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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## **ALDERBROOK LOOKS TO THE FUTURE AS IT CELEBRATES 50-YEAR ANNIVERSARY**

*Born as a vacation getaway, Alderbrook Golf and Yacht Club now  
an active community for full-time residents and weekenders*

Union, WA, July 6, 2015 — In 1959, Wes Johnson, a Hood Canal-area real estate agent, purchased the famed Alderbrook Inn in the town of Union at the southern tip of the canal and immediately began planning what today is the Alderbrook Golf and Yacht Club on the wooded hillside above the Inn. It was 1965 when the Alderbrook Community Association was incorporated, the first residents moved in and the front nine holes of the golf course opened for play.

Today, Alderbrook, a thriving community of some 350 homes built around a gorgeous 18-hole PGA-style golf course, is celebrating its Golden Anniversary with special events throughout the year. The community's official 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebration will be July 26 at the community's Clubhouse. Federal, state and local officials as well as local business people have been invited to join the celebration as residents dedicate a time capsule, view slide shows relating the history of their area, recognize long-time members and families and toast the next fifty years. A new, permanent exhibit commemorating the history of the community also will be unveiled that day.

In addition to the communitywide celebration in July, the many active organizations within Alderbrook, including the Ladies Club, Men's Club, Yacht Club and Lady Putters Club are all sponsoring 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary events ranging from golf tournaments and luncheons to a bocce contest and cocktail parties.

The Union and South Hood Canal areas have become desired destination getaways in recent years with recreational opportunities — golfing, boating, hiking, camping and more — abounding. The Alderbrook Inn and Alderbrook Golf and Yacht Club have grown and evolved to accommodate both the many vacationers and area residents. Eleven years ago the Inn was transformed into the luxurious 5-star Alderbrook Resort & Spa. The Alderbrook Golf Course,

which is open to the public along with the Clubhouse restaurant and bar, has also been recognized as top notch. King-5 viewers voted the course as one of the top five golf courses in Western Washington.

In the early years, Alderbrook was primarily vacation homes. Today Alderbrook Golf and Yacht Club is a diverse, active community with a mix of weekenders and permanent residents. Most homeowners now are full-time. All, whether full- or part-time, enjoy the beautiful Clubhouse, which opened in 2009, as well as a community center and library, tennis and bocce courts, a picnic area and a dedicated skateboard facility for the kids. Amenities also include the Pro Shop and a driving range. Home sites are wooded and utilities are underground on the roads that wind through the community amidst stately Douglas fir trees. Residents treasure the quiet, peaceful lifestyle, the many amenities and activities and the friendly, helpful neighbors.

Residents pride themselves on serving the Mason County area, sponsoring annual events that raise money for area non-profit organizations such as Turning Pointe Domestic Violence Services, which helps local battered women and their families, veterans organizations, and the Karen Hilburn Breast and Cervical Cancer Fund, which assists uninsured or underinsured Mason County women. Residents also work with local charities during the holidays to provide meals and gifts for needy families. In addition, Alderbrook hosts golf tournaments for the Mason County General Hospital Foundation and Love INC, which helps Mason County families in need.

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*Editors: Photos and photo opportunities available upon request. Contact Mary Gin Kennedy at niact@aol.com.*