



Snohomish County Council News

NEWS from
Councilmember Ken Klein

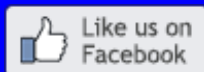
February, 2016



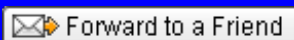
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Ken Klein's eNewsletter

Snohomish County Council
3000 Rockefeller Ave., M/S 609
Everett, Washington 98201

8th floor, Robert J. Drewel Building
Phone: 425-388-3494
E-Mail: ken.klein@snoco.org



[Alessandra Durham](#), Legislative Aide

Thank you for subscribing to my monthly newsletter!

Planning Committee - This year I am the chair of the Planning Committee. I've enjoyed the partnerships that I've been able to develop over the past two years with each of the Law and Justice/Human Services departments. I will continue to work on solutions to issues such as homelessness, chemical dependency, mental health and public safety.

I have heard from many constituents about difficulties they have navigating the land development and permitting process. My goal during the next year will be to work on legislation with staff to improve the application process and create predictability.

Homelessness - On January 28th, I participated in the Point in Time Count. Volunteers from throughout the area identified 481 individuals sleeping in places that are not meant for human habitation. That's an increase of 54% since last year at the same time. Of those 481 individuals, preliminary counts indicate that 205 of those individuals reside in north Snohomish County. This a countywide problem that requires a countywide solution.

Over the past couple of years, I have gathered information

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on what works and what doesn't work from government agencies and nonprofit organizations in Los Angeles, Portland, Seattle, and throughout Snohomish County. I had the opportunity to present my findings to County, State and Federal officials.

What doesn't work is what we are currently doing. What works is Housing First. Housing First is a model where a person who is homeless, due to a chemical dependency or a mental illness condition, is given a place to stay where all services that person requires to keep themselves and others safe, are provided on site.

Currently we, as a society, spend anywhere from \$50,000 to \$500,000 per individual per year on chronically homeless individuals who are suffering from chemical dependency and/or a mental illness. Those costs are usually hidden and are paid by taxpayers in the form of police, fire, court, legal, jail and hospital expenses.

The Housing First model has proven that a chronically homeless person with medical issues can be taken care of for less than \$15,000 per year. We need to radically change the way that we address mental health and chemical dependency in our country. We cannot bury our head in the sand and hope that the problem will go away. We cannot expect that simply passing new laws will be the solution.

Snohomish County is currently reviewing proposals for supportive housing projects and is evaluating them as they are received to determine what the best path forward is. I will continue to keep you updated as we progress.

Go, See, Do!

USFS Guided Snowshoe Trip on the Mt. Loop

This winter trek follows the route of the former Everett and Monte Cristo railway as it winds its way up the South Fork Stillaguamish River. We will make a number of stops along the way to discuss who lives in this valley in the winter and how they manage to do it, from Golden-crowned kinglets to beavers and humans. Our turn around point is the site of the former Big 4 Inn where we will have lunch in the picnic shelter and possibly get a glimpse of the 4,000 foot vertical face of Big 4 Mountain. Reservations open on Monday, January 25th!

Date: Saturday, February 6th

Location: Verlot Public Service Center, Mountain Loop Hwy, Granite Falls 98252

Details: To make reservations, visit [Winter Snowshoe Program at Verlot - Big Four](#) or call 360.436.1155

Marysville - Father-Daughter Valentines Dance

Fathers and daughters of all ages are invited to join the City of Marysville for their annual Father-Daughter Valentines Dance! Enjoy refreshments, music and receive a

5x7 photo to commemorate a memorable night of dancing with Dad!

Registration opens on January 5th through [Marysville ePlay](#) - click on Special Events. Pre-registration is *required* and space is limited.

Dates: Saturday, February 6th and Saturday, February 20th

Time: 5:30pm - 7:00pm or 7:30 - 9:00pm

Cost: \$25 per couple and \$5 for each additional daughter attending the same session

Location: Cedarcrest Middle School Cafeteria,

Contact: For more information, please call Marysville Parks at 360-363-8400.

Arlington - Stillaguamish Eagle Festival

With winter comes the return of the eagle to the Stillaguamish River. To celebrate these special winter residents, Arlington hosts an annual Eagle Festival. We welcome you to visit and enjoy this environmental event that honors the area's eagles and Stillaguamish River. There will be guided tours, art shows, speakers, demonstrations, live music, wagon rides, and many other fun activities!

Dates: February 5th - February 6th

Time: See schedule for details

Location: Various locations throughout Arlington. Please visit [Eagle Festival Events](#) for more information

Contact: For more information, please call 360.403.3448 or visit [Eagle Festival Events](#)

The Great Northwest Glass Quest

The Great Northwest Glass Quest returns to Stanwood and Camano Island. Search for unique hand-blown glass treasures by world renowned glass arts, Mark and Marcus Ellinger. Pick up a Guide Book to find a plastic Clue Ball. Inside the plastic clue ball are instructions on where to pick up your glass treasure! Bring family and friends to this 10 day event.

Dates: February 12th - February 21st

Time: Varies

Location: Stanwood Camano Art Guild, 8700 1st St. NW Stanwood, WA

Contact: 360.629.ARTS (2787)

Stanwood - The Stanwood Camano Arts Guild presents "Art Aloft"

"Art Aloft", Stanwood Camano Arts Guild Annual Judged Art Show, an all member show featuring ribbons and awards.

Dates: February 12 - February 28th

Time: Tues. - Sat. 10:00am - 5:00pm, Sun. 11:00am - 3:00pm

Location: Stanwood Arts Guild, 8700 271st St. NW, Stanwood, WA

Website: <http://www.stanwoodcamanoarts.com/art-aloft-2>

Darrington - Potluck and Community Dance

Mansford Grange hosts the Contra/Square/Family Dances. Come kick up your heels to the sounds of the Northern Contraband with caller Amy Carroll!

Date: Saturday, February 13th

Time: Potluck begins at 5:30pm, Old-Time Dance begins at 7:00pm

Location: Mansford Grange, 1265 Railroad Ave., Darrington, WA

The Annual Port Susan Snow Geese and Birding Festival

The Annual Port Susan Snow Geese and Birding Festival returns! Stanwood is located on two of the largest estuaries in Puget Sound. Winter residents to these estuaries include Great Blue

Heron, Bald Eagles, Hawks, countless Shorebirds and many species of Ducks. There will be seminars, speakers, tours and children's activities. Twelve parks on Camano Island offer great locations to view from.

Dates: February 27th - February 28th

Time: Varies

Location: Floyd Norgaard Cultural Center, 27130 102nd Ave. NW, Stanwood

Contact: For more information, please visit [Port Susan Snowgoose & Birding Festival](#)

All the best,

Ken Klein

Phone: 425.388.3494

Email: ken.klein@snoco.org

I hope you found this eNEWSLETTER to be informative and useful. You can make it even more valuable by suggesting topics and issues for future newsletters. Please contact me at 425-388-3494, or e-mail. If you would like to share this newsletter, select the **Forward email** link below.

Sincerely,

Ken Klein
Snohomish County Council