



# ECHHO NEWSLETTER

March 2009



**Marge Luther** is a people person. Her genuine interest in people is obvious the moment you meet her. Born in Ketchikan, Alaska, Marge has lived in the warm, dry places she once sought out, but life brought her back to the Northwest. ECHHO is glad. Marge developed people skills through her career as a Curriculum & Training Coordinator for the City of Phoenix, AZ (15 years) and as an Office Manager with the Bell System in Seattle (20 years). Combined with three years in the U.S. Navy, Marge has acquired the know-how to deal with people from all walks of life. Equally important, she really cares about her community. Having chosen to return to small-town life, Marge says "I just love living in Port Hadlock and knowing all my neighbors." Retirement? "No, it's not my thing. Now I have time to do what I love best, helping others who are less fortunate than me." That philosophy brought Marge to ECHHO last year, where her enthusiasm has benefited us in many ways. In particular, Marge helps out in the office and is a driver for our clients. She delights in meeting new people and has found "the most interesting friends" through her driving assignments. One of her "favorites" is a client who grew up in Ketchikan, Alaska. Small world. Thank you, Marge, for making ECHHO part of your life. Like you, we look forward to a long friendship.

## New Mileage Reimbursement Procedure

**Attention Drivers:** Beginning April 1, 2009 we at ECHHO will be required to document all driving assignments on a monthly basis. In order to continue to receive mileage reimbursement funding from the Olympic Area Agency of Aging, our drivers and clients will be required to sign a form confirming the details of the drive.

**How it works:** The ECHHO office will mail a Mileage Reimbursement form and return envelope to the driver when an assignment is made. At the end of the trip, the driver will fill in the time and mileage. The driver and the client will sign the form. The driver will keep the form until month's end and add any additional trips. At the end of the month, the driver can then either mail the form back to us or drop it off at the ECHHO office.

We hope to make this paperwork as painless as possible, as it would be painful indeed to lose our funding for mileage reimbursement! Thanks to all of our dedicated drivers for your continued patience and cooperation.

**Vacationing volunteer drivers – a request from the ECHHO staff:** Please call us when you will be traveling and let us know the dates when you will be unavailable. It will help tremendously, and you will come home to fewer messages on your telephone. Please leave a detailed message on our phone if you notify us after office hours. Thank you!

**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

1	Mary Ann Verneuil	10	Lorraine Trautman	27	Margie Gormly
7	Stephanie Boyles	13	Bill Bloemker	29	Patt Roche

<b>Total Volunteer Hours for February</b>	<b>292.5</b>	<b>127 Pieces of Medical Equipment Loaned</b> <b>116* People Served</b> <b>4194 Miles Driven</b>  <b>* All-time high</b>
Transportation to Medical Appointments	194.5	
Chores and Errands	66.5	
Social Support/Visits	31.5	

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