



# The Tale Twister

## Cullman Lions Club

August 1, 2022

### Program

Lion Randy Kraft introduced Dr. Travis Sharpe who spoke about his organization, “Unsheltered International,” that he founded and of which he is the President. Unsheltered is a charitable organization, founded in 2011, dedicated to finding immediate, short term, and intermediate term housing for single adults and families. Founded in North Alabama it has grown to support several efforts in the Southeast U.S. and the Philippines. It assists not only those with drug addiction and mental illness, but those who simply have lost their jobs, are without family to help, and having no financial reserves are forced to live on the street or in their cars. He cited four cases in the past month for folks in Cullman who were living in cars or outdoors and needed aid. Unsheltered has been contacted numerous times by local police, deputies, and state troopers to aid the indigent rather than making an arrest. Unsheltered will place them in temporary housing while they find work and can transition back to a normal life.



Dr. Travis Sharpe of the Unsheltered organization

Unsheltered has broken ground on a 17-acre tiny home community in Cullman County; the property is now paid-for, free and clear. Its goal is to provide intermediate term housing for families and individuals who are attempting to reestablish themselves in the work force and community. It will not be used for drug addiction recovery or those with mental illness. It is being built in phases with the first phase of clearing and infrastructure including roads and essential utilities underway. Unsheltered has collected \$150k towards a goal of \$175k for this work. An additional \$168k is needed for the acquisition and set up of the first 4 portable housing units 14 x 40. The location is at 7145 Hwy 278W in the Bethel community.

The concept for this Unsheltered village is not to serve as a typical homeless shelter; it is to provide more dignity to guests’ lives, and to tailor the program to the needs of each individual by providing community, semi-independent living, and personal responsibility. Funding is being sought through private and corporate donations, and grants through foundations and workplaces. Travis is welcoming volunteers with basic carpentry skills, and workers & equipment for land clearing and for dirt work such as road building.

Visit [unsheltered.org](http://unsheltered.org) for more information.

### Other Business

Lion Javon Daniel continues to recover from vein phleboliths. Lion Jerry Bonner and Lion Charles McBryayer are under the weather – nothing serious.



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I have to back-off on all the praise I've given lately about Acting Tail-Twister, Lion Richard Gurley. He was boo-ed after he failed miserably in both the setup and the punchline of his joke, tonight.

Lion Alton Pitzing is in need of a van that has wheelchair accessibility for his wife, Lioness Pat. She is recovering from a stroke and seizures. Contact him if you know where he might locate one.

Lion Frank Odell spoke on behalf of Lion David Bussman concerning the concession stand: He is adding jumbo-pretzels to the menu and will be adding new chili, cheese, and chocolate dispensers.

Fair workdays are Sept 26, Oct 3, and Oct 10.

Aug 13th Leadership Conference at Wallace State

Again, our meetings are being recorded and can be seen live, or you may view past meetings at the following Facebook web site: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/1106236123576541/?ref=share> . If you have a smartphone with a QR Reader, you can scan the following QR code to go to the Lions Only page:



QR Code for "Cullman Club Only" Facebook page. Four Lions were using this site to watch from home tonight. If you have any problem getting to the site, contact Lion Craig Gadow.

### Upcoming Programs and Events

August 8: Lion Barry Elliott, Executive Director of Alabama of Alabama Lions Sight.



Lion Barry Elliott

August 13: Leadership Conference at Wallace State.

August 15: TBD.

### Tale Twister Input

If you need something special or to report a correction in the *Tale Twister*, see Lions Carey Thompson or Don Smith at the meetings. Lion Carey can be reached at 256-739-0580 (H) or 256-426-3207 (C). Lion Don can be reached at 256-737-7433 (H) or 256-426-7722 (C).