



The Tale Twister

Cullman Lions Club

May 2, 2022

Program

Lion President Javon Daniel introduced our speaker, Dr. Kyle Kallhoff, Superintendent of Cullman City Schools.



Dr. Kyle Kallhoff – gives us the latest on Cullman City Schools.

Dr. Kallhoff said that he started his career in education as a teacher in Chickasaw, Alabama and now has continued in that field for 24 years. He has been a Superintendent for the last 10 years that have included this position in Chickasaw and Demopolis. He's married to a teacher, also, and has four children.

Dr. Kallhoff gave a few statistics, noting that the City's school system has 3,100 students and a \$51M budget which is a high right now because of ongoing capital projects; normally the budget is around \$38M. The system has 400 employees of which 66% are teachers and the remainder are office staff, bus drivers, kitchen staff, maintenance, etc. The system's mission is to inspire students for lifelong success through character, citizenship, and

scholarship. Kyle explained he was not elected but hired by the City's five-member school board. In addition to maintaining the system's position as one of the top systems in the State, the school board was looking for someone skilled and experienced in management of the systems capital improvements; he had such experience in his 2 previous superintendent positions. Thus, he began to explain plans for those improvements.

At the middle school, the circular building is being replaced because of concerns about its deterioration and safety. Funding for this is coming from the City, the State, and municipal bonds. This project will be a 3-year effort, finishing in 2025, in which a new building will be built to the front of the present circular building. At some point, half of the users of the circular building will move into a finished portion of the new building and half of the circular building will be demolished; then as the new building is complete, remaining users of the circular building will transition to the new building, and the remaining half of the circular building will be demolished. The new building will add a tornado shelter, a library, an agri-science section, and a family consumer science section. When this new building is finished, the 6th grades from East & West Elementary Schools will be moving to the middle school.

At East Elementary School a new wing will be added that will include a tornado shelter, a gym that will include a cafeteria, and a stage for programs. New roof will be



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placed, and interior upgrades will be made. This work will finish in 2024. Also, the second grade will be taught in the primary school, taking more capacity pressure off the elementary schools. There is another \$4M in capital improvements allocated to East & West elementary schools that has not yet been fully planned. There are upgrades at the high school that has been completed or still in progress such as a new gym floor, a stadium score board, synthetic turf, and new bleachers in the gym.

Dr. Kallhoff briefly talked about career technical education. The City school system partners with the County which has a Technology Academy for such fields, as welding, cosmetology, and some manufacturing. Also, the City Schools want to prepare students by getting college credits in fields such as teaching, computer science, and nursing. The schools drafting program is shifting into pre-engineering, although the basic drafting concepts are still there; this is where more jobs are now.

The Superintendent answered numerous questions, provided more insight on the coming construction, talked about some of the history of the schools, and he provided more insight of his vision for Cullman City Schools. He gave us a very good program. Everything seems to be moving in the right direction, following good plans, and with a bright future ahead for Cullman city students.

Other Business

Lion Chris Brooks had knee surgery this past week, but he had recovered enough

to be at tonight's meeting. His daughter is improving from her case of Lyme disease.

Lion Tom Pfeifer, snowbird that he is, will be returning to the northern territories for the summer. He promises to be back before the Fair. His last meeting before returning was a little more memorable, in that the Acting Tale Twister, Lion Richard Gurley, fined him twice in a row for his cell phone ringing.

New Lion Brad Mitchell introduced himself tonight. He worked the nuclear power profession for 40 years, retiring from TVA and then retiring from the Institute for Nuclear Power Operations in Atlanta. He attended Cullman High School and now operates a farm in Baileyton.



New Lion Brad Mitchell.

Lion Secretary Craig Gadow announced that the Club BOD had approved several funding motions for the American Legion, the Foundry Farm chapel, Distinguish Young Women, and to the Ukrainian orphans' care and adoption ministry that our speaker from a couple of weeks ago, Igor Tirnoviy, founded.

Lion Richard Gurley was awarded Lions International pin for bring in 2 new Lions



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this year. Also, as acting Tale Twister tonight, he called 3 Lions forward for a quiz about what was special about today's date. These were Lions Andrew Manning, Brian Spaeth, and Raymond Williams. All 3 work in the financial arena, and the 1st thing special about today was that it's a banker's holiday in Great Britain. None got it right. Lion Raymond Williams eventually won. Lion Charlie Childers gave an update on the Cullman County Fair Queen, Miss Abbey Sosa. and her journey to Miss Alabama Contest. The pageant's final event and announcement of the winner will be on July 2nd.

May 14: Annual Shred-a-thon. Same location as last year, beside "Buffalo Wild Wings." Be there at 8:30AM. for free biscuits. Event scheduled to start at 9:00AM, although we can expect early arrivals, as has happened in the past.

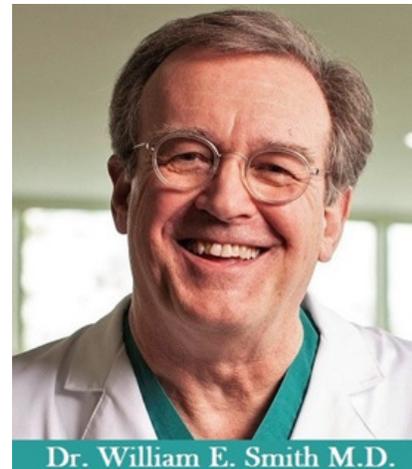
May 23: Dr. William E. Smith, Chief Medical Officer, Cullman Regional Medical Center.

Upcoming Programs and Events

May 8: Superintendent, Dr. Shane Barnett.



Dr. Shane Barnette
Superintendent
Cullman County Schools System



Dr. William E. Smith M.D.

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).