

MOUNT VERNON CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

CHAMBER CHAT

AUGUST 2020

Battle of the Bridge is Aug. 7

Still time to sign up



3 reasons to join us for the Battle of the Bridge golf tournament

1. It's summer – and why not "work" on the golf course
2. Golfing is an activity that is well-suited to safe physical distancing. (Take that, Covid!)
3. Bragging rights. Don't you want to be on the winning Chamber's side?

Join us at Avalon Golf Links, Friday, Aug. 7, when the Mount Vernon Chamber of Commerce and the Burlington Chamber of Commerce battle it out in the second annual Battle of the Bridge Golf Tournament.

Registration deadline is Wednesday, Aug. 5, so you still have time to sign up. Pick your side and register your team here: <https://bit.ly/2Cye69m>

Contact Jeremy Kindlund with questions: 360-428-8547 or Jeremy@MountVernonChamber.com.



LEGACY MEMBERS

GOLD



SILVER



Puget Sound Refinery



Mount Vernon Chamber of Commerce
360.428.8547
mountvernonchamber.com

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Motivation & Marketing Masterminds:

LinkedIn 101

Thursday, Aug. 6

10 a.m.

via Zoom

[Register here](#)

Washington Hospitality Association

Town Hall

Thursday, Aug. 6

10 a.m.

Bringing together hospitality members and local lawmakers to speak to the issues impacting our state and industry.

via Zoom

[Register here](#)

Battle of the Bridge Golf Tournament

Friday, Aug. 7

8:30 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Scheduled tee times start at

8:30 a.m.

Avalon Golf Links

[Register here](#)



Latino Business Leaders:

Social Media Marketing

Tuesday, Aug. 11

5:30 - 7:30 p.m.

Presented in Spanish by Dr. Ed Jaramillo

via Zoom

[Register here](#)

Sponsored by:



Knowledge NOW

How to Write a Press Release

Wednesday, Aug. 12

Noon

Presented by: Mount Vernon Chamber of Commerce Marketing Specialist Hilary Parker

via Zoom

[Register here](#)

Chamber Virtual Luncheon:

State of the Mount Vernon School District, presented by Superintendent Ismael Vivanco

Wednesday, Aug. 26

11:30 a.m.

via Zoom

[Register here](#)

Sponsored by:



GOT SWAG?

We are seeking door prizes for the August Membership Luncheon. Contact Jeremy to donate: Jeremy@MountVernonChamber.com

Chamber/Visitors Center Office Hours

The Chamber office reopened with the start of the state's Phase 2. **The office is open to the public 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., Monday through Friday.** The Visitors Information Center is currently closed on weekends.

Get to Know A.V. Skin Spa

Ali Vargas, owner of A.V. Skin Spa, wants people to know, “I’m not here to see your perfect face – let’s get you there.”

As an esthetician, Ali encounters numerous people who are curious to try some kind of skin treatment, but either are embarrassed by their skin or simply don’t know where to start.

He often tells potential clients to not even worry about his menu of services, but to schedule an appointment and he and the client can decide together how to customize the treatment.

Whether a client is looking for help with acne or anti-aging, or just wants to brighten their skin and their day, A.V. Skin Spa can help. Ali focuses solely on skin treatments and not other ancillary spa services, such as waxing, and as a solopreneur, you’ll always be working with the pro.

A.V. Skin Spa opened in April 2018 and has grown a loyal following since then. He shares space with Studio 3 hair salon at 2222 Riverside Drive in Mount Vernon.

During the initial weeks of the shutdown due to the pandemic, Ali said took a pause as he thought it would only be a couple of weeks where businesses would be shuttered. As it became clear the lock down would be longer, he headed to the spa to start cleaning as a way to keep busy. Being back in the spa energized him to keep the business moving.

He began doing Facebook Live events, sharing details on specific products. People placed orders with him for curbside pickup. He also hosted Zoom parties where, once a group of friends picked up their products, he led them through a how-to online. During this time, he not only doubled his product sales but also gained new clients who started making appointments once the spa reopened.

“I got creative with my business and it saved me,” he said.

Since he is a solo practitioner, it has been fairly easy for him to follow the guidelines for operating his business safely. Clients message Ali when they arrive and stay in their car until he is ready in the spa for them. They both wear their mask until it is time for the treatment, and Ali wears a mask and



face shield during the treatment.

Ali is bilingual, speaking Spanish and English, and he is sensitive to the fact that different ethnicities have different types of skin and different concerns when caring for their skin.

Whatever your skin type, Ali encourages people to give his spa treatments a try. As he so often hears from new clients: “Why haven’t I tried this before?”

Find [A.V. Skin Spa on Facebook](#).

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Lee Thomas-Palmer

Logan Creek Retirement

Community

Katey Von Hagel

Land Title & Escrow Company

Clarissa Wong

Umpqua Bank

Ribbon Cutting at Hillcrest Haven



The Mount Vernon Chamber of Commerce held a ribbon cutting ceremony July 29 for Hillcrest Haven, an adult family home located in Mount Vernon. Due to Covid-19 restrictions, the event was attended only by Hillcrest Haven owner Jean Robertson, her husband and co-owner Phil Robertson, Mount Vernon Mayor Jill Boudreau, and the Chamber's Silvia Reed and Jeremy Kindlund.

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Member Reveals Positive Return on Investment

“I appreciate my Mount Vernon Chamber membership because of its information on businesses, business referrals and networking opportunities with over 500 businesses. Chamber marketing has helped me grow my business in many ways. It’s my connection to the business community in Skagit County.”

– **Ector DeLeon,**
Tulip Valley Winery.



Partner Members

Barron Smith Daugert, PLLC, BEST WESTERN PLUS Skagit Valley Inn & Convention Center, Birch Equipment Rental & Sales, Brigadoon Service Dogs, Budget Towing & Repair, Cascade Job Corps Center, CBMM LLC, Coastal Farm and Ranch, Costco Wholesale, Crawford Garage Doors, D&P Electronic Home Monitoring, Foothills Toyota, Fortiphi LLC, Frontier Communications, Haggen Food & Pharmacy, Hampton Inn & Suites, Herbal Legends Cannabis, Infinity Painting & Home Care LLC, Kern Funeral Home, Landed Gentry Homes & Communities, Life Care Center of Mount Vernon, Loving Farms, Max Dale’s Steak & Chop House, Mount Vernon School District, North Coast Credit Union, Northwest Escrow, LLC, PogoZone, Port of Skagit, Public Utilities District 1 Skagit County, Puget Sound Energy, SERVPRO, Skagit Valley Casino Resort, Skagit Valley College, Skagit Valley Hospital and Skagit Regional Clinics, Testing and Commissioning Services, LLC, The UPS Store #5499, The Woods Coffee, Tucker Realty LLC, Walmart, and Williams & Nulle, PLLC CPAs

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Operations Director **Jeremy Kindlund**

Marketing Specialist **Hilary Parker**

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Marinus Rouw

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Member Announcements



Habitat for Humanity surprises housing recipient

Skagit Habitat for Humanity surprised its most recent housing recipient with the news at her workplace at Skagit Regional Health. All her co-workers were in on the good news, and hid around the corner to congratulate her.

"The surprise and joy on her face was priceless," said Habitat's T.J. Larrick.

Volunteers sought for COVID drive-through testing site

Skagit County is looking for volunteers to help at the COVID-19 drive-through testing site at Skagit Valley College. Volunteers are needed to help with:

- Directing traffic
- Helping register people (Interviewer, photographer, paperwork, runner & data entry)
- Helping with testing (Medical RN/MD, speaker, nurse assistant & lab requisition table)

Days of operation are Monday-Friday. All day or half-day shifts are available. Volunteers will be provided with Personal Protection Equipment (PPE), training, snacks, beverages and lunch. For more information contact Tina Bobbitt at 360-416-1853 or tinab@co.skagit.wa.us.

Applications for 2021 4% Friday Community Shopping Day now available

The Skagit Valley Food Co-op is now accepting applications for 2021 4% Friday recipients. Once a year, the 4% Friday Selection Committee of the Board of Trustees of the Skagit Valley Food Co-op accepts and reviews the applications of non-sectarian, non-partisan charitable community groups for participation in 4% Friday, a Community Shopping Day. Groups chosen, one per month for the calendar year, are honored with 4% of the day's gross receipts at the Skagit Valley Food Co-op. Groups will be selected for their service to the community in the following areas: local community service organizations, organic food, natural health, environmentally friendly and sustainable agricultural practices, human rights, environmental preservation, and groups with "like minded" mission statements. Applications are available in the Co-op or online at www.skagitfoodcoop.com. Applications must be submitted by Sept. 30, 2020.

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Welcome New Members

Avalon Golf Links

Eric Ferrier
(360) 757-1900
19345 Kelleher Road
Burlington
www.avalonlinks.com
Avalon Golf Links is a public, 27-hole golf facility with a driving range, practice greens and a restaurant.

Absolute Plumbing

Jeremy Oliver
(360) 610-6141
222 Anderson Rd Ste A
Mount Vernon
www.absoluteplumbingwa.com
Since 2007, Absolute Plumbing has been providing plumbing services including water heaters, video inspection, remodels and new construction, serving Skagit, Island and Whatcom counties with quality work and great service.



Tune In

Chamber Chat
Wednesday Mornings

8:05 a.m.

8:20 a.m.

Thank You Renewing Members

30+ Years

Mount Vernon Building Center

10+ Years

Group Benefits Northwest
Smiley Insurance
Tulip Valley Winery
United Way of Skagit County

5+ Years

Berg Vault Company of Washington, Inc.
Christianson's Nursery

5+ Years, cont'd

Larson Gross, CPAs & Consultants
Modern Cleaners
Skagit Cycle Center
State Farm Insurance - Brad Methner
State Farm Insurance - Carol Lawson

Less than 5 Years

BrandQuery LLC
Camp Korey
Skagit Gleaners
Skagit Organics
VibrantUSA

New member welcome bag delivery to Signs Plus



Welcome bags are being delivered to new members monthly. Do you have items you'd like to donate for the welcome bags? Contact Silvia Reed at (360) 395-2944.

Upbeat Award: Mandi Rothman

June's Upbeat Award winner, Crystal King from NW Technology, had this to say when choosing the July Upbeat Award winner, Mandi Rothman, development manager at Northwest Youth Services:

"From the moment she joined the Northwest Youth Services team, Mandi Rothman got involved with the Mount Vernon Chamber and started attending events and finding

ways to network and make the voice of Northwest Youth Services heard. Mandi is able to connect with anyone – and because her life experience has introduced her to so many different people, places and industries, she really can connect with anyone. She is the first one to say what everyone else is thinking and brings value to those around her by being authentic and honest."



Mandi Rothman,
NW Youth Services

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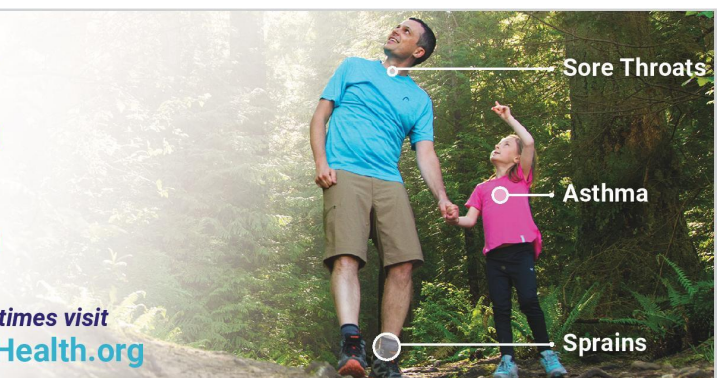


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May 24th, 2020

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