

Century 21 NW Grand Re-opening & Clean Water Foundation Benefit



l to r: Mayor Penny Sweet, Celeste Zaring and Chad Storey

By Barbara Pearson

Beth Gale, vice president of sales and marketing for the Greater Kirkland Chamber of Commerce, welcomed guests to the ribbon-cutting ceremony for the re-opening of the remodeled Century 21 Northwest office on Lake Street South in downtown Kirkland. The event, which benefited the Clean Water Foundation, took place on Aug. 10, a sunny Wednesday evening. The enthusiastic crowd admired the elegant refurbishment and enjoyed delicious refreshments and wine provided by the Martedi Winery in Woodinville, owned by John and Joseph Miglino.

Kirkland's mayor, The Honorable Penny Sweet, received a warm round of applause when she congratulated Century 21 Northwest and the company's president, Chad Storey, saying, "we're celebrating a business that has been operating here in Kirkland for 12 years now and congratulations to these guys on doing so well, and making it through COVID-19!"

Thanking the mayor for her comments, Chad Story explained that "it was interesting to stay open during COVID-19, when (per Governor Jay Inslee's order) only one employee was allowed to be present in the office — we transitioned to become



Robin Hudson and Brenda Kauffman

a cloud-based company, and all our agents did amazingly well, selling real estate virtually."

Chad announced that the Century 21 Northwest office is donating four water systems to the Clean Water Foundation, which will be installed in elementary schools

in Mexico. In thanking Century 21 Northwest, Mayor Penny Sweet and the Greater Kirkland Chamber of Commerce for their support, Leon McLaughlin, President of the Clean Water Foundation, explained that the Foundation "is working in over 35 countries around the



Celeste with daughters Delancey and Alayna

world, bring clean water to children and their families."

Leon started the Foundation over 20 years ago, noticing the need for clean water as he traveled in Mexico and other corners of the world. Starting out in Bolivia, co-operating with World Vision, Leon designed and produced water carts based on his experience with mobile coffee carts in Canada and a degree in water distribution and maintenance. Now a registered 501(3)(c), tax-deductible, charitable organization, The Clean Water Foundation of Washington is a nonprofit corporation. **For more information and to contribute to this life-saving work, please see cleanwaterfoundationwa.org.**

As Chad concluded just before the ribbon was cut, "we're glad to be back now, open, and excited to do this ribbon cutting — and to make our plans to visit Mexico with Leon and the Clean Water Foundation!"



from l to r: Clinton Ellison, Blanca Sagastizado, Christine Pleommons, Leon McLaughlin, Christine Pleommons and Joel Johannesson



Chad Storey, Beth Gale and Stuart Anderson

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