

Snohomish County Executive **AARON REARDON**



Priorities in Action



Latest News & Upcoming Events

Friday, June 18, 2010

www.snoco.org

Reardon approves plan to increase veteran, senior housing

Snohomish County is partnering with Senior Services of Snohomish County to provide 40 affordable housing units to seniors, veterans and their families.

County Executive Aaron Reardon signed an ordinance Monday approving a loan guarantee for Senior Services of Snohomish County. The loan guarantee will allow Senior Services to purchase and renovate a 40-unit complex named Tall Firs, located at 23000 55th Ave. W, Mountlake Terrace.

“Everybody should have a safe place to live, and these additional housing units will provide that,” Reardon said. “We must continue to find new housing opportunities throughout Snohomish County for those most in need.”

The ordinance was passed last week by the County Council. Council Chairman Dave Gossett was present for the signing.

“I’m excited to help provide this needed senior and veteran housing,” Gossett said. “This is a great example of how working together we can increase low-income housing at no cost to the taxpayer.”

The Tall Firs project will ultimately provide transitional housing for homeless veterans as well as permanent housing for low-income households up to 80 percent of the area’s median income. The rehabilitation work will include repairing exterior siding and roofing as well as window and floor replacement.

Compass Center, a Seattle-based veteran’s services organization, will provide key support services for the 16 transitional housing units available to homeless veterans.

The financing for this project will initially include \$2.85 million in tax-

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exempt bonds, \$1 million from the state's Land Acquisition Program. Senior Services is seeking additional funding through a federal program that provides both capital and service dollars in support of assisting veterans.

For more information on this project, contact Dean Weitenhagen, supervisor of the county's Office of Housing, Homelessness & Community Development, at 425-388-3267.

Reardon: Work hard toward your goals



Snohomish County Executive Aaron Reardon congratulates Alexander Nicholas, winner of a \$4,000 scholarship from the Pacific Northwest Regional Council of the National Association of Housing and Redevelopment Officials, during a luncheon in Nicholas honor at the Housing Authority of Snohomish County.

Reardon lauded Nicholas on his winning essay, which spoke of Nicholas' desire to attend college despite financial hardships. "I read your essay and could tell immediately that you have a desire to achieve – something not all people have," Reardon told Nicholas. "Work hard toward your goals and never let anyone tell you it can't be done."

Human Resources scores double prizes

Snohomish County's Human Resources Department has again been honored, this time for its outplacement services offered to employees

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facing layoffs.

The National Association of Counties (NACo) has recognized the department led by Bridget Clawson for its comprehensive suite of services to help employees find new employment as soon as possible. The program also provides resources to employees' families, including training and community assistance.

The county's Human Resources Department was recognized last month with the prestigious Alfred P. Sloan Award for Business Excellence in Workplace Flexibility. Human Resources' workplace flexibility programs help to maximize productivity with limited resources while supporting employees.

"Human resource departments nationwide are under considerable stress to provide increased services during this national recession," said Snohomish County Executive Aaron Reardon. "Our department is leading the pack with its innovations, compassion and continued dedication to our employees and their families."

The National Association of Counties (NACo) is the only national organization that represents county governments in the United States. This is the 41st year of its Achievement Award program.

Founded in 1935, NACo provides essential services to the nation's 3,068 counties. NACo advances issues with a unified voice before the federal government, improves the public's understanding of county government, assists counties in finding and sharing innovative solutions through education and research, and provides value-added services to save counties and taxpayers money. NACo's membership totals more than 2,000 counties, representing more than 80 percent of the nation's population.

Reardon: Multicultural music part of Snohomish County identity

As summer heats up, so will the Snohomish County Campus with its sixth annual Music on the Plaza series, beginning July 7 with roadhouse rhythm and blues during the lunch hour.

Concerts run Wednesday afternoons through Aug. 25. The county campus plaza is located at Rockefeller Avenue and Wall Street.

The annual Music on the Plaza Concert series features a variety of local artists and is presented by the county's Executive Office in conjunction with the Snohomish County Arts Commission. The Music on the Plaza concerts are free and open to the public.

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Sincerely,



Aaron
Reardon

“The summer concerts offer an opportunity to connect with the community while enjoying good music,” Reardon said. “This series offers a taste of multicultural music that’s an important part of Snohomish County’s identity.”

The series starts out with *Wired*, a high-energy dance band that loves to play classic 50s-style rock 'n' roll and the blues songs that inspired it. *Wired* consists of three seasoned rock 'n' roll lifers who joined forces to play music for people who want to have fun.

Other performers include honky tonk bad boys *The Shivering Denizens* and old-school Country Western stylings of *The Rainieros*.

Fresh flowers from local Hmong growers, kettle corn and burgers and brats from the Comcast Arena Grill also will be available.

Concert series schedule follows:

Snohomish County Campus

11:30 a.m.–1 p.m., Wednesdays

July 7 - *Wired*, Roadhouse Rhythm and Blues

July 14 - *Hotbox*, Classic Rock

July 21 - *Scott Cossu Trio*, Jazz Fusion

July 28 - *Global Heat*, Hip-Hop

August 4 - *The Rainieros*, Western Swing

August 11 - *Magazine*, Jette Rock!

August 18 - *Shivering Denizens*, Honky Tonk Madness

August 25 - *Scott Lindenmuth Trio*, Contemporary Jazz

For information, contact Wendy Becker, Snohomish County’s Cultural and Economic Development Officer, at (425) 388-3186 or go to www.snohomishcountyarts.org.

 **Residents asked for comment on hazards plan update**

Snohomish County invites residents to review and comment on the recently updated Snohomish County Natural Hazards Mitigation Plan (NHMP) beginning Friday, June 18.

The federal Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000 established the requirement for local communities to have a current hazards mitigation plan in order to receive certain types of non-emergency disaster assistance, including funding for mitigation projects. The NHMP assesses risks and mitigation for nine natural hazards present in the county (avalanche, dam failure,

earthquake, flood, landslides, severe weather, tsunami, volcano eruptions and wild fires).

Snohomish County and 42 participating planning partners, including local cities, fire districts and utilities, adopted the first NHMP in April 2005.

With the current plan set to expire in 2010, work on an update began in 2009. One of the most significant aspects of the update is its lists of proposed mitigation actions that could be used by each jurisdiction to reduce damage to property and impacts to people. As federal mitigation dollars become available, projects listed on an approved mitigation plan may be submitted to the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) for funding consideration.

Residents will have 14 days to review and comment on the draft update and project lists, beginning June 18 and ending at 5 p.m. July 2. There will be three ways to provide public input.

First, the draft plan will be available at www.snoco.org and then searching "hazard mitigation plan." Comments can be made online.

Second, two open houses, which will include a short presentation, will be held to collect comments. These public meetings are scheduled for 5:30-8:30 p.m. June 29 in the Snohomish County Public Meeting Room, First Floor Drewel Building, 3000 Rockefeller Ave., Everett; and 5:30-8:30 p.m. July 1 at the Monroe Fire Station, 163 Village Court, Monroe.

Finally, hardcopies of the draft update will be available for review at the Snohomish County Department of Emergency Management (3509 109th St. SW, Everett) and Snohomish County Public Works' Surface Water Management Division (3000 Rockefeller Avenue, Everett).

Following the public comment period, the draft update will be sent to FEMA for approval, and once approved it will serve as a template for risk reduction efforts throughout the county and participating cities and districts for the next five years.

Comments and questions can be directed to Program Manager Jason Biermann, Snohomish County Department of Emergency Management, at jason.biermann@snoco.org.

For more information on the meetings, or to request accommodations for persons with disabilities, call Mary Hurner in Surface Water Management at (425) 388-6401.

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.

