

Town of Ceredo Town Council Regular Session May 4th, 2020 at the Ceredo City Hall

The Town of Ceredo Town Council met in regular session via telephone conference call on Monday, May 4th 2020. The Mayor, Paul A. Billups, called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. Those participating in the conference call included the Mayor, Paul A. Billups; the Recorder, Stanley E. Fink; and Councilmen Dennis Adkins, Oscar Adkins, Steve Diamond, Bob Leslie and Joe Ratcliff.

Minutes

There were no additions or corrections to the Regular Session minutes dated March 2nd, 2020 and April 6th, 2020 and the Statutory Sessions dated March 16th, 2020 and April 21st, 2020. On a motion by Bob Leslie and a second by Steve Diamond, Council voted to accept the minutes of the Regular Sessions dated March 2nd, 2020 and April 6th, 2020 and the Statutory Sessions dated March 16th, 2020 and April 21st, 2020. All were in favor, motion carried.

Treasurer's Report and Expenditures for April 2020

The Mayor reviewed the balances in each fund and the expenditures for the months of March 2020 and April 2020. He also discussed the decline in the incoming revenue.

The Mayor asked that the Treasurer's report be made part of the minutes. On a motion by Bob Leslie and a second by Dennis Adkins, Council voted to accept the Treasurer's Report and the Expenditure Reports for March 2020 and April 2020 as presented. All were in favor, motion carried.

City Hall Roof

The Mayor discussed issues that had risen with the 25-year-old roof at the City Hall. He added that bids had been received from James Crockett for \$14,700 and Classic Construction for \$26,000. After discussion, the Mayor recommended awarding the bid to James Crockett for \$14,700.

On a motion by Bob Leslie and a second by Oscar Adkins, Council voted to award the bid to James Crockett for an amount not to exceed \$14,700. All were in favor, motion carried.

COVID-19

The Mayor discussed the measures that had been taken to protect the staff during the COVID-19 pandemic. He reported that more citizens were using the online bill payment service for paying the water bills, etc. and added that he had a new appreciation for the staff at the City Hall and the Police Department, as well as the maintenance crews for the positive ways they had adapted during this time period.

The Mayor also commented on how good it was to see people out walking and riding bikes throughout the Town.

Crescent Hill Cemetery Flag Pole

The Mayor reported that the flag pole originally located at the east end of Town had now been moved to the Crescent Hill Cemetery. He thanked KRT and the City of Kenova for their assistance in relocating the flag pole.

Open Burning Ordinance Amendment

The Mayor reported that on the advice of the Town's Fire Marshal, the Open Burning Ordinance needed to be amended to include 523.18-b-1, allowing for outdoor fire places and fire pits with such being manned by adults at all times and positioned 10 feet away from any and all structures.

On a motion by Bob Leslie and a second by Oscar Adkins, Council voted to approve the amendment of the Open Burning Ordinance to include 523.18-b-1, allowing for outdoor fire places and fire pits with such being manned by adults at all times and positioned 10 feet away from any and all structures, as read on first reading. All were in favor, motion carried.

Vest Carriers for Police Department

The Mayor presented Council with a proposal from the Police Department requesting they be able to purchase four (4) vest carriers for the police officers. The cost of the carriers is \$189 each. After discussion and on a motion by Steve Diamond and a second by Oscar Adkins, Council voted to approve the purchase of four (4) vest carriers at a cost not to exceed \$800. All were in favor, motion carried.

Body Cameras for Police Department

The Mayor advised the police officers had expressed an interest in purchasing body cameras. After discussion, Council agreed to table this item of business until the next meeting.

Cabell/Huntington/Wayne Home Consortium

The Mayor discussed the long-time agreement the Town of Ceredo had as part of the Cabell/Huntington/Wayne Home Consortium. He reported that this organization handles HUD Housing Benefits, wherein some of the rental properties in the Town fall.

The Mayor recommended he be given the authority to sign the agreement. On a motion by Dennis Adkins and a second by Joe Ratcliff, Council voted to give the Mayor authority to sign the agreement with the Cabell/Huntington/Wayne Home Consortium. All were in favor, motion carried.

Floodwall Inspection Report

The Mayor reviewed the recent inspection of the floodwall and reported to Council the result was unsatisfactory.

The Mayor sited several areas of major concern, which included some of the floodwall gates, as well as the Jordan Branch Tunnel. He added that during the inspection other issues were raised and he discussed with Council the timeline for meeting the requests outlined in the inspection.

Stormwater Drain Repairs on Fairwood Lane

The Mayor discussed the repairs made to the stormwater drain on Fairwood Lane and gave specifics on the project. He added that, on the morning of Monday, May 4th 2020, a 3-foot sinkhole was discovered in that same area and that safety precautions for traffic in the area had been implemented and that the maintenance crews would be monitoring the sinkhole.

Paving Projects

The Mayor reported on the various paving projects throughout the Town. He advised that the asphalt had been milled at the parking area in front of the Sun Shack Tanning, the cul-de-sac area on Fairwood Lane, the 6th Street West entrance to the plaza and in front of Tudors, which was completed at no cost to the Town. He also reported that the sidewalk on 6th Street West had been damaged by a trailer hauler delivering a mobile home to the area and that the Town had been reimbursed for the cost of repairing the sidewalk by the trailer hauler's insurance.

The Mayor also reported on the number of sidewalks that needed replaced or repaired throughout the Town.

Ramsdell House/Museum/Pickle Ball Courts

The Mayor reported that, in compliance with social distancing regulations secondary to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Ramsdell House, Museum, Pickle Ball Courts and other Town venues would remain closed until further notice.

Tree Trimming and Removal/Cemetery Maintenance

The Mayor expressed his appreciation for the Town crews and the fine job they had been doing in keeping up with all the tree trimming, debris removal, grass mowing, garbage collection and cemetery maintenance.

Adjournment

No further business was brought before the Council, The meeting was adjourned at 7:28 p.m.

MESSAGE FROM THE MAYOR PAUL BILLUPS, MAYOR

What a great time to live in Ceredo! Even though we are not yet fully released from coronavirus restrictions, we are well on our way toward normalcy and have to a large extent avoided the pandemic that seriously impacted other regions of the country. I suppose one of the benefits that we enjoy in small-town America is that many national problems don't seriously affect us.

We have been spared the violence of protests-turned-bad, no serious pockets of coronavirus have been detected in Ceredo or Kenova, most of our businesses appear to have survived the economic downturn, and when we tire

of the daily news providing continuous coverage of political drama, we in Ceredo can simply go outside and enjoy the benefits of living here.

While we have all altered our lives to some extent as a result of pandemic precautionary measures – I didn't realize how much I would miss the ability to get a haircut or sit down at the Soda Fountain – we have persevered and, in some ways, benefited. Ceredo's neighborhoods, sidewalks, and streets have always been conducive to walkers and bikers. Likely as a result of the "shelter-at-home" mandate and our desire to "get outside," the number of people taking daily walks and

speaking with neighbors sitting on porches is reminiscent of the 1950s pre-air conditioning days. Getting exercise and communicating with our neighbors is always a good thing, and we can do it safely here in Ceredo.

The town has rarely looked better. Thanks to the vast majority of our residents that are keeping our properties well-maintained, and special thanks to those of you that have taken the opportunity to assist an elderly neighbor or gone the extra step to maintain your block. Special thanks to JD and Bailey McKinney of B Street. This father-son duo has, for several years, helped the appearance of our

town by assisting neighbors and maintaining common areas in their neighborhood. The example set by JD for his son shouldn't be lost on us.

The popular hanging baskets of purple wave petunias, 57 in number this year, arrived on June 2. Once again, maintenance employee David Patrick will be in charge of watering and maintenance of the hanging baskets. Our flower gardens throughout town have been planted over the last two weeks by the flower lady, Delcie Elkins, ably assisted by her sons, David and Donnie.

The Beautification Committee choices of House (2), Business, and Block of the

month for June have been made, and as I understand there were more nominations than ever before. This has been a great program in Ceredo for a number of years, and each month the Committee has trouble choosing the winners. To nominate a residence, business, or block for this award, simply call Town Hall at 304-453-4675 and provide the name or address of the nominee.

Special thanks must be extended to the mystery lady that walks our streets from 4:30 to 6 each morning, collecting litter, pulling weeds, and helping maintain the town. Thanks to her and those of you that have ad-

opted similar practices, by the time most of us start our day Ceredo is, every day, the area's cleanest small town.

Let's keep up the good work, the things that have made Ceredo great, through the summer season. If you haven't done so, try an evening walk or bike ride. Do that extra little thing that will make the appearance of your property or neighborhood better. If we each do our part, we will not only be the "most livable" small town in West Virginia, we will soon be the healthiest, cleanest, and happiest small town in the state.

New Golden Girl Facility

Construction is scheduled to begin soon on the Golden Minds Center for Learning and Development. The facility will be located on South Main Street and will house the learning center along with the new Golden Treasures Retail Shop.

The Learning Center will be staffed by professional assistants with the goal of guiding Golden Girl residents to stay on task and complete high school course work on a regular schedule with their peers. A second classroom will be geared toward teaching entrepreneurial skills for

Golden Girl residents over 17 years of age.

The Golden Treasures Retail Shop will provide actual workforce training, with the goal of developing skills that will make the residents valuable community employees following graduation. The Retail Shop will be stocked with items donated in excess of residents' needs, thus creating a steady stream of revenue to support the operation.

Headquartered in Ceredo, Golden Girl is a residential facility for abused, neglected, or abandoned girls from

West Virginia ages 12-18. The business also provides a transitional living facility, located in Kenova, for girls over 18 transitioning into adult life.

The new facility will be a great improvement on the 700 Block of Main Street, replacing three structures that had been condemned and demolished by the town.

To help with Golden Girl's projects or for more information regarding the new Learning Center and Retail Store, contact Nikki Thomas at 304-939-5726 or nthomas@gggh.org.

Graduation Parade

A parade was held on Saturday evening, June 6, 2020, honoring graduates of Spring Valley, Wayne, and Tolsia High Schools. With formal graduation ceremonies for county high schools cancelled due

obtaining parade permits, and working with Ceredo and Kenova fire and police officers, Ric and Sandi donated a t-shirt for every parade participant.

The weather was perfect for a parade, and 150

Dreamland Pool, where the participants were given their t-shirts.

The Griffith family has, for several generations, been one of our greatest community assets, giving of their time and money



Screengrab from Live Stream courtesy of Long Creative. Facebook.com/LongCreative

to pandemic restrictions, the parade was chosen as a way to honor county graduates.

Kenova residents Ric and Sandi Griffith are responsible for the idea and much of the work in coordinating the event. In addition to contacting schools,

graduating seniors indicated plans to participate. The parade began at Ceredo Town Hall and proceeded west on Route 60 past Ace Hardware, where a videographer arranged by the Griffith's captured the event for the seniors. The parade then continued to

to support many programs and events in Ceredo and Kenova. On behalf of the graduating seniors and the Town of Ceredo, we thank Ric and Sandi for continuing the Griffith legacy.

Ceredo Roots In Texas

The coronavirus pandemic has changed daily lives across America. In Wylie, Texas, the family of Jon and Jen Bailey have been home-schooling and family bonding during this ordeal. Jen Bailey is the daughter of former Ceredo residents Keith and Freda Chadwick, and granddaughter of South Ceredo farmer and land baron Fred Adkins.

The picture adjoining this article was taken by photographer Sonia Duggan of The Wylie News, showing professional photographer Rebecca Deragon as she captures family moments during the Shelter-In-Place period in Texas.

Jon Bailey is the Missions Pastor at First Baptist Wylie, and is pictured with wife Jen and children Thomas, 10, Caleb, 8, and Ziva, 4, as they enjoy family time in front of their residence.



Photo by: Sonia Duggan/The Wylie News

Antique Auto Show Rescheduled

The Ceredo Antique Automobile Club annual show, one of our town's bigger attractions, has been rescheduled. Usually held the third Saturday in June, this year's show will now take place on Saturday, August 1.

The car show has been held at the Ceredo Plaza for two decades, and annually draws in excess of 150 fine show cars from the tri-state area. Club President Carroll Browning, a Ceredo resident, stated: "We certainly hoped to have the show on our usual date, but due to coronavirus restrictions we felt it appropriate to safeguard the health of our club members, exhibitors, and general public by changing the date. The move was accomplished in time to notify exhibitors, and we thank the Ceredo Plaza and Town of Ceredo for their cooperation."

Even with the date change, certain restrictions such as social distancing may still be in effect. The organizers will exercise all due care to comply with whatever guidelines remain at show time.

For those that haven't attended one of these car shows, please mark your calendars. This is a wonderful event that will bring back memories of yesteryear while looking at the cars of our youth, perfectly restored.

New Policeman Hired

Stephen Adams has joined the Ceredo Police Department on a full-time basis, effective June 5, 2020. Officer Adams was previously employed by the Marshall University Police Department, and has worked in Ceredo as a part-time officer for approximately one year. Officer Adams is fully certified by the state, and replaces Officer John Lange who resigned to accept employment with the Huntington Police Department.

"I have been very happy with my work in Ceredo, and look forward to serving what I think is one of West Virginia's great small towns," said Officer Adams. "The residents have been welcoming and I have great respect for the other officers here."

Chief Tony Poston issued a release stating, "Officer Adams is fully certified and has enough experience, both at Marshall and as a patrol officer here, to begin full road patrol duties immediately. We believe he will be an asset to our force and expect that he will do his part to ensure the safety of Ceredo residents."

Adams currently resides in Milton, but is hoping to move to the Ceredo area in the near future. Please take the opportunity to welcome Officer Adams to Ceredo.



Stephen Adams

Pandemic Re-openings

Governor Jim Justice has removed several coronavirus restrictions as the state and country push toward normalcy. In Ceredo, our restaurants – Rocco's, Pizza Hut, Subway, and Holy Smoke BBQ – are now open for limited inside seating. Each of these restaurants also now offer some form of outside seating. Little did we know how much we would miss a sit-down restaurant meal. Austin's Homemade Ice Cream, one of our largest tourist draws, has reopened with drive-thru and curbside service. Based on the lines each evening, the service is great and the public had adapted to these temporary ser-

vice methods.

Our local hair salons have reopened, with restrictions, as have our non-essential businesses such as The Rose Tree. Youth sports teams are eager to start and the C-K Little League is planning a late-June season. The league will have to operate with distancing restrictions that will eliminate use of dugouts, and fan distancing will be strictly enforced. Practices will be conducted mostly as individual drills.

Outdoor pickleball courts reopened last week, again with social distancing restrictions and a suggestion that play be limited to singles matches. Basketball

remains on the state "closed" list, and local hoopsters are calling Town Hall daily to see when the Governor will allow play to resume.

The walking track remains heavily used, as many of our residents have engaged in daily walks to break the boredom of "shelter-at-home" mandates. There has been a significant increase in persons taking daily walks through our neighborhoods, and local bike shops and kayak stores have done a very brisk business.

We have not yet attained what will be our "new normal", but life in Ceredo is moving in a positive direction.

Wreaths Across America

The Town of Ceredo, the Crescent Hill Cemetery Board, and Gold Star Mothers are joining efforts to take part in the annual "Wreaths Across America" project. The goal of this project is to place a wreath on every veteran's grave during the holiday season. Currently, there are over 150 veterans buried at Crescent Hill, meaning our cost to properly honor every veteran will be in excess of \$1,500.

The Board is requesting a donation of \$10 (the cost of one wreath) to assist with this project. In order to obtain the wreaths by December, our order will have to be placed in September. Persons wishing to assist with the purchase of a wreath can forward a check in the amount of \$10 to "Veteran's Wreath Project," Ceredo Town Hall, PO Box 691, Ceredo, WV 25507.

This is a most worthy project and a way to honor those men and women that served our country. Please step forward with this small donation that will make the project a reality this December.

CEREDO TOWN STATS

POPULATION	1,412
MALE	42.6%
FEMALE	57.4%
ELEVATION	552
AREA	2.26 SQ. MI.
LAND	1.53 SQ. MI.
WATER	73 SQ. MI.
MEDIAN AGE	48.9
HOUSING UNITS	718

“FIRST THINGS FIRST”

– Devotional thoughts from Pastor of the First Baptist Church of Ceredo.

“Seek *FIRST* the kingdom of God...” (Matt. 6:33)

We're Open!

For nearly three months now, our nation has been in the grips of a pandemic, the likes of which has not been seen in 100 years. The COVID-19 virus has impacted our lives in ways unimaginable, putting our lives in lockdown mode and affecting our jobs, our children's education, and even our ability to worship publicly.

Thankfully, we are beginning to see the opening up of businesses, malls, restaurants, and even our houses of worship. If you were to drive or walk by the property of the First Baptist Church of Ceredo, you would see our church sign cheerfully declares, “We're Open!” And we are so glad that is true.

Our God is in the business of opening things. Jesus said of Himself in Revelation

3:7 that He is the one “who opens and no one shuts, and shuts and no one opens.” What are some of things that God opens? When we look into the Scriptures, it's amazing to discover the number of times the word “opened” is used and to see what God does open! Let me give you a few. However, I will have to leave you to look up the Biblical references for yourself. There are (1) opened eyes, to see God's truth (Luke 24:31, 45); (2) opened ears, to hear God's truth (Psalm 40:6); (3) opened hearts, to receive God's truth (Acts 16:14); (4) opened mouths, to speak God's truth (Acts 8:35; 10:34); (5) opened doors, to follow God's truth (1 Corinthians 16:9); and (6) opened heavens, to send out God's blessings, for Christ to return to earth, and for us to be taken up to be with Him forever (Mark 1:10; Acts 7:56; Revelation 4:1; 19:11).

As we said before, our god is in the business of opening things. What do you need God to open for YOU? Maybe like the apostles, you feel like you are in a prison (figuratively, of course!), but you need God to open those prison doors and set you free (Acts 5:19; 16:26). Or maybe you're like the prodigal son, who's drifted away from the Father's house. You find yourself in a “far country,” but you want to come home. And at the end of the road, you see your Heavenly Father, standing there, looking for you to return. But seeing you walk down the road, He runs to you, and there you find Him with open arms, ready to take you back. What a gracious reminder of our God for this month when we celebrate “Father's Day!”

God has a message for you today. He wants you to know, “We're Open!” He's

ready with grace and love to take you in his open arms. His door of grace is always open to all who will come to Him. As Jesus said in John 6:37, “the one who comes to Me I will by no means cast out.”

Jeffrey F. Canterbury is the pastor of the First Baptist Church, 448 Main Street, Ceredo, WV. For more information about the church, including service times and archived messages, please visit the church's website at www.fbc-ceredo.com. Or you can call the church at 304-453-2092. All Scripture quotations are from the New King James Version of the Bible. If you have any questions related to the Bible you would like answered, please send them to [Pastor Jeff at fbcsecretary@zoominternet.net](mailto:PastorJeff@zoominternet.net) or mail them to P.O. Box 967, Ceredo, WV 25507.

SUMMER REMINDERS

As the summer weather brings us outside it is good to keep in mind a few local rules that make life better for all of us.

OPEN BURNING: Outdoor fireplaces and fire pits must be at least ten feet from any structure.

PET WASTE: Dog and other domestic animal waste must be removed from any public or private property. Waste baskets are located on every intersection in town to provide a convenient disposal site for bagged waste.

YARD SALES: Yard Sales are permitted in Ceredo, with certain conditions. A permit must be obtained from the Town Clerk's office for all yard sales. The first permit at a residence each year is free. A fee is required for subsequent yard sales at the same residence. Questions should be addressed to the Town Clerk at 304-453-1041.

GRASS CLIPPINGS: Ceredo residents take great pride in how well our yards and common areas are maintained. When cutting grass, it is required that all clippings be removed from the road and sidewalk. Grass clippings left in the street or on the sidewalk don't portray a well-maintained town, and more importantly the clippings clog our storm sewer drains, resulting in ponding water on our streets.

HONOR ROLL

Eleanor Terry.....	10/20
Jim and Pat Billups.....	02/21
John C. Hall.....	05/21
Paul and Kathy Billups.....	10/21
Jack and Ann Riggs.....	05/21
Mike and Susan Watts.....	09/20
Leigh Ann Johnson.....	04/22
Connie & Mark Beford.....	10/20
Dinah and Dale Ledbetter.....	10/20
In Memory of Herb & Helen Stephens.....	08/20
In Memory of Coach Dale Craycraft.....	08/20
In Memory of J. J. & Roma Gail Billups.....	08/20
In Memory of Houston & Gladys Woolwine.....	04/21
Katrina Childers.....	05/21
In Memory of Alberta “Dossie” & Sherman Medley.....	04/21
Tim Wilson.....	05/20
Dr. Ron & Lucinda Akers.....	06/20
In Memory of Clarence & Dotty Clarkson.....	07/20
Marlene Simmons.....	07/20
Herm Matney.....	08/20
In Memory of Anagene Wooten Gibbs.....	08/20
In Memory of Kathleen Wooren Marcum.....	08/20
In Memory of Larry Cole.....	08/20
In Memory of Charles & Dorothy Watts.....	09/20
Jeanette & Roger Barker.....	03/21
Karin & Mike Dawson.....	02/21
American Legion.....	01/21
Ceredo-Kenova Community Center.....	01/21
Evaronis.....	01/21
CUMC.....	12/20
Roberta and Charlie Mitchell.....	03/21
Jennifer Ferguson.....	04/21
Oscar, Bonnie, Michelle Booth.....	04/21
In Memory of Robert (Pete) & Carolyn Sullivan.....	04/21
John M. Spangler, Esq.....	05/21
In Memory of Frances Cornell.....	05/21
In Memory of WW. Mills, MD.....	05/21
In Honor of Larry Jack Heck.....	06/21
Floyd Mays.....	06/21

The New Crescent Honor Roll is intended to be a way we give special recognition to those persons who donate at least \$50.00 during the year to support our publication. Since the Honor Roll is a twelve-month feature, you will need to renew your contribution every twelve months to remain on the Roll. Your name not appearing indicates your year had expired. A very special “Thank You!” to all of you who have helped us to continue the paper with your gifts. With your help, we have been able to publish and deliver The New Crescent to every home in Ceredo since February 1990!

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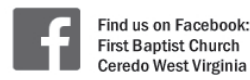
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(In-person & Live Stream)
Sunday 7pm
(Live Stream)
Wednesday 7pm
(Live Stream)

Services live streamed on our website.



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First Baptist Church
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First Baptist Church Ceredo

Pastor Jeffrey F. Canterbury

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Community Bike Ride Program

The Town of Ceredo is sponsoring a Community Bike Ride program each Saturday through the summer months. The significant increase in residents seeking outdoor exercise, coupled with West Virginia's rating as one of the unhealthiest states, led the Town to initiate this program.

Any interested bicycle riders are welcome to meet in front of Town Hall each Saturday at 9 a.m. All ages and levels of ability are welcome, as this is a leisurely ride on mostly flat routes through Ceredo and Kenova. Persons owning spandex cycling outfits may not be interested, as a main goal of this program is to promote exercise and

healthy social gathering at a leisurely pace and moderate distance.

The first ride was held on Saturday, June 6. Bike Patrol officers from the Ceredo and Kenova police departments led approximately twenty participants on a 5.3-mile ride. Water was provided by the Town, and all participants indicated a willingness to continue.

Cyclist Boone Chaffin, a former stellar athlete at C-K that has celebrated Christmas in excess of 65 times, said "This is great. The pace is perfect for all age groups, it allows people to get out and exercise while still being able to talk and visit along the ride. This is what small town life should be, and

I challenge my former teammate Randy Maynard of Lexington to join a ride some weekend."

All residents are urged to try this event. We have for too long been deemed unhealthy, and this is our opportunity to show the rest of West Virginia and the country that Ceredo wants no part of that title. This is an opportunity for small groups of friends to meet and ride together on a safe, monitored course that is designed to allow riders to drop off at designated points when they have reached their goal (or when they get tired!).

Please join us next Saturday as we grow the weekly Community Bike Ride through Ceredo and Kenova.



CHARACTERS OF CEREDO Ozzie Hawes, Columnist

EDITOR'S NOTE: There was a time in America when every small burg had a handful of "characters," people that marched to the beat of a different drummer, lived life their way, and had no desire to conform to societal expectations. From every social, financial, and political class, these characters could bring a smile to your face, cause you to shake your head in wonderment, and often make those living in the social norm to vicariously enjoy the personal freedoms expressed by a character. Ceredo has had its share.

Unfortunately, characters are a vanishing breed. Perhaps because characters stood out in situations of social interaction, and today we have become a Facebook, Twitter, and cell phone society where social interaction is less valued and less used, we just don't see the characters. It's safe to say that none of the characters of Ceredo would have had much use for social tools, preferring to exhibit their traits in a brutally honest, "what you see is what I am" fashion.

This is another column in a series about the characters of Ceredo, hoping to create a record of their existence and an appreciation for the drummer, whatever his beat may be.

Everyone of us that rode the Big Dipper at Camden Park between 1948 and the early 1970s knew John Werth. We may not have known him by name, but for nearly twenty-five years Ceredo resident John Werth operated the Park's most popular ride. John was the man that flipped the switch to lock the safety bars in place, pulled the lever to start the cars in motion, and applied the brakes as the cars came to a stop in the loading area.

John resided on the cor-

ner of Main and C Streets, where Tudor's now stands. In the early 1940s, John was employed as a truck driver, frequently pulling a double-tiered car hauling trailer. In an unfortunate accident occasioned while unloading a car from the upper-tier, the automobile got loose and started down the ramps. Being a large, strong young fellow and recognizing the potential danger to others if the car wasn't stopped, John literally attempted to stop the runaway car with his hands.

John's efforts prevented damage or injury to others, but resulted in a serious injury to himself. While holding the car, John suffered an injury to his spine and central nervous system that left him bedridden for a number of months. After reaching his maximum recovery, John was left with permanent tremors of his arms and head, thus ending his ability to drive.

John carried forth with his life, taking a job at Camden Park that he loved. Each summer morning John Werth could be seen waiting on the Ohio Valley Bus at the Main Street stop, where he would board for the short ride to Camden

Park and another day of bringing screams and laughter to riders of the Big Dipper.

As an interesting side-note, John is credited with being the first Ceredo resident to bake a pizza. John's sister was married to the publisher of the Herald-Dispatch, and through his sister John obtained a recipe for a new dish theretofore unknown in Ceredo. One day around 1950, John appeared at the Ceredo Pool Room with what he called a pizza. The boys in the Pool Room, having no trouble eating the pickled eggs and pig's feet from glass jars on the bar, all refused to take a bite of John's concoction. The rest, of course, is history.

John, and the once-prominent Werth family in Ceredo, have long since passed away. The same could probably be said of our memories of the big fellow that held our lives in his shaking hands each time we rode the Big Dipper, but we all owe a thanks to John Werth for keeping us safe on a ride that appeared anything but. John Werth ... a true character of Ceredo.

John Werth



American Legion Post 93

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Kenova, WV

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- Lasagna
- Spaghetti
- Rigatoni
- Ravioli
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- Fresh Veal
- Seafood
- Manicotti
- Sausage
- Cacciatore
- Linguine with Clam Sauce (Red & White)

SUN TUES WED THUR
5PM to 10PM
FRI SAT 5PM to 10:30 PM

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453-3000**

Austin's
HOMEMADE ICE CREAM
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1103 C St. Ceredo, WV
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OPEN DAILY 10:30am - 10:00pm

School Beautification Update

Thanks to overwhelming community support, the first phase of landscaping at the former Ceredo Elementary School is complete. Many donors contributed to this project, allowing the Ceredo Beautification Committee to meet their first goal. Those donating since the last issue of The New Crescent include Tim and Georgeanne Bias, Patricia Johnson, Larry and Bridgette Moore, Jim and Marcella Canterbury, JD and Rhonda Billups, Leigh Johnson, Dale and Dinah Ledbetter, Jack Riggs, Morgan Billups, and Sharon Carver Hensley.

In addition to the donation of \$25, persons are asked to include a few "favorite memories" of the old school. These

memories will be catalogued and placed in the Town Museum, and all donors will be recognized on a plaque inside the school building.

Persons desiring to donate to this project may do so by forwarding a check to "School Beautification Project" at Ceredo Town Hall, PO Box 691, Ceredo, WV 25507.

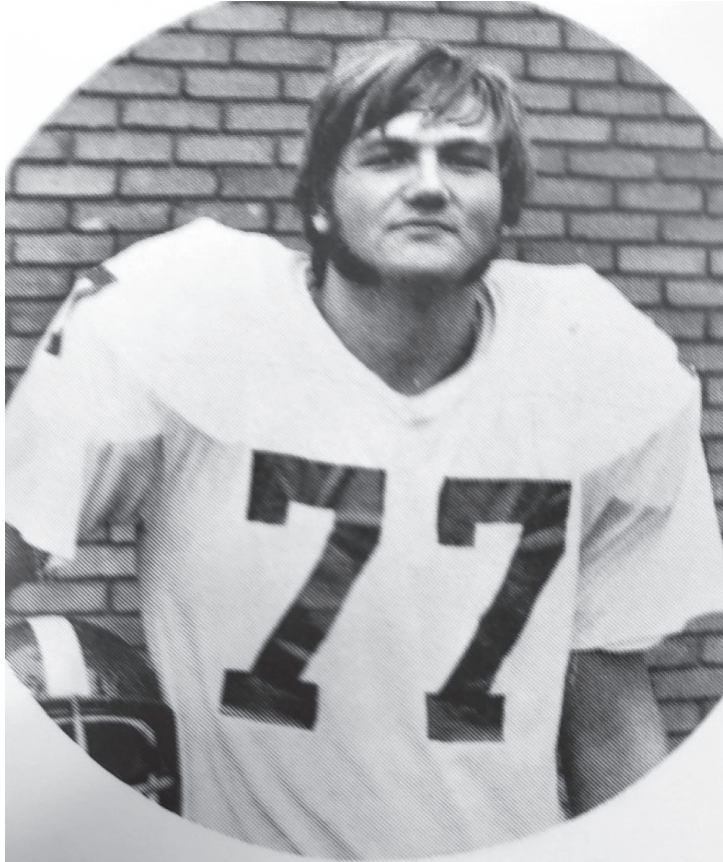
Of the many thoughts and pictures submitted with donations to this project, one appears to symbolize the academic pursuits of many of the nearly two-thousand students that matriculated from the building that still stands today. The young student pictured herein has obviously set his academic goals high, dressing properly for class at an early age. The young

man obviously took his studies seriously, as he later became a college graduate and successful business owner after taking a slight athletic detour.

The picture is of New Crescent subscriber Floyd Mays, a once outstanding Ceredo Elementary student and later outstanding athlete at Ceredo-Kenova High School. Floyd led the Wonders to a state championship, earning All-State honors before continuing his football career at Marshall. Unfortunately, Floyd's college career was cut short by injuries, but fortunately, he was able to retrieve his briefcase, suit, and top hat to continue his academic pursuits.



Floyd Mays –
First Day of School



Floyd Mays –
Senior Year at C-K High School

School Beautification Project



Dale Maynard and Montie Adkins assist with the Beautification Project.



COMMUNITY FITNESS CENTER

Open 7 Days a Week

HOURS:
Mon-Thurs 7am-9pm
Fri 7am-8pm
Sat 8am-3pm
Sun 1pm-5pm

1201 Poplar St
Kenova, WV 25530
304-453-2449

MEMBERSHIP RATES

Single (18+) \$180.00/Yr

Family (Married Couple \$270/Yr
Additional family members 13-18
who resides in the same household
is \$70/Yr per family member.

Seniors (60+) \$110/Yr

Daily \$5

Monthly \$30 (adult)
\$25 (ages 13-18)

EQUIPMENT AVAILABLE

Nautilus Exercise Equipment

Free Weights

Cardiovascular Equipment

New Shower Facilities

Classes Available

MONDAY
Toning 9-10am
Silver Sneakers 10-11am
R.I.P.P.E.D. 5:30-6:30pm
Zumba Gold 6:30-7:30pm

TUESDAY
Zumb Toning 6:30-7:30pm

WEDNESDAY
Toning 9-10am
Silver Sneakers 10-11am
Zumba Gold 6:30-7:30pm

THURSDAY
R.I.P.P.E.D. 5:30-6:30pm
Zumba 6:30-7:30pm

FRIDAY
Toning 9-10am
Silver Sneakers 10-11am

SUNDAY
Zumba Sentao 2-3:15pm

INSTRUCTORS:

Heather Ferguson (Zumba, Silver Sneakers, R.I.P.P.E.D., Toning)
Sarah Lester (Zumba Gold)

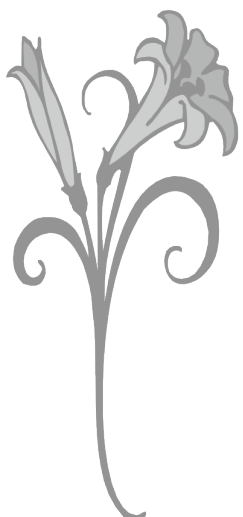
"Do you have your Medicare Plan through HUMANA?"

You may qualify for:

Healthways Silver Sneakers® Fitness Program

CEREDO CRESCENT HILL CEMETERY

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- Tranquil Setting Overlooking The Ohio Valley
 - Inside The Ceredo City Limits
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For more Information visit www.ceredowv.gov and click on the Cemetery page or Contact Stanley Fink at (304) 453-5622

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Ceredo Glass

Most of us now living in Ceredo can remember when Pilgrim Glass, located at the intersection of Walker's Branch and Airport Road, was a thriving business. Interestingly, Pilgrim was the third glass manufacturer to call Ceredo home.

In 1857, Ceredo founder Eli Thayer advertised in major New England newspapers for "mechanics", the word of the day for skilled craftsmen and industrialists, to move to Ceredo. It was Thayer's belief that by establishing an industrial community not reliant on agriculture, the need for slave labor would be non-existent and the country would take a major step toward abolishing slavery.

A number of industrialists accepted Thayer's offer of cheap land, little competition, and a growing market that included access to the "west" via the navigable waters of the Ohio River that ended

at Ceredo. One such industrialist came to Ceredo and constructed a glass plant that began operations in 1860. As reported in the October 8, 1860, issue of The Ceredo Crescent, three new families totaling ten persons moved to Ceredo that week to work at the glass factory.

The Crescent article went on to say "The Glass Factory is complete and ready to begin work. They are to commence "blowing" Monday week. The business employs some twenty-five men at present, and more will be at work here thereafter we suppose. We believe the proprietors will begin making glass wine bottles, viles, bottles for common use, and various descriptions of jars so much used now-a-days."

The article continued, "The business adds much to the general prosperity of the Town and the working capital of the country. Several

workmen for the factory have arrived in the last twelve days, and more are expected. Our people have reason to rejoice that manufacturing has been successful thus far."

Unfortunately, the Civil War started in April, 1861, and shortly thereafter hostilities in the Ceredo area caused approximately 400 of our 500 residents to return to their northern homes. Our first glass factory was left with no workers less than a year after opening, thus closed its doors. Little evidence has been found of products produced by the first Ceredo glass plant. One vase is known to exist with "CEREDO" stamped on the bottom, and glass historians, while noting that it is not definitive proof, believe it likely that the vase was produced by the early Ceredo plant.

Ceredo was out of the glass manufacturing business until the 1920s, when Sinclair Glass built a factory in South

Ceredo on property now occupied by American National Rubber. The Sinclair factory operated until approximately 1950, at which time the cost of natural gas to fuel the glass furnaces caused the factory to close.

An interesting side-note to the Sinclair operation is that the company would likely have remained in business if the owner had been successful in drilling a gas well. Knowing that he must find a cheaper way to fuel the furnaces, the owner devised a plan to drill a gas well on Walker's Branch and pipe free gas to the plant. Unfortunately, the well was a dry hole and soon thereafter our second glass factory was history.

In 1956, Alfred Knobler moved his small decorative glass operation, Pilgrim Glass, from Huntington to Ceredo. The Pilgrim operation became quite successful, thanks primarily to the work of arti-

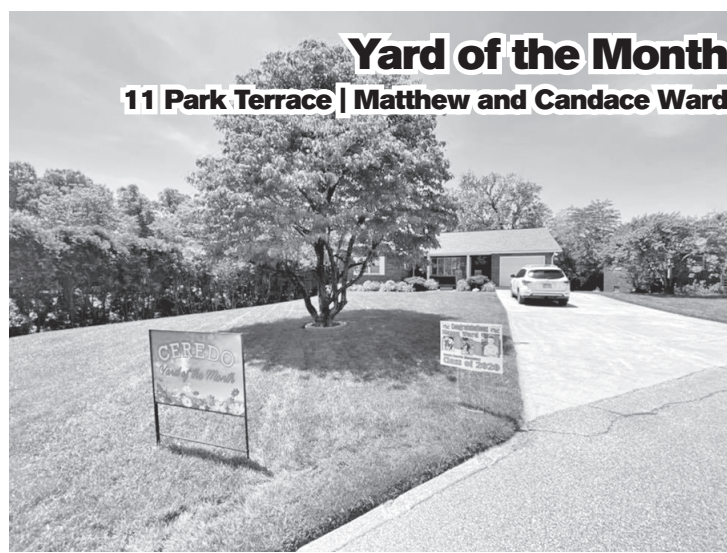
sans Roberto and Allesandro Moretti. The Moretti brothers, schooled in the world-famous glass factories of Murano, Italy, joined Knobler's operation and achieved national attention working at the West Virginia exhibit at the 1965-66 World's Fair in New York.

Describing Roberto Moretti's work, a New York columnist wrote: "Roberto Moretti uses the ancient tools of the glass craftsman deftly. One pinch of the tongs - fins and gills emerge out of glass. A flash of the wrist and an arched tail is molded. A snip of the cutting tools and a round mouth finishes the delicate glass figure."

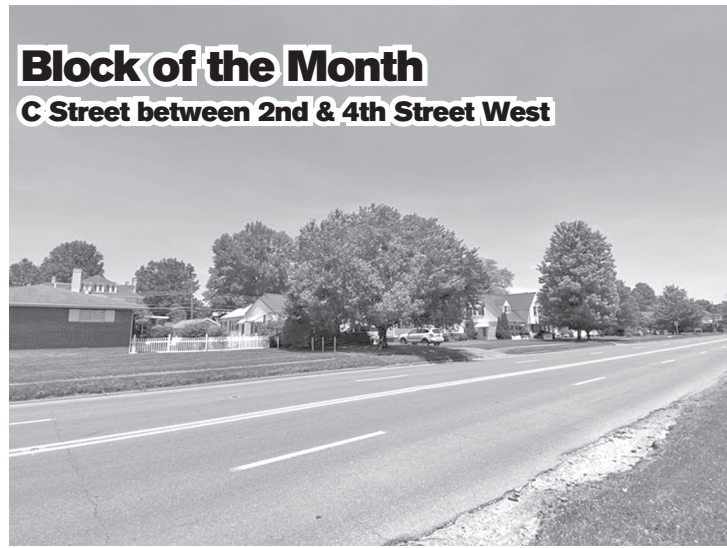
Moretti gained national prominence and was listed in "Who's Who of American Glassmaking" while exhibiting his work nationally and internationally. At the time of his death in 1986, Knobler stated: "Roberto was a kind and high-spirited man with

a Mediterranean outlook on life. He was surely one of the greatest glass workers in the world."

Pilgrim Glass continued operations in Ceredo until 2003, producing many decorative glass items that are highly sought by glass collectors today. With the closing of Pilgrim the glass industry in Ceredo that started before the town was chartered came to an end.

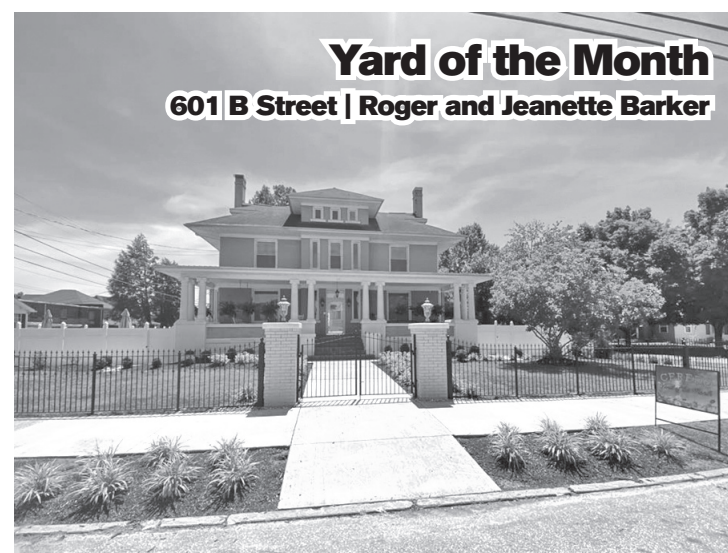


Yard of the Month
11 Park Terrace | Matthew and Candace Ward



Block of the Month
C Street between 2nd & 4th Street West

Ceredo Beautification Committee June 2020 Yards, Block and Business of the Month



Yard of the Month
601 B Street | Roger and Jeanette Barker



Business of the Month
Holy Smoke BBQ

FARMERS MARKET TO OPEN

The popular Ceredo Farmers Market is scheduled to open for the season on Friday, June 26. The market will maintain hours of 9 a.m. through 4 p.m. every Friday and Saturday for the remainder of the season at the Town Shelter located on the parking lot of Mitch Stadium.

Anchor farms will again be the Greenbrier Farm of Fort Gay, operated by Bill and Dorothy Stewart, and Rocky Knob Farm of Pritchard, operated by Jason and Tab Ekers. In addition to the anchor farms, smaller specialty growers will provide "in season" specialty items and baked goods.

COVID-19 precautionary measures will be in effect, including the use of a curbside drive-thru lane where shoppers can order vegetables from the car. Shoppers beneath the shelter will be limited to six persons at a time for social distancing reasons, and gloves will be required for those persons that desire to feel the produce. Gloves and sanitizer will be provided by the Town at no cost.

This will be the fourth season for the Farmers Market, and local residents have been very supportive of the endeavor. With the significant increase in walkers, joggers, and bicyclists in town, the addition

TOWN OF CEREDO FARMERS MARKET

EVERY FRIDAY & SATURDAY
9:00AM - 4:00PM

C-K AutumnFest

Parade
OCTOBER 27th | 6:00pm

Events
OCTOBER 30th-31st

Craft Show
Cruise-In
Tractor Show
Canning Competition
Kids Activities
Bake-Off
Great Scarecrow Hunt

www.CKAutumnFest.com

