

Snohomish County Executive
AARON REARDON



Priorities in Action



Latest News & Upcoming Events

Thursday, January 18, 2007

www.snoco.org



Executive Reardon kicks off 2007 BizArt Conference

The second annual BizArt Conference will be held at the Everett Station on Friday, January 26 and Saturday, January 27. Snohomish County Executive Aaron Reardon will be on hand to kick off the conference.

The conference is led by artists with the goal of teaching other artists how to develop a business mindset that will allow them to thrive in today's commerce-driven world. This is one of three conferences held through the country by Self-Employment in the Arts (SEA).

“The BizArt conference helps local artists mold their inspiration and talent into a successful small business. Our entire community profits from business-savvy artists,” says Executive Reardon.

In 2006, by recommendation of the Snohomish County Arts Commission, Executive Reardon proposed and implemented an ordinance that dedicates a percent of construction projects costing over \$100,000 to the Arts fund. The funds are used to purchase works of art to be displayed around the County, increasing the economic vitality and enhancing educational opportunities for local children and adults through arts and culture.

Keynote speaker, Ted Orland, whose extensive career in art, design, publishing, and teaching, will focus on survival strategies and advice for artists about being successful. There will also be information regarding the resources available to artists locally.

Registration and more information [2007 BizArt Conference](#)

In this issue:

**Executive Reardon
kicks off 2007 BizArt
Conference**

**Snohomish County says
goodbye to Gary Weikel**

**Inclusion Manager
position proposed by
Executive Reardon**

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 website](#).

 **Snohomish County says goodbye to Gary Weikel**

At the end of January, we bid farewell to Gary Weikel. Weikel, an Everett native, has served the citizens of Snohomish County through three Executive administrations. After 20 years of dedicated service, Gary will retire from his current position as Special-Projects director and acting Parks Director.

“Gary has been a priceless asset to this County and its leaders. His knowledge, charisma and compassion are unparalleled, he will truly be missed,” says Executive Reardon.

Gary has been recognized on numerous occasions for his contributions and community involvement. In 1993 he received the “Centennial Citizen Award” from the City of Everett and in 2002 he was presented with the Governor’s Award of “Everyday Hero in Snohomish County.” Gary continues his involvement through his retirement as he will carry on his work with the Providence General Hospital Foundation. Weikel is succeeded by Tom Teigen.

We wish Gary the best of luck in his retirement.

 **Inclusion Manager position proposed by Executive Reardon**

Next week, the County Council will vote on a proposal by Executive Reardon to hire an Inclusion Manager to ensure County services are responsive to the needs of all members of our community. The Inclusion Manager will work with local citizens and County departments to improve access and effectiveness of County services.

Executive Reardon says, “We are fortunate to have rich culture and diversity in Snohomish County, it is time that County services reflect the needs of everyone in our community.”

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Or, [send me an email](#).

And please be sure to [visit me on the web!](#)

Sincerely,



Aaron Reardon

The Inclusion Manager will work with local community leaders and County staff to implement an Inclusion Initiative for the County. The Initiative will promote greater access to County hiring practices and improve County service delivery by eliminating inappropriate barriers.

This position will bridge the gap between the community and the County government to ensure that the ideals, goals, and objectives of our organization are congruent with the community at large and the business of the county echoes the needs of the population. These efforts will be focused on improving County services to underrepresented populations. Executive departments will create committees to review their practices to encourage further inclusion within the workplace.

The County Council will consider the Inclusion Manager proposal next week. Anyone interested in voicing their opinion is encouraged to contact their representative on the County Council.

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.