

Snohomish County Executive  
**AARON REARDON**



*Priorities in Action*



Latest News & Upcoming Events

Friday, September 7, 2007

[www.snoco.org](http://www.snoco.org)

 **Reardon unveils new playground,  
climbing rock at Lord Hill Regional Park**

County Executive Aaron Reardon will dedicate the newly constructed playground and climbing rock at Lord Hill Regional Park on Wednesday, September 12, 2007, at 3:30 p.m.

Lord Hill Regional Park is a 1500-acre County park featuring miles of hiking and equestrian trails and access to the Stillaguamish River for viewing and fishing. The park is located at 12921 – 150th St. SE, Snohomish.

The new playground includes a swing set, a super nova merry-go-round and a 7-foot climbing rock. The equipment serves children in the 2-to-12 year old age range.

“The families surrounding Lord Hill Park and throughout Snohomish County will have one more reason to visit and explore this community asset,” Executive Reardon said. “We are excited to complete the latest in a series of park projects that are improving the quality of our local park system.”

The playground project is funded by the Enhanced Community Infrastructure and Development Initiative (ECIDI) launched by Executive Reardon and approved by the County Council in 2006.

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**In this issue:**

**Reardon unveils new  
playground, climbing  
rock at Lord Hill  
Regional Park**

**Gates Foundation to  
Fund 62 Units of  
Affordable Housing in  
Snohomish County**

**SAVE THE DATE:  
University of  
Washington North Town  
Hall Meeting**

**SAVE THE DATE:  
SnoGold 2010 to hold  
community forum,  
unveil logo**

The ECIDI initiative leverages the County's improved bonding capacity and existing available construction funds to build over \$50 million in needed infrastructure projects in three years — almost ten years ahead of previous schedules. The initiative is already at work delivering 46 critical infrastructure projects to neighborhoods and communities across Snohomish County.

For more information on the event, please call the Snohomish County Parks Department at 425.388.6600, or visit the Snohomish County website at [www.snoco.org](http://www.snoco.org), and search "Parks."

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 **Gates Foundation to Fund 62 Units of Affordable Housing in Snohomish County**

This week, the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation announced the award of \$4.5 million in grants to fund 180 units of affordable housing in the region combined with social services to support homeless families. 62 of the funded units will be in Snohomish County.

Since 2000, the Gates Foundation has provided \$38.6 million for 1,445 new units housing in Snohomish, Pierce, and King Counties through the Sound Families Program. Snohomish County has been an active participant in Sound Families, and Executive Director Deanna Dawson serves on the Sound Families Steering Committee.

"Providing affordable housing is the single most important social issue facing our county today. Ending homelessness and solving the affordable housing crisis in our region will take partnerships between government, nonprofits, and the private sector," said County Executive Aaron Reardon. "We are fortunate to have a strong partner in the Gates Foundation, and I thank the Foundation not just for its commitment of funds, but also for its vision on this critical issue."

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## 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](#).

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## Contact me:

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

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

Sincerely,



Aaron Reardon

The Sound Families Program has served 1,487 families, and 2,728 children in Washington State. The Sound Families Program has directly served 390 families and 691 children in Snohomish County. 71% of the families served through the Sound Families Program in Snohomish County were able to move from the transitional housing provided in the program into stable, permanent housing. The services offered to families in the program include mental health counseling, child care, job training, money for work clothes, chemical dependency counseling, transportation, domestic violence counseling, legal advocacy, budgeting help and food programs.

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 **SAVE THE DATE: University of Washington North Town Hall Meeting**

A directive from the State Legislature in 2007, the Washington State Office of Financial Management (OFM) and the University of Washington (UW) will recommend sites for a new UW campus in North Puget Sound. A preliminary implementation plan and site recommendations are due to the Governor in November 2007. As part of the process, the UW and OFM are partnering with Snohomish County and other regional governments to hold a series of town hall meetings to engage the public in the site recommendation process.

Please come and share your thoughts and learn about the progress being made at a town hall meeting **Wednesday, October 3 at 7:00 p.m.** The meeting will be held at the Comcast Arena Everett Events Center.

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 **SAVE THE DATE: SnoGold 2010 to hold community forum, unveil logo**

On **Wednesday, October 17** Executive Reardon and SnoGold 2010 will be hosting “Get in the Game”, a community forum to unveil its new logo and discuss the progress and opportunities for Snohomish County relating to the 2010 Vancouver Olympics.

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The event will include a ceremony for unveiling of the SnoGold logo, a panel discussion on the 2010 Olympics including representatives from Washington State, the Tulalip Tribes, Comcast Arena Everett Events Center and more to be announced.

Details to be announced.

**About SnoGold:**

SnoGold's mission is to serve as a liaison to position Snohomish County for increased business and tourism opportunities before, during and after the 2010 Olympics and Paralympics in nearby British Columbia, Canada.

SnoGold welcomes all persons interested in helping promote Snohomish County as a visitor destination to teams, spectators and the Olympic family. For more information, please visit [www.snogold2010.com](http://www.snogold2010.com).

***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.***