

2016 Community Champion Award Recipients

The White River Families First Coalition announces the 2016 recipients of the White River Communities Champion Award: Martha Olsen, Pat Valentine, and Amy Molen & Molen Orthodontics. The award was established in 2011 as a way to recognize the service and dedication of those contributing to the betterment of communities within the White River School District. Recipients were nominated by members of the community because they have made a powerful difference and give generously of their time and talent to help others and make both small and large contributions to the community.



Martha Olsen has served the residents of Buckley since moving here 60 years ago. A graduate of White River High School where she served as student body president, Martha worked as an LPN in Dr. Tait's office for many years. She has always been involved in the beauty of the city, including historical preservation, landscape beautification, and the general well-being of Buckley's citizens. Martha, along with relatives and volunteers, is carrying on the legacy of the Foothills Historical Society Museum that her parents brought to fruition in 1981. She has served on countless local committees over the years, numerous local celebrations and been an activist for community improvement and to make things happen in Buckley.



Pat Valentine is a true gem of the Buckley area community. She was nominated for this award because she selflessly feeds the community time and time again in a humble and nonchalant way. As a member of the Buckley Eagles Auxiliary and through this affiliation, Pat cooks for and feeds the community at various charity and Eagles events throughout each year. White River area communities are lucky to have a servant such as Pat Valentine, who brings together the community through her generous cooking that both feeds people and contributes to causes that better our community.



Molen Orthodontics has been a long-time supporter of local non-profits and groups through financial support, donations for auctions, fundraisers and supplies for community events and programs, and volunteering of time. **Amy Molen** has represented Molen Orthodontics and her church at many meetings and networked with other organizations through the White River Families First Coalition, where she served as Facilitator for several years. Amy was instrumental in the establishment of the Buckley Youth Activity Center and continues to support their efforts. She served as the non-profit board president for four years and continues to serve on committees and provide assistance and financial support. Recently, Molen Orthodontics established the South Puget Sound Chapter for Smile for a Lifetime, providing orthodontic scholarships for children. Molen Orthodontics is a community champion not only in the White River Communities but our entire region.