Celebrate Safely on Independence Day

As the Fourth of July holiday approaches, we would like to wish everyone a safe and happy holiday.

The Snohomish County Fire Marshal's office urges residents to use caution when discharging fireworks during the Fourth of July fireworks season and also to extend common courtesy to their neighbors by limiting the hours during which they discharge.

Snohomish County Fire Marshall Tom Maloney says there is much that can be done to protect children, the public and our communities from fireworks injury or damage. “Set family boundaries,” says Maloney. “Supervision is paramount in keeping children safe.”

Maloney cautions fireworks should not be readily available to tempt the curiosity of young children, and should be stored in a secured location to prohibit their access.

For more information about firework safety, legal discharge times and public firework displays visit www.snoco.org and type in the keyword “fireworks” or contact your local fire department.

continued
Ribbon cutting for walkway near Pinewood Elementary

Executive Aaron Reardon joined other public officials at a ribbon-cutting celebration earlier this week for the completion of a high-priority pedestrian walkway to improve safety for children walking to Pinewood Elementary.

The 2600 foot walkway at 86th Place NE and 52nd Ave NE, constructed of pervious asphalt used in low impact development, was designed to provide a safer route to school for neighborhood children. There are five schools within a mile of the project and traffic volumes in the area average over 7,000 vehicles a day.

The project is part of the community infrastructure initiative, launched by Executive Reardon and approved by the County Council last year under the acronym ECIDI. Use of ECIDI Bonds accelerated construction of the walkway.

“By accelerating the completion of this walkway not only did we improve safety and mobility for school children ahead of previous schedules,” said Reardon, “but also we saved taxpayer money.”

The County used its bonding capacity and existing available construction funds to build over $50 million in needed infrastructure projects in the next three years – as much as ten years ahead of previous schedules.

The initiative is already at work delivering 46 critical road, parks and drainage infrastructure projects to neighborhoods across Snohomish County.

continued
Art exhibit unveiled on County Plaza

This week, works of art representing a variety of styles from six Puget Sound area artists were unveiled as part of a temporary sculpture exhibition on the Snohomish County Plaza in downtown Everett.

The exhibit, titled IV Sculpture, is presented by the Snohomish County Arts Commission in partnership with Snohomish County and will be on display through the end of 2007.

“Public art contributes to community identity and character,” said County Executive Aaron Reardon. “Incorporating art into the urban landscape of the County Plaza supports the arts and promotes our campus as a community gathering place.”

For a listing of the artists and a sneak peak at the pieces on display, visit www.snohomishcountyarts.org.

“One of the goals of the Snohomish County Arts Commission is to connect citizens with a range of cultural opportunities that celebrate the diverse arts and culture of the County, said Rebecca Chawgo, Chair of the Arts Commission. “This exhibition brings new cultural experiences and exploration directly into the lives of our community.”

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.