

St. Baldricks...

Indulge me...please; it's for a good cause, I promise.

May you live in interesting times, they say. I do, I say...and it is apropos, since the cliché is known as the Chinese Curse. And, it is ironic as well, considering life is better during uninteresting times of peace and tranquility. I could definitely go off on a tangent from here, but I promised "a good cause," so I choose to focus on the positive. Here's what I now know after the anomalous (if I hear "unprecedented" one more time... 😊!) year that was:

We are an amazing species that can tackle any challenge, solve any problem, and destroy any virus that makes the mistake of confronting us. In less than a year, we went from being blind-sided by a novel new illness, to creating a vaccine that levels the playing field and ensures our ability to withstand this scourge! If the importance and significance of this level of response escapes you, then consider that the usual timetable for development and deployment of this type of vaccine is around 5-10 years...including clinical trials. Might I suggest the use of the words miraculous, incredible, and amazing, when describing the achievements of our scientific and healthcare communities.

...and it got me thinking, what could we accomplish, as a people, as a nation, as a species, if we devoted the kind of resources and myopic focus, we lavished on Covid, on other, just as relevant, just as valid challenges??? Mars, see you there next year! Underwater living, your condo is ready! Flying electric cars, they're already here (VTOL)! What about cancer??? Shouldn't we have destroyed this plague by now? The ugly truth is, we focused so much of our energy on defeating the Corona Virus, that we neglected many worthy causes, charities, and foundations in the process. And they are now struggling; they need our help!

For the last 13 years, I've been involved with one specific Foundation that's focused on curing childhood cancer, The St. Baldricks Foundation. I was recruited by Stacy Fleming, the Owner of Pure Salon, in Colorado, over a decade ago. Since then, I have shaved my head twice in an effort to generate awareness, and raise funds for this incredible Organization, and their mission to eradicate childhood cancer. On March 19th, 2022, I'm going for a hat trick; this will mark my third shave...but this time is different...

This time, it's personal! This time, it's for a, brave, young woman named Hannah. Hannah inspires me...she puts a face to this struggle and brings it into the light. It is hard to fight something that is so much bigger than any one person, so I suggest you all join me in fighting for Hannah...how can I help inspire you to battle in her name. How can I help inspire you to donate at the link below? Or maybe, you already live an inspired life, filled with honor, love, humility, and charity...if so, please click on the link provided and join me in an attempt to make the world a little better, a lot brighter, and filled with children's laughter!

<https://www.stbaldricks.org/teams/mypage/132818/2022>

Sincerely,

Elephtherios "Lefty" Longa