

# EHAT Quarterly Review

## EHAT is Signing a Trail Near You!

In late January, EHAT held its first meeting to kick-off a campaign to encourage walking in Island County. The campaign started with a meeting at the NWFRC in Oak Harbor that was well attended by EHAT and other community members. The campaign's goal is to promote the health benefits of walking by utilizing the Z-Card®. Since the start of the campaign, EHAT has formed new partnerships with the Friends of Camano Island Parks, Island County Trails Council, South Whidbey Parks and Recreation, Oak Harbor Parks Department, and Island County Public Works.



*Site visit to Dugualla State Park (Pictured from left to right are: Carl Stephens, Jack Hartt, Adam Lorio, Whitney Webber, Mike Riley, Joantha Guthrie, Celine Servatius, and Aaron Terada)*

EHAT along with their partners and other community members have made site visits to the four locations and have met to decide on the final design of the trail signs. The trail signs are currently in production and will be ready for installation by late June. EHAT has contracted with graphic designer Barb Lyter of Lyter Photography/Design to design the layout of the Z-Cards®. We anticipate receiving the Z-Cards® by mid July and are planning to distribute them throughout July and August. ■

## EHAT and the City Of Oak Harbor Working Together

On March 1<sup>st</sup>, the Island County Health Department and the City of Oak Harbor with the support of EHAT co-hosted the "Short Course on Planning for a Walkable Island County" sponsored by the Washington State Department of Community, Trade and Economic Development (CTED) and the Planning Association of Washington. Commissioner Mike Shelton chaired the event; in attendance were other county commissioners, the Mayor of Coupeville, Island County and City of Oak Harbor planners, members of Oak Harbor's Planning Commission, and other members of the community. The course was held to address the barriers to walking identified at the first walkability forum. ■



*Short Course on Planning (Speakers from CTED pictured from left to right are: Anne Fritzel, Dave Catterson, and Tim Gates)*

## Dan Burden Comes to South Whidbey Island

EHAT sponsored nationally recognized walkability expert, Dan Burden, to perform walking audits in four of our communities on the south end. The event was widely attended by nearly 70 people throughout Bayview, Freeland, Langley, and Clinton. Dan will provide his recommendations for each community in forthcoming reports. ■

EHAT meetings are held the second Tuesday of every month. Check out our website at <http://www.islandcounty.net/health/EHAT/EHATweb/home.htm> for more information.

## EHAT Members Recognized as Linda Lee Martens Health Heroes

On April 3, 2007, the Community Health Advisory Board (CHAB) held the Linda Lee Martens Health Hero of Island County 2006 Award Ceremony as part of an Island County Board of Health Special Session. Each year, CHAB honors those in the community who volunteer their time in special ways to help others with an award named in honor of Linda Lee Martens.

Two EHAT members were recipients of the Health Hero Awards:

- ❖ **Linda Rhodes** - Linda Lee Martens Health Hero of Island County 2006 - Adult Category.
- ❖ **Carl Stephens** - Certificates of Recognition - Adult Category. ■

## EHAT IN THE FUTURE

EHAT has an exciting (and busy) summer ahead.

**Trail Signing and Mapping Project** - Progress continues...trail signs have been ordered. Working on finalizing the budget and the design of the Z-Card®. Aiming for sign installation in late June, and Z-Card® distribution beginning in July.

**Walking School Bus Program** - An initial planning meeting is scheduled for June 27 at the Oak Harbor Senior Center beginning at 1 PM. This is an exciting partnership between EHAT, Island County Public Health, Oak Harbor Elementary, Oak Harbor Senior Center, local law enforcement, and the City of Oak Harbor Planning and Engineering Departments.

**Waste Code Revision** - The WCR is with the prosecuting attorney for review. According to Tim McDonald and Keith Higman, the attorneys are taking a favorable view of the revision. We'll keep you posted on news for the public hearing.

**Dumping Voucher** - Plans are in the works to convene a planning committee consisting of EHAT, the Opportunity Council, and the senior centers to prepare a presentation for the Board of Health on EHAT's recommendation to increase the household eligibility threshold for the low-income dumping voucher. With the recent increase in tipping fees, we are hoping to curb illegal dumping before it happens.

**Website Updates** - Part of the reporting requirement for the CDC grant is reporting back to the community on how the funding was applied. Look for many updates to the website as we showcase EHAT's products.



**Grant Writing** - We're hard at work looking for ways to sustain EHAT's project activities. So far, we've leveraged additional funding sources to support EHAT's trail signing and mapping project, and are awaiting news on a WHF Major Grant, Take Action grant, and EPA CARE grant to continue project implementation beyond 2007.

**Officer Nominations** - With Linda Rhodes' resignation as EHAT's Chair, we are actively seeking a replacement Chair and Vice Chair. We will be holding the officer elections at the May 10 EHAT meeting.

**Second Walkability Forum** - Tentatively scheduled for late July. The forum will be a way for EHAT to report back to the community on their accomplishments since the first walkability forum, and to further refine their priorities for moving toward a walkable Island County. ■

Don't miss the next EHAT meeting!  
Join us: Thurs., June 14, 5:30 PM  
North Whidbey Family Resource Center