



The Tale Twister

Cullman Lions Club

Dec 2, 2019

Program

Lion Randy Kraft introduced our program speaker, tonight, Ms. Shawna Norman, Sacred Heart School Principal. She is a product of this school as a child, going through the 8th grade and served as a teacher, assistant principal, and an earlier term as the principal, and then taking a few years off to be a stay-at-home Mom before again assuming this role. The school was Cullman's first school, established in 1878 and, later, was the first private school to be win State accreditation. It currently has 148 students, starting at age 3 through the 6th grade. All of its teachers have State of Alabama accreditation, with several holding master's degrees. Although it is a Catholic supported school and does teach principles of that faith, it is open to students of all faiths. In the words of Pope John Paul II, "The mission of the Catholic school is the integral formation of students, so that they may be true to their condition as Christ's disciples and as such work effectively for the evangelization of culture and for the common good of society."



(L to R) President Lion Andrew Manning, Ms. Shawna Norman, and Lion Randy Kraft.

The school has a lot to brag about. Its standardized test scores are above the national average. The curriculum includes music, fine arts, computer science, health, P.E., and Library. It has document cameras, interactive Smart boards, and computers in every room; it has an advanced computer lab. The school has a very active PTO. It has accreditation recognized by the United States Department of Education and the Council for Higher Education. The school has a breakfast program, as well as, morning & afternoon extended day programs. It maintains a teacher/student ratio of 1 teacher for every 13 students, all the while, providing a Christ-centered environment with consistent presence of pastors and sisters. It has on-staff, a speech therapist, who Lion David Bussman said helped his daughter -- this was not available in the public schools. Sacred Heart's extra-curricular activities include basketball, cheer, BETA club, student council, music, archery, DARE, 4-H, and drama. No calculators are allowed during basic math classes. Although some public schools no longer stress or even teach cursive writing, that is not the case at Sacred Heart; its students compete in State handwriting competition and have won several times in every grade in recent years; its students have even won several hand-writing National Championships.

Ms. Norman stressed that the school fosters the continuous growth of the faculty, the parents, and the students,



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creating a collaboration of service to the community. Most recently it was one of the top three donators for the American Heart Association's fund raiser in Cullman. Lion Javon Daniel testified that during a recent food-bank drive that the school provided nearly has a truck load of donated food.

The cost of tuition is \$5,000, but some limited scholarships are available. This school is a great option, worthy of consideration for any child's education. More information is available at its website: www.shcullman.com . You can also call if you have questions at 256-734-4563.

Other Business

Lions Javon Daniel was in attendance with us tonight following his heart ablation catheter procedure. Lion Jerry Caudle is having serious health challenges.

Our excellent chef for most of this year, Mr. Freddie Day was out sick with pneumonia, but his staff filled-in, admirably.

The Christmas/Fair Banquet will be held on December 9th at Stonebridge. Dress is coat & tie. Lions, Lionesses, spouses, and special invited guests of the Fair Board eat for free. The menu will be pork, chicken, baked potato, beans, corn, rolls, and desert.



Lion Casey Smith brought his son along to tonight's meeting (this kid's a future Lion, for sure).

Upcoming Programs and Events

December 9: Fair Appreciation Dinner at Stonebridge at 6:00 PM. Dress is "Coat & Tie."

December 16: TBD

December 23 & 30: No meetings due to Christmas and New Year holiday weeks.

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).