



**White River Valley Museum  
& Mary Olson Farm**

Contact: Patricia Cosgrove  
253-288-7437

[pcosgrove@auburnwa.gov](mailto:pcosgrove@auburnwa.gov)

**For Immediate Release**

**12/21/2017**

Images for Press Use [HERE](#)

**The White River Valley Historical Society Welcomes New Board Members and Officers and Says  
Goodbye to Two Longtime Members**

**Auburn, WA:** Members of Auburn's White River Valley Historical Society, which operates the White River Valley Museum and the Mary Olson Farm elected their 2018 board and officers at the Society's annual meeting, Wednesday December 20<sup>th</sup>.

Prior to the election, the board and staff said goodbye to longtime board member Joan Mason. Ms. Mason served on the board since 2011, following in the footsteps of her mother Eunice Ryan. "I just love the Museum and have thoroughly enjoyed my time on the board," she said while accepting the applause and thanks of the entire board and staff. Board President Mike Weibel also retired from the board after finishing two consecutive three year terms. Mr. Weibel is the Director of Human Resources for the Auburn School District. During his tenure the Museum's programming has doubled as has its educational reach.

New board members voted into service include long time Auburn residents Dennis Grad, LeRoy Jones and Kim Perry who agreed to return to board service after a year of rest! Veteran board members Ronnie Beyersdorf will serve as Board President, Dave Larberg as Vice President, Jeff Black as Treasurer and Kim Perry as Secretary.

The board will oversee an over \$600,000 operating budget, participate in the restoration of Pioneer Cemetery, direct programming of the Mary Olson Farm and operation of the White River Valley Museum. Lead goals for 2018 will be education program growth serving more new members of the regional communities, identify a new Museum Director when originating Director Patricia Cosgrove retires, and begin restoration of the Museum's existing garage building into a standalone class and meeting room.

**About the White River Valley Museum**

The White River Valley Museum creates an exciting and educational experience for visitors through a series of award-winning exhibits and programs on regional cultures, arts and history. The Museum's artifact collections focus on Puget Sound history, Northwest Native culture, Japanese immigration and the Northern Pacific Railway.

The Museum is open Wednesday through Sunday from noon to 4 p.m. On the first Thursday of each month the hours are extended from 6 to 8 p.m. It is located at 918 H St. S.E. in Auburn. Regular admission is \$5 adults, \$2 seniors and children, children 2 years of age or younger are always free. Admission is free for everyone all day on the first Thursday and the third Sunday of every month. Call 253-288-7433 or visit [www.wrvmuseum.org](http://www.wrvmuseum.org) for event information.

###