

Snohomish County Executive
AARON REARDON



Priorities in Action



Latest News & Upcoming Events

Friday August 22, 2008

www.snoco.org

 **100th Evergreen State Fair honors 29 centennial farms**

Snohomish County Executive Aaron Reardon opened the 100th Evergreen State Fair on Thursday, highlighting the strong tradition of family farms in the community and paying tribute to the county's 29 Centennial Farms for their past 100 years of continuous production by a single family.

"For generations, these farms have provided our communities with thousands of jobs and our children with nutritious foods," Reardon said during the opening ceremony. "Today, these extraordinary farms and farmers have also helped to grow Washington State agriculture into a \$7 billion-a-year industry."

Many of the families are entrenched in Snohomish County history, including the Wanser family. William and Fannie Wanser were instrumental in organizing the first annual Snohomish County Fair and participated for many years.

But agriculture in Snohomish County is changing, and these families have learned to adapt to that change. Many have innovatively added new products to their farms or begun agro-tourism businesses bringing others out to see what farming is all about.

Below is a list of Snohomish County's Centennial Farms under the year they qualified.

2000

- Cedergreen Farm – Monroe
- James Foye Homestead – Monroe

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

- Arial Foye Homestead – Snow’s Berry Farm- Monroe
- Harvey Farm - Snohomish
- Hemstrom Homestead – Granite Falls
- Johnson Farm – Everett
- Lloyd Family Farmstead – Woodinville
- Major Farm – Stanwood
- Nelson Farm – Lavendar Hills Farm – Marysville
- Nordby Farm – Stanwood
- Ovenell Farm – Stanwood
- Ulrich Scherrer Farm – Granite Falls
- Smallman Homestead – Frohning Dairy – Monroe
- Smallman Homestead – Schmidt Farm – Monroe
- Steffen Farm – Monroe
- (Jens) Thomsen Homestead – Sunrise Dairy – Silvana
- Thrudvang Farm (Thomle Homestead) – Williams Farm LLC – Stanwood

2001

- Getchell Ranch – Marysville
- Grimm-Jensen Farm – Arlington
- Youngren Farm – Stanwood

2002

- Kraetz Farm – Arlington

2003

- Ricci Farm – Monroe
- Moe Farm – Silwood Dairy Farm - Stanwood

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

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

Sincerely,



Aaron Reardon

2004

- Robb Farm – Stanwood
- Spoerhase Homestead – Arlington

2005

- Hereth Farm - Snohomish
- Hillis Farm – Arlington

2006

- Wanser Farm – Flowing Lake

2007

- Birkestol Farm - Stanwood

Ice skaters join parade, sign autographs

Champion U.S. figure skater Rachael Flatt, as well as pairs champions Keauna McLaughlin and Rockne Brubaker, will join the Evergreen State Fair's annual parade through Monroe this Saturday, Aug. 23, followed by an autograph session at the fair's Agricultural Display Booth.

Flatt is the reigning World Junior champion and U.S. silver medalist. McLaughlin and Brubaker are the U.S. pairs champions and 2007 World Junior champions. Both are scheduled to appear at this fall's 2008 Skate America event being held Oct. 24-26 at Comcast Arena in Everett.

The three skaters will take part in the state fair parade down Main Street, Monroe, which runs from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. From there, they'll head over to the fair, where they'll be available to sign autographs from 2:30 to 5 p.m. just through the entrance at the West Gate of the fair. The figure skaters will make appearances at other booths during that time as well.

Following their autograph sessions, the three will be the

celebrity judges for the fair's first of several ice-cream making contests.

In addition to ice-cream making, the Agricultural Display Booth will host a number of contests and activities throughout the fair, which began Thursday, Aug. 21, and runs through Monday, Sept. 1. Fairgoers can enjoy a good grape stomp or try their hand at speed corn shucking.

Perhaps more fulfilling is the chance to see prominent chefs create dishes out of locally grown crops followed by a taste. Highlighting the "Chef of the Day" segments will be Russell Lowell, Larry Fontaine and Keith Luce.

Lowell's culinary career has spanned 32 years, starting at the age of 16. Owner of a premier catering service as well as three venues – Garden Café in Woodinville, Russell's on Wall Street in Seattle and Russell's of Bothell – Lowell uses a vast array of traditional and non-traditional foods ranging from vegetarian fare to wild game.

Fontaine brings more than 18 years of experience to the table, and is now the executive chef for Comcast Arena in Everett. He has a natural flair for hard work and zest, and loves to cook in bulk: Fontaine has served more than 3,800 cheese cakes, 17,000 Great American Feast Dinners, 6,200 sirloin and salmon dinners as well as more than 7,400 cheese and cracker platters.

Luce took the helm as The Herbfarm's executive chef in 2007. As a youngster, he worked in his grandfather's Italian restaurant in the Hamptons. Following an early, yet illustrious career, Luce was tapped by the White House as sous chef to the President of the United States during the first Clinton administration.

Finally, the Agricultural Display booth is harnessing solar power this year to power its electrical needs, lights and a biodiesel production unit during the fair. The county will produce enough energy from the sun to produce enough fuel to run the fair vehicles on biodiesel – a cleaner burning fuel. Demonstrations of the county's biodiesel initiative will be ongoing throughout the fair, and at 12:30 p.m., Aug. 25, there will be a lively debate at the Evergreen Stage about food versus fuel.

For a complete listing of displays and events, visit the county's Agricultural Display booth or visit www.evergreenfair.org.

 **Check out the grandstand concerts at the fair**

Don't miss out on some great concerts at the Evergreen State Fair.

Performers including Jars of Clay, Weird Al Yankovic, Blaine Larsen and Bill Engvall will headline evening concerts starting Sunday August 24.

2008 Grandstand Line-up:

Sunday, August 24

Jars of Clay and Leeland
7:00 p.m.

Monday, August 25

The Lost Trailers and Gary Allan
7:00 p.m.

Tuesday, August 26

Weird Al Yankovic
8:00 p.m.

Wednesday, August 27

Creedance Clearwater Revisited
7:30 p.m.

Thursday, August 28

Blaine Larsen and Bill Engvall
7:00 p.m.

For more information, or to purchase tickets go to www.evergreenfair.org.

 **Movies in the Park to conclude Thursday, August 28**

Don't miss "Happy Feet" on Thursday, August 28 as Movies in the Park at Willis Tucker Community Park comes

to a close for the season.

For the second year Sundquist Homes, in partnership with Snohomish County Parks, has sponsored the summer movie series held at Willis Tucker Community Park and the Evergreen State Fairgrounds.

Open seating begins at 7:30 p.m. at Willis Tucker, and seating is on the grass. Families and individuals should bring low-back lawn chairs and blankets for comfort.

Admission is free. Popcorn and soda are available for purchase.

Happy Feet (rescheduled from Aug. 14)

Rated PG

8:30 p.m., Aug. 28

For more information visit www.snocoparks.com.

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You may also contact me directly by phone at 425.388.3460.