

Snohomish County Executive **AARON REARDON**



Priorities in Action



Latest News & Upcoming Events

Friday, April 22, 2011

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Snohomish County leads U.S. in income growth



Executive Reardon and Dale Peinecke, president and CEO of Giddens Manufacturing and chairman of the Workforce Development Council Snohomish County, discuss new jobs during February's Boeing 767 rollout.

During the past five years, no major county in the United States had a greater increase in personal income growth than Snohomish County.

“This is not by accident,” said Snohomish County Executive Aaron Reardon. “We've made the conscious effort to make Snohomish County the most competitive county in the state.”

Snohomish County's personal income expanded by 40 percent, the largest five-year increase among major counties.

“This is not just about a job, it's about high-paying jobs,” Reardon said. “It's about creating jobs that allow our residents to afford a home and

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send their children to college.”

In 2009, Snohomish County residents earned a total of \$30.3 billion, according to research conducted by the American City Business Journals. That was an increase from \$29.8 billion in 2008 and \$21.6 billion in 2004.

“Snohomish County is on track, in the black and moving forward,” Reardon said. “We’re committed to creating opportunities for the families who call Snohomish County home.”

For a complete look at the report, click [here](#).

Savvy tech to take Centennial Trail users back in history

Snohomish County will receive nearly \$100,000 to complete a multimedia interpretive exhibit using modern technology to depict the history of the Centennial Trail.

Following a statewide competition, The Washington State Department of Archeology and Historic Preservation has awarded Snohomish County’s Office of Economic Development \$99,080 for its proposal “*PASTforward, A journey along the Centennial Trail.*”

As one of the region’s most popular attractions, the Centennial Trail is used by more than 520,000 people annually. The *PASTforward* project will use smartphones, droid platforms, QR tags and interactive websites to connect trail users to significant historical points of interest that dot the former railway along 23 miles of constructed trail.

“Imagine scanning a QR tag on the Centennial Trail and then immediately being linked to historical photos of rail construction in the late 1800s,” Snohomish County Executive Aaron Reardon said. “Learning about the trail just became more interesting and fun. We’re honoring our past using thoroughly innovative technology.”

“The Centennial Trail boasts historically significant locations, including original Native American trade and migration routes, a Japanese internment farmland confiscation site and early pioneer rail locales,” said Snohomish County Councilman Brian Sullivan. “It’s important that we use modern methods of communication to connect people to their history.”

The entire project, which includes using repurposed roadway signs for

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Sincerely,



Aaron Reardon

interpretive signage and creating a new interactive website, will be completed by the end of 2011. The county will be crafting an RFP for technological services in the coming weeks.

State dairy reps meet Reardon, discuss local farming issues



Executive Reardon met earlier in the week with 2010-2011 Washington State Dairy Ambassador Kristyn Mensonides and Emily Neff of Marysville (pictured), a candidate for this year's Dairy Ambassador. The three discussed the current climate of agriculture in Washington state, legislative issues affecting farmers and future goals.

Reardon to join leaders for annual Workers' Memorial Ceremony

Snohomish County Executive Aaron Reardon will join local leaders Wednesday for the annual Workers' Memorial Ceremony to be held in front of the County Courthouse.

The annual memorial honors those who have died at work, and will begin at 5:30 p.m.

“This year we'll remember those killed last year at the Tesoro Corp.

refinery in Anacortes,” Reardon said. “But this year is also emotional with the death of Corrections Officer Jayme Biendl, killed in January while on duty at the Monroe Correctional Complex.

“We cannot forget these men and women who went to work but never returned home,” Reardon added, borrowing a phrase from the Snohomish County Central Labor Council.

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