



# ECHHO NEWSLETTER

February 2009

**Adios, Art . . .** ECHHO bids a fond farewell to Art Carpenter this month as he retires from his role as Equipment Manager. Art has been invaluable. He has assisted ECHHO's clients with their equipment needs, always going the extra mile to arrange for hospital beds and lift chairs. He has been a liaison with health care providers. He has coordinated volunteer help. Most of all, Art has been a cheerful and knowledgeable member of the staff. That he will be missed by everyone is an understatement. As for the future, Art has fascinating plans. He will walk nearly 500 miles on the Camino de Santiago in Spain beginning in late April. This is a traditional pilgrimage route that has been walked since 900 A.D. Art plans to begin in St. Jean de Pied de Port in France and walk to Santiago over a 6-week period. About 100,000 people walk this route in most years. For many pilgrims, this journey fulfills a lifetime goal. After completing this adventure on his own, Art will return to Port Townsend and undoubtedly explore other interesting avenues. We wish him well.



**Hello, Richard . . .** ECHHO welcomes Richard Maxwell, who is taking over the duties of Equipment Manager. He comes to us after recently retiring as a federal firefighter and EMT for the Department of Defense (30 years) and the Army Reserve (20 years). A San Francisco native, Richard moved to the Port Townsend area in 1998 when he accepted a position with the Naval Magazine Indian Island Fire Department. He and his wife, Laura, and daughter, Melissa, live on a 7-acre ranch. Richard is an outdoorsman and enjoys camping, fishing and hiking. We look forward to getting to know Richard in the vital role he will play in ECHHO's busy equipment department.

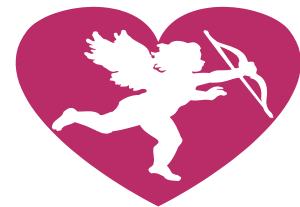


**Attention Drivers** ECHHO volunteer drivers who have not requested reimbursement for miles driven may want to claim an income tax deduction. Call the office at 379-3246 if you need documentation of your miles driven in 2008.

**Reminder:** The Hood Canal Bridge will be closed from May 1 – June 15, 2009. ECHHO and its clients will need to plan accordingly.

### Volunteer Birthdays

- 8 - Marge Luther
- 18 - Jackie Dale



<b>Total Volunteer Hours for January</b>	<b>381.5</b>	<b>126* Pieces of Medical Equipment Loaned</b> <b>103 People Served</b> <b>3,351 Miles Driven</b>
Transportation to Medical Appointments	147.0	
Chores and Errands	87.5	
Social Support/Visits	147.0	
		*Second highest month ever

Thanks to all our volunteers and supporters who make this service to the community possible. Do you have an idea, poem, photo, etc. for the newsletter? We welcome your creative contributions.  
The ECHHO Staff