June 2024

# iving

Residents of Hunts / Yarrow Points / Medina & Clyde Hill

# Making A **Difference!**

Leon McLaughlin **Bringing Water** to Children Around the World



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# Dear Gold Coast Residents,

June is here and its the start of the best time of the year here in the PNW. It's time to start heading out to the Saturday morning farmers markets, taking local adventures to all the great locations, and enjoying the Sun!

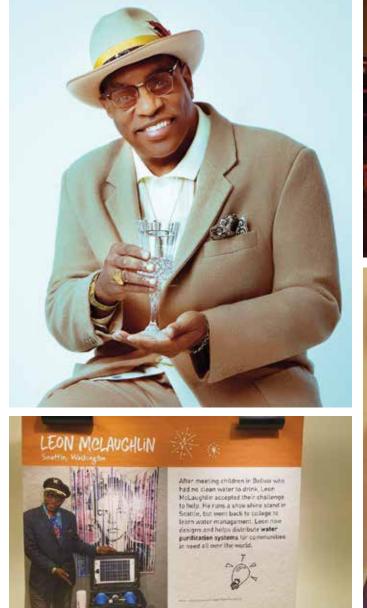
The May edition with Meg von Haartman was amazing! She knows more about travel and adventure destinations than anyone I've ever met! If you're ever in the need for travel advice, please reach out to her as her advice is always free.

In this June edition, you have another great individual to get to know. Leon McLaughlin is a local celebrity and has an incredible story of helping children and communities around the world to supply them with clean drinking water. Please make sure and connect with him on Facebook!

#### Dawn Hunter DC ME Publisher



#### COVER STORY







#### BY MATTHEW KYLE

am the founder, chief executive officer and president of the Clean Water Foundation and responsible for overall operations. I'm a native of Cleveland Ohio and arrived in Seattle more than four decades ago. In my early days in Seattle, I worked as a staff advisor and did the settlement of all the shows at the Paramount Theater until the early 1990s. Then I landed at the Seattle Repertory Theater, where I created "Water for Children" theater dinner packages. In the mid-1990s, I was also a real estate agent and got involved as a real estate investor.

Being an entrepreneur, I had an idea of selling coffee making equipment. I started with Canada as a target market and soon I was selling and sending coffee carts and machines regularly from Seattle to Vancouver. The coffee business was an enabler for travel to many locations around the globe. I was fortunate in that my travels acted as a gateway to another endeavor that is a

# Leon McLaughlin

Water Carts in the Bill and Melinda Gates Discovery Center Museum & World Vision US Headquarters Display Center

#### COVER STORY

true passion of mine, clean water. I got interested in one of the key ingredients to coffee safe clean water. I was struck by how much of the world didn't have a reliable supply of safe water for drinking, cooking, or even brewing coffee. To hear more about Leon's Watercart story, please visit: https://vimeo. com/280084528?ref=em-share

Realizing there was a compelling global need for safe clean water, I dove deep to learn as much as I could about water, both domestically and internationally. So, I started researching the issues, enrolled in online courses from Sacramento State University in California and earned a degree in Water Management. From there, I created my own company, LAM Water Solutions LLC, the name drawn from my initials and the predecessor of the Clean Water Foundation to deliver water to developing countries in areas hit by natural disasters, such as floods, hurricanes, and earthquakes.

The solution required a design that was easy to assemble and could be



done with little to no assistance. The conceptualized approach was elegant in its simplicity, like a child's Lego set. I envisioned a water purification system that could be snapped together like plastic blocks and not dependent upon written instructions that could be assembled and put into operations anywhere in the world by a person with a sixth-grade education. I identified U.S. manufacturers

of purification equipment piping, water bags for storage and individual containers so children can get fresh clean water at a school or hospital and take it back to their families and become Goodwill ambassadors. My intention was to roll out the introduction of the clean water purification systems to communities with an inauguration celebration, supported by the community. Since this inception, I've traveled to far-flung parts of the world and witnessed first-hand the desperate need for clean fresh drinking water for children and their families around the world. I also have clean water ambassadors that hand-deliver the purification systems to scale our global delivery.

Additionally, I love the arts, especially music and theater by being in the business for over 4 decades. I'm a passionate visionary leader, with a compelling story to tell. The Seattle Times has written about my water projects helping children around the world several times. My story has been

Continued on next page



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#### COVER STORY



carried by the wire services around the country. King 5 News has broadcast stories about my efforts along with NBC Nightly News where they featured my trip to Bolivia on a water project for children and their families after a Katrina type situation. I've been featured in a KOMO News Heroes Story, My America Fox News out of New York and I've won the American Water Works Association Award.

I'm also in the Bill and Melinda Gates Discovery Center Museum on one of the water solar units that I designed. I'm in the World Visions Display Museum at their U.S. headquarters. Amazingly, our water systems are now in over 40 different countries providing clean fresh drinking water to children around the world. We've worked with the Peace Corps, Starbucks and others putting together water for children projects. In a recent project, we put water units at the Majesty Garden School in Kingston Jamaica, honoring the great basketball Hall of Fame Legend Bill Russell and Joe Black who played for the Seattle Super Sonic's.

We're now working with the Hopi and Navajo Reservations in Arizona delivering water units going into their homes as well as a new water treatment plant. We're also working with the Blackfeet Reservation where we just delivered 50 water filters to four schools that will last them for the next 12 years to ensure they will have fresh clean drinking water. To learn more about our reservation work, please visit: https://www.globalgiving. org/projects/water4hopi/

We're also putting together a water treatment program for El Salvador with our partner Airline Ambassador's CEO, Nancy Rivard. We've sponsored several water music fundraisers, such as: Cirque du Soleil at Suite Restaurant & Lounge in Bellevue, WA, Global Giving/ United Nations Water Day in Beverly Hills, CA, FERGFEST 2023 Water for Children Around the World Music Festival at Ferguson Ranch in Woodinville, WA, and Water for Children Fundraiser at Volterra's Italian Restaurant in Kirkland, WA. We will continue to sponsor more great events in the future. To learn more about the Clean Water Foundation, please visit: www.cleanwaterfoundationwa.org and connect with Leon McLaughlin Facebook at: https://www.facebook.com/leon. laughlin



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#### JUNE 9 IL CORSARO AN OPERA BY GIUSEPPE VERDI

Based on Lord Byron's poem, this early Verdi masterpiece blends bel canto melodies with his unique flair. If the heavy-duty production of Seattle Opera is a bit too much for you, this local production will hit the spot. Bellevue, WA \$25 | https://allevents.in

#### JUNE 12-13 FLIGHT FEATHERS

The best of three different dance works are showcased. Without words, it's amazing what messages can be communicated through movement of the body. \$321 https://www.kpcenter.org

#### CALENDAR OF EVENTS

#### JUNE 15 JUNETEENTH COMMUNITY CELEBRATION

Juneteenth commemorates the emancipation of enslaved African Americans in the United States, a joyful day of liberation and reflection on the ongoing endeavor for racial equality. Free I https://bellevuewa.gov

#### JUNE 16-20 BAKING CAMP

9:30am-12:00pm - 4 Days -Summer only - Kids Flour-dusted aprons and eager faces crowded around a mixing bowl, laughter bubbling along with the rising batter at this kid's summer baking camp. \$550

https://allevents.in/los%20 angeles/baking-camp-6-17-6-20-24-9-30am-12-00pm-4-days-summer-onlykids/10000849939701527

#### JUNE 18 BELLEVUE VETERANS VIRTUAL JOB FAIR

Local employers value the skills from talented veterans. If you want to translate your military skills to a civilian job, here's your chance. *Free I https://allevents.in* 

#### JUNE 19 KIDS LEGO BATTLE BOTS

Kids ages 6-12 learn how to build and code lego bots to accomplish DARPA-like missions \$349 | https://allevents.in

#### JUNE 23 PAWA PRINTS KELSEY CREEK FARM

Paint the scenery of Bellevue with the inspiration the Kelsey Creek Farm or the Bellevue Botanical Gardens. Free, but must be a PAWA member https://allevents.in

#### JUNE 23 PNW YOUTH ENTREPRENEUR EXPO

Local entrepreneurs express themselves through art. View works of local youth artists, along with food and entertainment. Free I https://bellevuewa.gov

#### JUNE 29-30 JAPAN FAIR

Celebrate the culture and history of Japan through music, dance, martial arts, cosplay, along with Japanese food and Sake tasting Free I https://allevents.in

#### JULY 10 5G INNOVATION LAB SUMMER SOCIAL

The boys of 5G networking open up their group for a summer social. Network while learning more about the the potential and applications of 5G networking technology. *Free* 

https://allevents.in/bellevue



ly Cancer Story; Lessons Learned from Neglect to Recovery

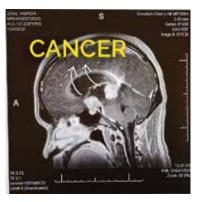


BY DR. ANDREW ZENG

#### THE STORY

On Friday, January 24th, 2020, I was rushed to the ER because I had severely impaired vision and splitting headaches in the

occiput. These acute symptoms were caused by two tumors – a pituitary and a pineal germinoma – impinging the optic chiasm and causing hydrocephalus, a rare condition, especially for a 29-year-old.



After a biopsy and ventriculoperitoneal shunt surgery, I was admitted

to the ICU. I wasn't able to speak with my neurooncologist until Monday, so over the weekend, confined to my hospital bed, my thoughts ran wild, wondering about my prognosis, what my treatment protocol would be, and, most significantly, why this was happening to me.

My question would be answered when Monday rolled around, or so I thought. But, When I finally asked my neurooncologist, he simply said, "It's probably just bad luck." When I asked my mom, who was an oncologist in China, she said it was everything that I ever did, ever, that she didn't agree with (just kidding, sort of; love you, Mom).

So, I asked myself. Based on my understanding of health, here's why it happened: The pituitary gland is at the center of the HPA axis, which regulates the stress response, and the pineal gland releases melatonin, which helps regulate the sleep cycle. And, what was I doing in my 20s? Working too hard, playing too hard, and not getting enough sleep. Plus, I lived in Shanghai, which has a heavily polluted environment, and, occasionally, I was getting kicked in the head, which I'm sure didn't help.

Let me elaborate. While I lived in Shanghai, I was earning my degree in traditional Chinese medicine (TCM), building my business, managing a tutoring center, competing in mixed martial arts and Brazilian Jiujitsu, playing in a rock band, and burning the midnight oil to get it all done. Of course, I thought I was invincible. And even though, in hindsight, I started experiencing symptoms, such as chronic fatigue and polyuria, in 2017, my mindset was "ignore and override." And so, that's what I did until I could no longer do so.

#### THE LESSON

Having been born into a family of healthcare providers and educated in both TCM and biomedical science, I had the knowledge and tools to prevent this. My body tried to warn me, but I ignored it, and I paid dearly for it. Please learn from my mistakes and be proactive about your health by optimizing your sleep, stress management, dietary, and exercise habits, seeking preventive healthcare, and addressing signs and symptoms when you experience them. After all, what are you going to achieve, and who are you going to help if you're sick or dead?

#### THE SILVER LINING

Fortunately, after 6 months of chemotherapy and radiation, I was cancer-free; moreover, because I was able to leverage TCM and modern functional medicine, I experienced minimal side effects (e.g., no pain or nausea) and recovered within a matter of months. And, if there's one thing I've learned from martial arts, it's how to get knocked down, get back up, and keep moving forward.

Having lived through this ordeal, I am reinvigorated with a renewed sense of purpose to create a healthier and happier world. To this end, at my clinic, I integrate TCM and functional medicine to empower individuals to reclaim their health and vitality with root-cause solutions.



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Mitten is a 10 year old OG (original ganster) tabby...lol. She's the oldest kitty in a household with several dogs and cats, thus, the OG. She is a rescue from a long-time shut down cat hoarder operation in Queen Anne. She's been in the family since she was a kitten. She's motherly and likes to take care of all the other animals.

Even at 10 years old, she's super active. Every morning, she loves to run wind-sprints up and down the hallway for over an hour. She doesn't chase anything, just likes to run sprints for fun. Since the wooden floors are kinda slippery, she is always sliding and crashing into walls and doors. She's an automatic 5:00am alarm clock with all the racket.

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9320 NE 24th St	4	3.25	4,010	3,880,000	4,175,000	Clyde Hill	1955
905 Shoreland Dr SE	6	5.25	11,104	28,000,000	21,250,000	Bellevue	2007
9838 NE 27th St	5	4	4,619	4,799,990	4,438,000	Bellevue	2024
851 80th Ave NE	4	2.5	2,600	2,988,000	3,375,000	Medina	1940
2715 84th Place NE	4	2.5	2,710	3,499,999	3,505,000	Clyde Hill	1982
7838 NE 14th St	4	2.25	3,834	4,190,000	4,160,000	Medina	1962
9221 NE 37th Place	4	2.5	4,070	2,845,000	2,730,000	Yarrow Point	1961
9630 NE 27th St	3	2.5	2,490	3,000,000	3,000,000	Clyde Hill	1994
8606 NE 10th St	3	3	3,170	3,600,000	3,600,000	Medina	1983
2402 80th Ave NE	5	2.5	3,020	3,188,000	3,200,000	Medina	1963
2426 80th Ave NE	6	5.25	5,420	6,250,000	6,100,000	Medina	2024
2431 Evergreen Point Rd	1	1	2,390	2,500,000	2,500,000	Medina	1955
9815 Vineyard Crest	4	2.5	2,843	3,50 <mark>0,0</mark> 00	3,625,000	Bellevue	1950
10009 NE 21st St	7	6.75	7,170	6,500,000	6,100,000	Bellevue	2015
8505 NE 25th St	4	2.5	3,200	2,988,000	2,8 <mark>5</mark> 8,000	Clyde Hill	<u>19</u> 77
515 Upland Rd	5	5.5	7,080	8,900,000	8 <mark>,90</mark> 0,000	Medina	2008
9631 Hilltop Rd	3	1.75	2,150	3 <mark>,38</mark> 0,000	3,210,000	Bellevue	1953
3115 103rd Ave NE	4	2.25	3,400	1,888,000	1,780,000	Bellevue	1956
9419 NE 37th Place	4	3.25	3,750	3,500,000	4,000,000	Yarrow Point	1959
8520 Hunts Point Lane	4	3	3,070	4,500,000	3,978,000	Hunts Point	1979
9652 Evergreen Drive	4	4	4,090	5,100,000	4,900,000	Bellevue	2017
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# **Shaping Young Minds:** Fostering Success in our Teenagers

BY DEVIN DALRYMPLE, AGE 19

Teens, navigating the intricate landscape of adolescence, often act as reflections of their environment, absorbing lessons from both parents and peers. Yet, their developing minds remain enigmatic, a whirlwind of emotions and experiences challenging to fully grasp. Understanding the crucial role we play in shaping these formative years becomes paramount.

From the beginning, we are bombarded with sensory information, laying the groundwork for future life skills. Fostering and nurturing young minds at this time is crucial, as numerous studies confirm the positive impact of a supportive environment on future success. While happy memories undoubtedly contribute to this development, catering solely to childhood joys, like trips to amusement parks or new toys, might not address the unique needs of teenagers. Their brains tend to be a bit more complex.

#### SHIFTING FOCUS: FROM EARLY BEDTIMES TO TEEN SLEEP CYCLES

While the idea of "eight hours of sleep" endures, science paints a different picture for teenagers. Unlike their younger selves, teens require **more sleep**, according to John Hopkins Medicine. This stems from the onset of puberty around age 13 (or even earlier for girls), a transformative stage lasting until 25. This period triggers a natural shift in circadian rhythm, making it biologically challenging to fall asleep before 11 pm. Compounding this sleep challenge is the increased workload teens face – not just academically, but often through multiple activities like jobs, and sports. This sleep deprivation translates not only into irritability but also into struggles with academic performance and mental health.

#### ADDRESSING THE MENTAL HEALTH SURGE

Recent years have witnessed a concerning rise in mental health issues among teens, with growing numbers reporting anxiety and depression. Not only are American school systems piling on hours and hours of homework, but teens also have to deal with the online world. Social media. with its curated realities and potential for comparison, plays a significant role in this trend. Our generation, being the "quinea pigs" of this technology, lacked the foresight to predict its impact on developing minds. While complete abstinence isn't realistic, equipping teens with tools for responsible social media engagement and encouraging regular digital detox periods can empower them to navigate this complex space.

#### MOVING FORWARD: A HOLISTIC APPROACH TO TEEN DEVELOPMENT

Supporting teen success requires a multifaceted approach. Recognizing the specific sleep needs of adolescents and advocating for healthy sleep habits is crucial. Additionally, fostering open communication about mental health challenges and equipping teens with coping mechanisms empowers them to seek help when needed. Finally, addressing the influence of social media through responsible usage and digital breaks ensures a healthier online experience. By understanding the unique challenges and opportunities presented during adolescence, we can collectively create a supportive environment that fosters not just academic achievement but also the emotional and mental well-being essential for teenagers to thrive in adulthood. In our next issue, we'll have a part two that delves deeper into how to implement these tactics in your teens lives without causing chaos.

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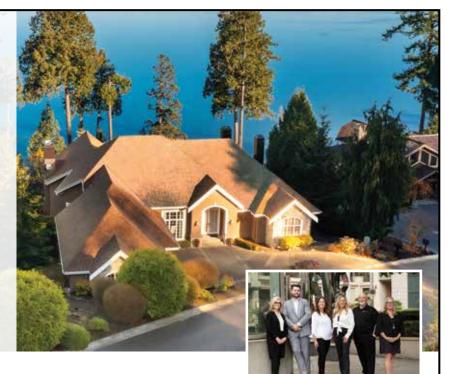
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## UNEARTHING HISTORY: A Guide to Exploring Pacific Northwest Ghost Towns

#### BY NATHANIEL HOLLYWOOD

The Pacific Northwest whispers tales of a bygone era. Nestled amidst towering evergreens and rugged mountains lie the remnants of once-booming mining towns, now echoing with the whispers of the past. These ghost towns, suspended in time, offer a glimpse into the region's rich history and the indomitable spirit of its prospectors.

For the adventurous soul, exploring these forgotten settlements is a treasure trove of discovery. Walk crumbling boardwalks where miners once trod, peer into abandoned storefronts, and imagine the lives that unfolded within these weathered structures. Each creaking door and rusty nail whispers stories of hardship, hope, and the relentless pursuit of fortune.

#### Planning Your Ghost Town Adventure:

The Pacific Northwest boasts a wealth of ghost towns to explore, each with its own unique story. Popular destinations include:



**Monte Cristo, Washington:** A former silver and gold mining town accessible by a scenic hike, Monte Cristo offers stunning mountain vistas alongside its abandoned cabins and mine equipment.

**Thurston, Washington:** This once-thriving coal town boasts a well-preserved collection of buildings, including a saloon and a schoolhouse, transporting visitors back to the early 20th century.

**Granite, Oregon:** Nestled in the Blue Mountains, Granite was a bustling gold mining town that even had its own mint. Visitors can explore the remnants of the town's infrastructure and imagine the bustling activity of its heyday.

#### **Remember:**

- **Respect the Past:** These ghost towns are remnants of history, treat them with respect. Leave no trace and avoid taking anything but memories.
- **Safety First:** Abandoned buildings can be unstable, so be cautious when exploring and stick to designated paths.
- **Research and Prepare:** Knowing the history of the town you're visiting enhances the experience. Research trail conditions and dress appropriately for the often remote locations.

Exploring the ghost towns of the Pacific Northwest is an adventure that combines history, exploration, and a touch of mystery. So, lace up your boots, pack your sense of adventure, and embark on a journey through time, uncovering the stories etched in the very landscape of the Pacific Northwest.

◄

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