Flexibility programs.

The county’s Human Resources Department, led by Director Bridget Clawson, also won awards in 2009 and 2010 from the Washington Public Employer Labor Relations Association, the National Association of Counties for outplacement services, and the Alfred P. Sloan Foundation for workplace flexibility.

Music on the Plaza strums into action

With sunny skies and warm weather Wednesday, Snohomish County kicked off its annual Music on the Plaza with bluegrass band Mission
Mountain Trio.

This Wednesday, county residents can gather at the County Campus amphitheater, located at Rockefeller Avenue and Wall Street, to catch the Rikers Island Blues Band.

“These summer concerts are a great way to enjoy a Wednesday lunch outside,” said Snohomish County Executive Aaron Reardon.

The free concerts routinely feature local artists and are presented by the Snohomish County Executive Office and the Snohomish County Arts Commission.

The lunchtime concerts are open to the general public and are held from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.

In addition to great music, fresh flowers from local Hmong growers as well as kettle corn, burgers and brats from the Comcast Arena Grill will be for sale.

Below is a list of remaining performances:

* July 13 Rikers Island Blues Band, blues & swing;
* July 20 Camille Bloom Feisty, soulful rock;
* July 27 Massy Ferguson, Americana roots;
* Aug. 3 Magazine, classic rock;
* Aug. 10 Wild Snohomians, rock and roll;
* Aug. 17 Nathan Arneson, county;
* Aug. 24 Sepals Gritty, indie rock.

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.