

Town of Ceredo Town Council Regular Session July 5th, 2022

The Town of Ceredo Town Council met in regular session on Monday, July 5th, 2022 at the Ceredo City Hall. The Mayor, Paul A. Billups, called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. Those present included the Mayor, Paul A. Billups; the Recorder, Stanley E. Fink, via teleconference; and Councilmen, Steve Diamond, Ron Jarrell, Robert Leslie and Joe Ratcliff. Councilman Oscar Adkins was absent due to employment obligations.

Reading and Approval of the Minutes

The Mayor inquired if Council had any additions or corrections to the minutes of the June 6th, 2022 Regular Session. None being heard and on a motion by Steve Diamond and a second by Joe Ratcliff, Council voted to accept the June 6th, 2022 Regular Session minutes as presented. All were in favor, motion carried.

Treasurer's Report

Treasurer, Robert Leslie, presented Council with the account balances for each account and the expenditures for the month of June, 2022. The Mayor asked if Council had any questions on the Treasurer's Report. None being heard, on a motion by Steve Diamond and second by Ron Jarrell, Council voted to accept the Treasurer's report for June, 2022 as presented. All were in favor, motion carried.

Sixth Street Sewer Easement

The Mayor advised Council that the easement agreed to by William Trembly for the Sixth Street sewer project had not been received, and that alternative designs should be reviewed.

The Mayor addressed Mr. Cogan concerning current use of the property as a junk yard. Mr. Cogan agreed to rid the property of junk cars, trucks, and other objects, and to be considerate of neighbors.

Municipal Real Estate Holdings

The Mayor presented Council with the annual request from the Tri-State Transit Authority for a contribution of \$2,000 to support bus service between Ceredo and Huntington. A motion to make the donation was made by Ron Jarrell, with second by Steve Diamond. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

Tri-State Transit Authority

The Mayor presented Council with the annual request from the Tri-State Transit Authority for a contribution of \$2,000 to support bus service between Ceredo and Huntington. A motion to make the donation was made by Ron Jarrell, with second by Steve Diamond. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

Adjournment

No further business was brought before the Council. The meeting adjourned at 7:20 p.m.

Town of Ceredo Town Council Regular Session September 6th, 2022

The Town of Ceredo Town Council met in regular session on Monday, September 6th, 2022 at the Ceredo City Hall. The Mayor, Paul A. Billups, called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. Those present included the Mayor, Paul A. Billups; the Recorder, Stanley E. Fink, via teleconference; Councilmen, Steve Diamond, Ron Jarrell, Robert Leslie, Oscar Adkins and Joe Ratcliff.

Reading and Approval of the Minutes

The Mayor inquired if Council had any additions or corrections to the minutes of the August 1st, 2022 Regular Session. None being heard and on a motion by Steve Diamond and a second by Robert Leslie, Council voted to accept the August 1st, 2022 Regular Session minutes as presented. All were in favor, motion carried.

Treasurer's Report

Treasurer, Robert Leslie, presented Council with the account balances for each account and the expenditures for the month of August, 2022. The Mayor asked if Council had any questions on the Treasurer's Report. None being heard, on a motion by Joe Ratcliff and second by Oscar Adkins, Council voted to accept the Treasurer's report for August, 2022 as presented. All were in favor, motion carried.

Sixth Street Sewer Easement

Terry Moran of Potesta Engineering presented council with an update off the Sixth Street Sewer Project. Projected cost of the project increased approximately \$44,000 due to pandemic-related material price increases, increasing the town's match portion by \$22,000. On motion by Steve Diamond and second by Oscar Adkins, the increase was approved. The project is expected to go to bid within sixty days.

Region II Payment Request

The Mayor presented council with a request from Region II Planning and Development for payment in the sum of \$1,100.91 for services rendered on the Sixth Street Sewer Project. On motion by Joe Ratcliff and second by Robert Leslie, the request was unanimously approved.

Greenwood Storm Sewer

Terry Moran of Potesta Engineering addressed council concerning the Greenwood Storm Sewer Project. The initial cost estimate on the project is expected to be around \$400,000. The mayor expressed concern about the amount, and suggested that the project may be done internally or that the installation route may be changed. It was agreed that the town will seek an easement that would allow the project cost to decrease, and

the matter will be considered in September.

Beautification Building

The Mayor reported that work on replacement of the Beautification Building that was destroyed by fire in February, 2021, is substantially complete. The work was performed by Miller Construction at a cost of \$62,800.

Building Demolition Projects

The Mayor reported that demolition agreements have been signed to allow unsafe houses at 142 2nd Street East, 274 2nd Street East, 1446 B Street, and 531 Broad Hollow Road to be demolished. The projects are currently being advertised for bid.

CVFD Levy Funds Request

Chief Rob Robson of the Ceredo Volunteer Fire Department appeared to request that Special Levy Funds in the amount of \$5,700 be released to pay for renovation work at the main station. Receipts having been presented and funds being available in the account, on motion by Steve Diamond and second by Oscar Adkins, the request was approved by unanimous vote.

Special Levy Election Date

The Mayor advised council that during the last legislative session a bill was passed mandating that municipal special levy elections shall be held in conjunction with either the national primary, national general, or town regular elections. Special levy elections may no longer be held as a separate election. The town historically has held special levy votes as a separate election. After discussion, a consensus was taken that the next special levy election will be held in conjunction with the 2024 national primary election.

Recorder Fink Resignation

The Mayor read to council a resignation letter from Recorder Stanley Fink. Recorder Fink offered the resignation for retirement purposes, citing health concerns. The Mayor offered a summary of the many years of public service performed by Mr. Fink, beginning when he joined the Fire Department as a junior member and continuing unbroken with the exception of his time serving in the Navy. With reluctance, the resignation was accepted and Mr. Fink will later be recognized for his dedication and service to the town.

Adjournment

No further business was brought before the Council. The meeting adjourned at 8:20 p.m.

MESSAGE FROM THE MAYOR PAUL BILLUPS, MAYOR

With apologies to Mark Twain, "the rumors of my untimely demise have been greatly exaggerated." That said, it has indeed been a difficult summer. Having never suffered from back pain, I found myself in May being unable to walk and in a rather uncomfortable constant pain. Thus, many of you didn't see me on my daily bicycle ride or walking around town for a few months. Thankfully, physical therapy has improved my condition, I can ambulate fairly well, ride my bike, sit in the office all day, and intend to be back on the pickleball court very soon.

By way of a quick update, our two major sewer projects are proceeding, with construction expected to begin before cold weather. A third project, the installation of new LED street lights on the south side, is scheduled to be completed by the end of October. The kayak put-in ramp located near the police gun range on B Street is complete, and our annual paving and sidewalk repair work went well. Fiscally, the town remains on solid footing with acceptable balances in the general fund and utility company accounts. Your town council continues to do a good job in moving the town forward in a fiscally responsible way.

We have all heard the common refrain, "there is nothing to do here." That statement is made by people of all ages and from all locales. Anyone making that statement in Ceredo is failing to look around. In the town park one recent evening we had youth football practice, cheerleading practice, softball practice, residents on the walking track, a group playing basketball, and four pickleball courts in use

with others waiting to play.

The fitness center had several persons on treadmills and such, four people were playing indoor pickleball, the Silver Sneakers group was exercising in their facility, and the alumni band was hard at practice in preparation for their next concert. The following evening, Tuesday, brought the weekly crowd of around eighty residents to the Tuesday Night Pickers show. All this is in addition to our many bicycle riders and walkers that can be found every evening through town.

Our two primary restaurants, Rocco's and Holy Smoke BBQ, are full every evening, and the iconic Austin's Ice Cream has once again attracted record crowds for the season. The annual Alumni Band "Big Band Show" held September 18th in the amphitheater was well attended and the music was fantastic. The next time you here the "nothing to do" statement, invite the speaker to visit Ceredo, where our 1,460 residents are taking advantage of a variety of activities!

I was recently in the Park Terrace neighborhood and it reminded me of life in Ceredo during the 1950's and 1960's. School age children were everywhere, a neighborhood cookout was underway, and the atmosphere was straight from Ozzie and Harriet. The Park Terrace residents have done a great job at making the neighborhood a wonderful place to live, reminiscent of how Ceredo was when we had a younger population and an abundance of children in decades past.

It was with great sadness that I accepted the resignation of Recorder Stanley Fink. Stanley,

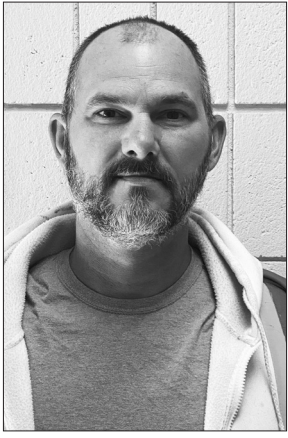
always holding the best interests of the town foremost, decided to retire for health reasons, feeling that he is no longer able to perform his duties in the manner he had become accustomed. A lesser person would have held on to keep the salary, but Stanley put the town first and he is to be truly respected for that action.

I have known Stanley most of my life, and for most of that time he has been a public servant. Since his junior high days in the 1950's when he joined the Volunteer Fire Department, Stan has devoted a significant portion of his life to the betterment of Ceredo. He has served as Fire Chief, Councilman, and Recorder in addition to volunteering to serve on several committees including the Wayne County Economic Development Authority. In a day when public servants, and particularly volunteers, are hard to find, Stanley Fink took a step forward a served his town.

At the time of his retirement, Stanley was three weeks short of serving fifty years as a member of the town administration, and at forty-seven consecutive years was the longest-serving elected Recorder in West Virginia. Stanley will be missed. It seems they aren't making many Stanleys these days, persons that will faithfully dedicate themselves to work toward the good of the whole without personal agendas.

Stan, you have been a great public servant to Ceredo and a great friend. You will be missed, my friend, but keep the phone close as I know your guidance and good council will continue to be needed!

Employee of the Month



Jeff White was employed by the town for nearly twenty years before taking a sabbatical in 2021. Jeff returned to the town workforce in June, and has quickly reestablished himself as a valuable member of our maintenance staff.

A Ceredo native, Jeff is passionate about keeping our town in top condition. Jeff is skilled at nearly every town maintenance job, including our water system, but particularly enjoys utilizing his creative skills with decorations during holiday seasons. "I'm really looking forward to decorating for Autumnfest," said Jeff. "Hopefully we can create the Hallmark movie small town look in Ceredo."

The staff is very happy to have Jeff back, realizing he is a valuable piece of our small workforce that keeps Ceredo in top condition.

Summer Projects Completed

With the exception of minor pothole patching, Ceredo's 2022 paving projects have been completed. This summer the town concentrated on Ceredo's south side, paving High Street from the Twelve Pole Bridge to Second Street West, sections of Gilkerson Road off Walker's Branch in Brownstown, and Crescent Hill.

For the past fifty years, the Department of Highways has taken care of a portion of High Street and Crescent Hill. Despite repeated requests over the past three years, no state action was forthcoming and the town council decided to proceed with the projects, citing the needs of our residents and the unlikelihood of state assistance. Both roadways were in very poor condition. Kudos to the town council for allocating funds to these projects since the state has been absent.

Several smaller sections of roadways and alleyways were paved, mostly in areas where the pavement had been disturbed by utility work. Pothole patching should be underway by October 1, with a goal of October 15 to be complete.

In addition to paving, several sidewalk sections throughout town were replaced this summer. This work was mostly in areas where the sidewalks were uneven, creating a hazardous condition for walkers. Ceredo's trees are beautiful, but one of the problems with being a "Tree City" is the damage tree roots do to sidewalks. The town makes every effort to stay on top of this through the annual sidewalk replacement program that is funded by the Special Levy.

Concerning our many trees, they are indeed a part of our town and will remain so. However, trees grow, and when planted between sidewalks and curbs they eventually reach a size that creates damage to sidewalks, curbs, and houses. Thus, it is necessary each year for the town horticulturist to survey our trees and recommend those that have become problems. This summer we have removed two large sycamore trees on Rt. 60 near United Bank, two overgrown water maple trees on Second Street East, and a dying sycamore tree near the amphitheater in the town park. Two other trees are on the removal list, one on First Street West and one on First Street East.

Recorder Fink Retires

The longest-tenured elected Recorder in West Virginia has retired. Stanley Fink, Recorder in Ceredo since September 2, 1975, resigned effective September 6, 2022, citing health concerns. Mr. Fink also resigned from his position as a member of the Wayne County Economic Development Authority in August, 2022. At a farewell dinner in his honor, the EDA presented Mr. Fink with a proclamation from the Wayne County Commission in gratitude for his many years of service to that organization.

A life-long Ceredo resident, Fink began his public service while in high school when he joined the Ceredo Volunteer Fire Department as a junior member. Except for his time serving in the Navy, Fink continued his public service until retirement. Upon his return to Ceredo after military discharge, Fink resumed his duties with the Fire Department, eventually serving for several years as Chief.

On October 1, 1973, Fink was appointed to be a member of the town council, serving in that capacity until his appointment as Recorder two years later. In duration, Fink served forty-nine years and one week as a member of the town's governing body.

In addition to his municipal service, Stanley was employed by INCO (Special Metals), and owned a medical transport business for several years. Still, he was always made time to fulfill his commitments to Ceredo.



Improvements too many to list were made during Stanley's years as a councilman and recorder, but it suffices to say that he was an integral part of Ceredo's period of growth that led to recognition as West Virginia's Most Outstanding Town and many other awards. It was with great reluctance that Mayor Billups accepted the resignation, stating "There have been few residents in our history that have willingly given a lifetime of service to the town such as Stanly Fink has given. His dedication to the town has been paramount, he never approached his duties with a personal agenda, always working toward the best interests of the residents, and Stanley never dodged the difficult parts of being a town official. His services will be missed, but I am sure he will remain available for consultation as he possesses a good deal of institutional knowledge that cannot be replaced."

In accordance with the Town Charter, the council will consider whether to name a replacement for Recorder Fink or possibly to eliminate the position. "With advances in technology and paid office staffs, the office of Recorder is in many ways archaic," said Mr. Fink. "Most cities have eliminated the position or greatly reduced the responsibilities, and I believe our council should consider this as it moves forward."

Council is expected to address the matter at its next regular meeting.

FARMERS MARKET



The Ceredo Farmers Market remains open every Friday and Saturday with all your autumn decorating needs. Pumpkins of various types and sizes, gourds of all colors and shapes, mums, and the best corn fodder in the area.



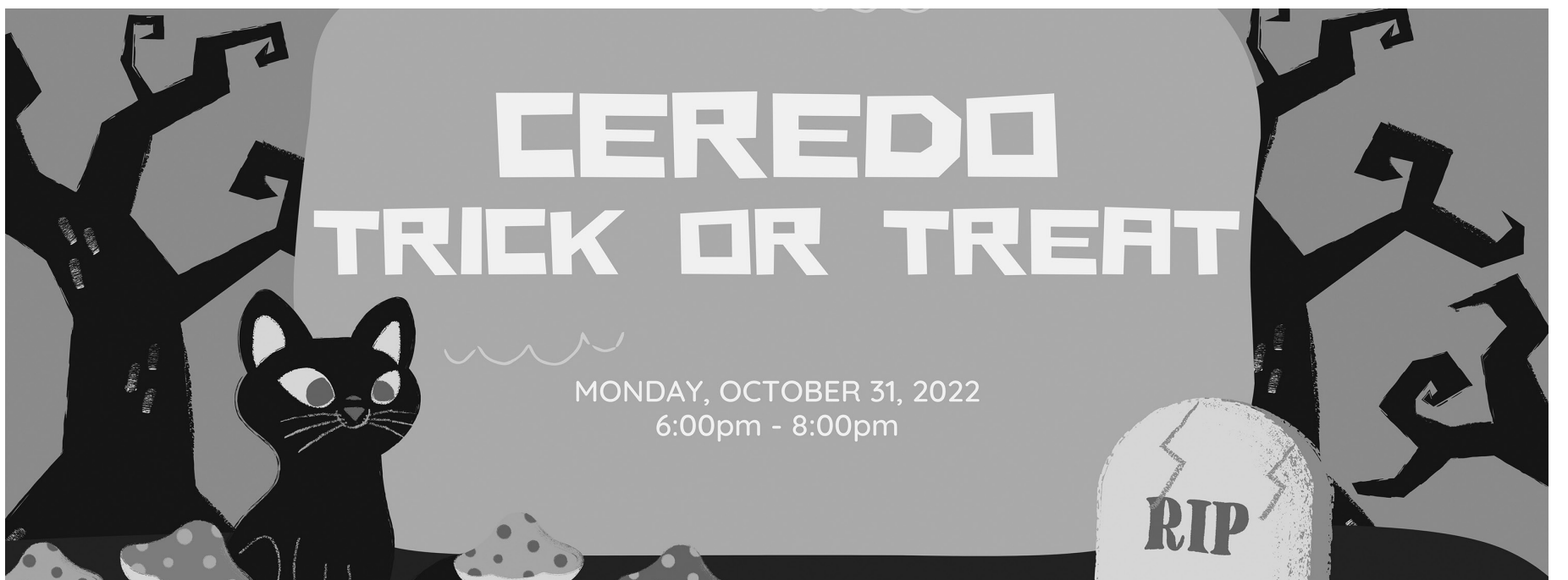
Saturday, December 17 - 12pm
Ceredo Crescent Hill Cemetery

Forms available at Ceredo Town Hall to purchase a wreath in honor of our military veterans. Wreaths are \$10 each

Honoring Our Past Veterans

Inclement Weather Site:
Ceredo Senior Wellness Center Cafeteria
 484 Main Street, Ceredo, WV 25507

For More Information Visit
www.wreathsacrossamerica.org
www.goldstarmoms.com
www.dar.org
www.ceredowv.gov



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.

Ed Adkins was born in November, 1885, and lived 101 years before his passing in January, 1987. Of those 101 years, 96 were proudly spent in Ceredo.

Ed was born in Lawrence County, Ohio, and shortly after his third birthday crossed the Ohio River with his family on a flatboat, landing in Ceredo in 1890. When first arriving in the young town, Ed's father tried his hand in the grocery business, operating a store on the northwest corner of Main and B Streets. According to Ed, his father wasn't much of a grocer and soon decided to try his hand at barbering, opening a shop on the southeast corner of the same intersection. Apparently, the elder Adkins was a better barber than grocer, as evidenced by the shop staying in business for 71 years.

The arrival of the Adkins family in Ceredo coincided with the beginning of a formal school program in our town. The first school building was located on the "Ceredo School Grounds" on Main Street, prop-

erty that was home to Ceredo Elementary School, in various buildings, for 121 years. While attending school in Ceredo, Ed developed a lifelong love of sports. Ed played on the first organized C-K football team, and played baseball in school and for local "town ball" teams for several years after graduating.

Following graduation from CKHS, Ed joined his father in the barber shop and shortly married Julia Wright, a young school teacher and member of one of Ceredo's founding families. Ed and Julia lived spent several years living on Main Street before building their forever home, a beautiful brick dwelling, on B Street.

Ed cut his first hair for pay in 1905, and worked with his father until 1934 when the elder Adkins was struck and killed by a motorist at the intersection of Main and B Streets. The barber business moved from one wood-frame building to another, located next door to the original, but essentially operated in the same location until Ed's retirement in 1961. The building still stands today, directly across B Street from Town Hall.

As with most barber shops of the day, Ed's shop was a local gathering place where history was told, made, and revised. Anyone who visited the place can remember large collection of postcards Ed kept on the wall and his collection of "potato figures" that drew the attention of generations of young Ceredo boys. The postcards are

now collected in binders at the Ceredo Museum, along with pictures of the "potato figures." A staunch Republican, stories are legend of Ed's political arguments in the barber shop and elsewhere with members of the opposition party.

Ed never owned a car, a bicycle being his favored mode of transportation. In later years Ed switched to a three-wheel model trike that he rode to every sporting event in town. When Ed retired from barbering the price of a haircut was fifty cents, and Ed used those fifty-cent pieces wisely by investing in the stock market while living a frugal life. Ed's financial acumen is obvious by the fact that after retirement he was awarded a seat on the Board of Directors of the First Bank of Ceredo – having amassed his wealth fifty cents at a time. A generous man, Ed was a strong supporter of local projects such as athletic teams and the high school band, and following his death it was revealed that Ed often made house payments for needy residents as well as making significant donations to national charities on a regular basis.

Ed was multi-talented, performing with, appropriately enough, a barbershop quartet for many years. With a singing partner from the Congregational Church, Ed sang at weddings and funerals throughout the tri-state, never with a charge.

Ed always maintained a large garden on his B Street property, and one year he apparently

decided that starlings were damaging his crops. Ed began a campaign to exterminate the birds, much to the chagrin of his neighbors. After words had been exchanged Ed proved his point by hanging rows of the dead birds on his clothesline. The town fathers were called to intervene and Ed eventually relented, but it is safe to say that there are no bird engravings on his tombstone.

In his later years Ed could be found at every local sporting event, tinkering in his garden with his prize-winning roses, or writing his four-volume history of Ceredo. Being personally acquainted with many of Ceredo's founding families, Ed witnessed more of the growth of Ceredo than any other person. Painstakingly handwritten, Ed's four volumes are the authoritative work on our town's early businesses, politics, houses, athletic teams, schools, and people. The books contain many pictures of Ceredo, particularly of houses, with notes from Ed about who built each house and which families occupied them. The handwritten volumes have been transcribed for easier reading and are available in the Ceredo Museum.

Any book about Ceredo could not be complete without a chapter about the life and times of Ed Adkins. We are fortunate that he crossed the river and became an influential member of Ceredo for 96 years. Ed Adkins ... a true Character of Ceredo.



Jared Jones Update

Randy Maynard, Sports Editor

every moment I was in Tulsa," Jones said in a recent phone interview. "It was everything that I dreamed of and then some." When asked if there was anything unique about the week, Jones mentioned two incidents. On the day before the tournament was to begin, Jones was practicing on the putting green. A ball struck Jones' foot. It was a ball that had been struck by Tiger Woods. Jones exclaimed to Woods, "Of all people who would hit my foot with their ball it had to be you." Jones said that after he made that statement, Woods just smiled. During the first round, a ball came whizzing by Jones' head as he was walking down the fairway of the seventh hole. The ball actually hit the top of the head of one of Jones' playing partners. Aaron Wise was struck but not seriously injured. Cameron Smith had hit an errant drive off the number two tee that was 80 yards off-line. When the ball smacked Wise it continued to travel at a fair rate of speed and it almost hit another of Jones' playing partners, Joel Dahmen. "There was a loud noise when the ball struck Aaron's head," Jones said. "Everyone heard it. Aaron put a water bottle on top of his head, and he eventually was OK." Smith, the one who hit the errant drive, did not know that Wise had been hit until after his round was over and a television commentator informed him.

Jones had a great time playing a practice round with PGA Tour veterans, Ricky Fowler, winner of the 2015 Players Championship and 2013 PGA Champion, Jason Dufner. "They could not have been nicer, and we talked a lot about golf, life and football," Jones relayed.

A fair number of the members of River Oaks made the trip from Houston to Tulsa to watch Jones. "It was great to see their faces and to also have the support of my family and other friends," Jones commented. Jones' father, Jeff and his mother, Donna were in attendance as well as his wife, Courtney, and his two-year old son, Jack. Steve Ross and Steve Thacker long-time friends who live in Huntington were also in attendance. Jones commented on how he really appreciated the support of so many who came out to Southern Hills.

Jones did record one birdie on the difficult Southern Hills layout. On Jones' fourth hole of his second day of play, he drove the ball 369 yards off the tee, and eventually made a five-foot birdie putt on the 639 yard par-five hole. "I drove the ball really well all week," Jones exclaimed. "I felt

great and I hit a lot of good shots, I just made a couple of bad swings which cost me a few strokes, plus my score was made higher by the fact that I was tired by the end of my round on Friday."

When asked what he learned from being around the other touring golf professionals, Jones said he was able to understand more about strategical play. "The folks that play the tour on a regular basis know exactly where to place the ball on each shot to give them a chance to make a good score on a hole. For instance, Southern Hills had a fair number of bunkers and the regular tour players knew how to avoid them. Even when most holes would call for using a driver, many of the pros would use something less off the tee to get them in a good position to try to make a birdie on the hole."

Jones stated that his biggest takeaway from the week was the enormous amount of fun he had in competing on such a big stage. "It was a grind each of the two days I played but it was just exhilarating to be able to play in the PGA Championship. I certainly want to work on my game and qualify to come back to this same event next year."

While Jones waits for the 2023 PGA Championship to be held at Oak Hills Country Club in Rochester, New York, he is excited to have made it to the Final Qualifying Stage for the United States Open. That qualifying will be held in Columbus, Ohio on Monday, June 6 (the results of that qualifier were too late to be included in this edition of the Crescent).

Even if Jones, who celebrated his 37th birthday on May 29, does not qualify for this year's U.S. Open he will be playing in the PGA Cup which pits ten golf Club Professionals from the United States against ten golf Club Professionals from Great Britain and Ireland. This year's event will be held September 16-18 at the Foxhills Golf Club and Resort in Ottershaw, Surrey, England. Those matches this autumn will be played in a Ryder Cup format. "This is going to be a really fun event and I can't wait to get to England to compete," Jones exclaimed.

Jones concluded his phone interview by saying that he hopes to be back in this area in the coming months and he's looking forward to connecting with some of his many friends. No, Jared Jones did make the cut in the 104th PGA Championship but all in this area will be pulling for him to accomplish that feat in 2023.

The first person from the Ceredo-Kenova area to play in the Professional Golf Association (PGA) Championship is now back at his golf instruction position at River Oaks Country Club in Houston, Texas. Jared Jones, a 2003 graduate of Spring Valley High School was one of the 156 individuals to participate in this prestigious golf tournament that was conducted from May 19-22 at the Southern Hills Country Club in Tulsa, Oklahoma. His total 36-hole score of 157, meant he fell short of his goal of making the 36-hole cut to enable him to play 36 more holes on the weekend. However, all in all, Jones felt like it was a great experience.

The wind was gusty for most of the event. "I actually was a bit unlucky in the fact that I had the worst of the wind when I was out on the course. It was blowing hard when I was playing on both Thursday afternoon and Friday morning. It was difficult to adjust to the wind conditions. In addition, the pin placements were most difficult and especially on Thursday, when I played in the last group to tee off for the day, due to all the foot traffic, the greens were very bumpy."

"It was a very special time for me and I enjoyed

C-K AUTUMNFEST ACTIVITIES

October 21st & 22nd	Pumpkin Ball Tournament		Ceredo Pickleball Courts
October 22nd	Cruise In & Tractor Show	11am – 4pm	Ceredo Plaza/ The Mitch
October 25th	Parade	6pm	Ceredo – Kenova
October 28th	Arts & Craft Show	4pm – 9pm	C-K Community Center
October 29th	Arts & Craft Show	10am – 7pm	C-K Community Center
October 29th	Bake Off	10am	C-K Community Center
October 29th	Canning Competition	10am	C-K Community Center

World Famous Hot Dogs

Randy Maynard, Sports Editor

From the late 1960's through the early 1970's the sweet aroma of hot dog sauce was prevalent wafting through the baseball park where the Ceredo-Kenova Babe Ruth League played its games. However, this was not just any ole' hot dog sauce but it was Esther Lou Hale's special sauce that was applied to her signature "World Famous Babe Ruth Hot Dogs" that Esther Lou provided for each Babe Ruth game. The patrons could not get enough of that special sauce placed on each hot dog sold at the Babe Ruth League's concession stand.

Esther Lou, who recently passed away at the age of 94, was kind enough to grant The New Crescent an interview prior to her passing at the home of her daughter, Debbie Mills, and her son-in-law, Dusty Mills.

Esther Lou explained how she and her late husband, Frank, who both grew up in Delbarton and graduated from Burch High School, were asked to run the concession stand when their son Wally became a member of the C-K Chevrolet team. They both had been community minded and were thrilled to be able to help.

"I owned a beauty shop (Esther Lou's) and I made sure that my appointments were finished in time for me to be able to make the hot dog sauce for that night's game. Frank worked as an inspector with the West Virginia Department of Highways and he would meet me after work at the ball field. Together, we would run the concession stand. We ordered candy, popcorn, and soda pop, whatever was in the concession stand, we ordered it," Esther Lou stated.

Esther Lou was asked how she came about making the sauce. "I got the recipe from a woman by the last name of Maynard, I can't remember her first name (Editor's Note: The woman is no relation to the author of this article). Her recipe was good but I wanted to improve upon it, so I placed in the sauce a secret ingredient of brown sugar. The brown sugar added just the right amount of sweetness. The problem is, I lost the recipe and lately I've not been able to duplicate the excellent taste of the sauce." Many have tried to match the flavor of the sauce but to no avail. Ceredo Town Councilman, Ron Jarrell, has come close in his attempts to replicate the sauce but all agree that it's not quite the same. Many family members also have tried but they admit that it's just not the sauce they remember from long ago.

Sam Colvin, now a professor at Marshall University and an assistant baseball coach at Spring Valley High School, was the Head Groundskeeper at the Babe Ruth field from 1967-1969. "What I remember the most about Frank and Esther Lou was their ded-

ication. They were there whenever there was a game. However, what I was especially thankful for was when there would be leftover hot dogs and they would give me one or two to consume for my supper. I'll say without reservation that I've tasted no finer hot dog sauce in my life."

There were many evenings when folks not associated with the Babe Ruth League would stop on their way home from work to order hot dogs to take home to their families for supper.

Wally still has the steamer that was used from long ago to steam the hot dogs during each game. "I wanted to keep that steamer to remind me of how my mother and father brought happiness to many individuals in this area," Wally stated. "My parents wanted to give back and what they did in the concession stand was a wonderful way to assist the community that meant much to each of them."

Esther Lou was asked how the moniker "World Famous" was attached to the hot dogs that were served many years ago. Esther Lou chuckled and laughingly said, "One of the Babe Ruth players asked me one day if I had traveled much. I said, yes, I've been to some faraway places. Well, the youngster said, I think you ought to call these 'World Famous' hot dogs because you've seen the world and one day these hot dogs are going to be known for their excellent taste throughout the world!"

Debbie pointed out that in the early to mid-1970's, Frank and Esther Lou were active in the Ceredo-Kenova Band Boosters. The boosters were responsible for the concession stand at the C-K High School football games. Debbie relayed how Harrison Farmer was the Band Boosters president and he asked Frank and Esther Lou to help. Well, sure enough, Esther Lou volunteered to make the sauce for each of the home games. "My mom absolutely loved making the sauce and she, along with my dad, were most happy to assist the other band boosters in the concession stand," Debbie, who played baritone in the school band, stated.

Esther Lou wrapped up the interview by saying, "After I quit providing sauce for athletic events many people still called me to make sauce for them. I provided a whole lot of sauce for birthday parties, family get-togethers, and other events. I enjoyed every minute of providing sauce for so many." Esther Lou was asked if she ever charged for her services of making the sauce. She exclaimed, "No, I never charged anyone for my labor as it was a labor of love." Hundreds of people were thankful that making her special "World Famous" sauce was a "Labor of Love" for Esther Lou Hale.

HONOR ROLL

Eleanor Terry	03/23
In Memory Pat & Jim Billups	05/23
Paul and Kathy Billups	01/24
Mike and Susan Watts	01/23
Leigh Ann Johnson.....	10/22
Jack & Ann Riggs.....	01/23
Connie & Mark Beford.....	01/25
Dinah and Dale Ledbetter.....	01/23
Katrina Childers.....	10/23
In Memory of Alberta "Dossie" & Sherman Medley	08/23
Karin & Mike Dawson.....	05/23
In Memory of Anagene Wooten Gibbs	11/22
In Memory of Kathleen Wooten Marcum	11/22
In Memory of Herm Wooten Matney.....	11/22
In Memory of Larry Cole	11/22
George & Brenda Keigley	12/22
Roberta and Charlie Mitchell	06/23
In Memory of Larry Jack Heck.....	01/23
Mike & Karen Skeens	11/22
Dr. Ron & Lucenda Akers	10/22
Marlene Simmons	10/22
Brother Otis Adkins.....	10/22
Brother Mose & Sister June Napier	10/22
Robert & Mary Lee Leslie.....	10/22
Taylor Booth.....	06/24
Michael & Debby Hibbard	10/22
In Memory of Houston & Gladys Woolwine	08/23
Gary & Marsha Adkins	07/23
Tyler Dawson, DDS	01/23
In Memory of Esther Adkins.....	01/24
Donna Jones.....	01/24
Dr. Daniel & Suzanne Brody.....	01/23
Cindy & Vern Eagleston-Blaine.....	02/23
Glenn Stotts	02/23
In Memory of Charles & Bet Pratt.....	03/23
Greg & Joy Jarrell.....	03/23
Tim & Debra Lucas	05/23
Suzanne & Doug Woods.....	05/23
Kelly & Lisa Higgins-Flanagan.....	12/25
Chester & Margaret Mathis	05/23
George E. & Rebecca M. Mccoy	05/23
Keith & Freda Chadwick.....	05/24
In Memory of JJ, Gail, & John Billups	06/23
In Memory of WW. Mills, MD	09/23
Jennifer Ferguson.....	09/23

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! If you would like to add your name or a loved one's name, please contact Town Hall at (304) 453-1041 or email: info@ceredovw.gov.

ROCCOS

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New Businesses

Three new businesses have opened in Ceredo this summer. Pets For Less, located at 500 C Street (the former Animal ER), offers pet boarding, supplies, grooming, and other pet services. The business is open daily and may be contacted at (681) 215-0854.

Maddi's Bait and Tackle, 713 C Street, offers a full variety of fishing baits plus lures, rods, reels, and other angling supplies. Open daily, the store

may be reached at (606) 225-2214.

McCormick Insurance Group, 711 C Street, provides a full line of insurance services. Open Monday-Friday, the office may be reached at (304) 908-1069.

Please support these local businesses.

The Crescent Kitchen

The Crescent Kitchen
by Natalie Hemann



I love breakfast! It is my favorite meal of the day. Rick and I splurge when we are on vacation and have huge breakfasts but when we are home I tend to have the same thing most days, which is usually toast. Some days I get so tired of having toast and try to think of something different to have, something kind of healthy. I have made these muffins twice now and the second time I fixed them, it reminded me how much I liked them! Rick said they "are just right"...not too sweet, not too bland. I hope you think they "are just right," too!

Ingredients:
1 ½ cups Oat Bran
1 ¼ cup Buttermilk
1/3 cup Vegetable Oil
1 Egg
2/3 cup Packed Brown Sugar
1 tsp. Vanilla
1 cup Flour
1 tsp. Baking Soda
1 tsp. Baking Powder
½ tsp. Salt
½ cup Chopped Walnuts
½ cup Chopped Pitted Dates

Directions:
Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Grease muffin tins or line with muffin papers. Mix together the bran and buttermilk and let sit for 10 minutes. Beat the egg with oil, sugar, and vanilla and add to the bran mixture. Stir together the flour, baking soda, baking powder, and salt. Add to the dates, making sure the pieces do not clump together. Stir the flour mixture into the buttermilk mixture until just blended. Fold in the walnuts. Mound batter into the muffin cups and bake for about 18 minutes until a toothpick comes out clean.

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CEREDO TOWN STATS

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

Travelogue: Florida 1975

The New Crescent has received a number of calls about recent articles chronicling the travels of my youth. Several have compared Bobby Sullivan and I with Huck Finn and Tom Sawyer. I am not really certain that the comparison was meant as a compliment, but Bobby and I tend to believe we took Twain's lad to a higher level.

During my childhood vacations outside Ceredo were unknown to me. Dad worked at the coal tippie, got two weeks of vacation the first two weeks in July, and he spent those days working around the house. Thoughts of going to some far-away place just didn't occur, and if they had, I wouldn't have been able to leave because of baseball. We stayed home. This may have had something to do with my later urge to see the world, I'm not sure.

In March, 1975, I was gainfully employed and certain that my \$14,000 annual salary provided sufficient means for me to make up for those lost vacation years. After due consideration I decided it was time for me to see the ocean, and not knowing much about the ocean I decided that Florida would be the destination. I knew nothing about Florida with the exception that the weather is warm and it is surrounded by water.

Fortunately, a few days prior to my planned departure I ran into the late Bob Rowe, a Navy veteran. During our conversation I mentioned to Bob that I was going to Florida and he asked where in Florida I was headed. I didn't know, my real plan being to drive until I saw the ocean and the weather was warm. Bob immediately told me to go to Fort Lauderdale. Bob had visited what was then the "Spring Break Capitol of the World" during Fleet Week during his service tour, and he quickly convinced me that any lesser destination would be a waste of time. After listening to Bob's description, Fort Lauderdale it would be!

On the appointed day I departed Ceredo with a Pure Oil road map, a credit card that worked for gas only, and enough cash to pay the then tri-state area rate of \$19.95 a night for a motel room. I made my way to Lexington and I-75 South, remembering the late Nelson Browning telling me that you could drive from Lexington to Florida without seeing a stop light. What Nelson didn't tell me is that South Florida is a two-day drive.

The trip proceeded without incident as I drove through the night, crossing the Florida border sometime early in the morning of the second day. It was there that I saw what would become my guidepost to the world for many years thereafter, a highway road sign pointing to a new destination. I turned left onto I-10, and eventually found the ocean at Daytona. Satisfied after putting my bare feet in the sand, I headed south on US-1, a beautiful drive but a drive that takes several hours longer than what I-95 would have taken.

Late that afternoon I arrived in Fort Lauderdale and realized that Bob Rowe had given me great advice. The weather was warm, the ocean was beautiful, and Spring Break was underway. I wasn't sure then what Heaven looked like, but I knew I was close. Having no motel reservation, I quickly learned that rooms didn't go for \$9.95 in Fort Lauderdale during Spring Break, and that my intended week-long vacation would be cut short for financial reasons.

It was then that I called home and informed Bobby that paradise was but a short plane ride away. Bob found funds to buy a one-way ticket from Ceredo on Piedmont Airlines the following day. As evidence that we were in Fort Lauderdale at a perfect time, when Bob's pilot announced the approach to land he stated "If there is ever a more beautiful day, I hope I live to see it." The pilot was indeed correct.

Bobby and I quickly found our way to the beach, spent a great day, and returned to the motel room for what would be our last night, given that by then we were both financially embarrassed. We checked out of the motel, spent another day on the beach, and debated whether to start the drive home or spend another night, albeit in alternative accommodations, commonly known as the car. The car won, we slept on a grocery store parking lot, and spent another glorious day on Fort Lauderdale Beach.

Late that evening we started north, having many more memories than we had money. It was evident that we wouldn't be eating much on the drive home, being as we had somewhere around four-dollars between us. We didn't see that as a big problem, as we figured to stop at a roadside fruit stand, get a few apples and bananas, and drive through the night. Our surprise came when the roadside market only had citrus, so we bought an orange apiece and a Pepsi to sustain us. Somehow, and to this day I wonder just how, we really didn't mind what was planned to be a seventeen-hour drive with only an orange to eat.

We drove through the night, north on I-95 and then I-75, reaching Knoxville early in the morning. It was then that the road sign got us again ... NASHVILLE Take I-40 West. Oh my. Being country music fans, we had no choice. We turned left, headed toward Nashville, holding less than two-dollars and not knowing, or caring, that Nashville was three hours out of our way. Time didn't matter much, but hunger did.

Nashville greeted us shortly after daylight, and the detour was worth it when we saw the Ryman Auditorium, Printer's Alley, the Ernest Tubb Record Shop, and the variety of honkytonks on Broadway. Given our financial condition, we didn't bother to stop the car. Our bonus came when we drove past the newly-opened Country Music Hall of Fame with a sign reading "Free Admission." We stopped, walked in as if we had a pocketful of money, and thoroughly enjoyed an hour looking at Elvis Presley's guitar and several rhinestone suits belonging to various artists. It was great. We were still hungry.

The remainder of the trip home was uneventful except for finding ourselves on a tollway. At that point our mutual bank was holding eighty-cents. Nothing to do except claim ignorance and poverty, we told the toll-taker our predicament, explained our journey, and the good fellow waived us on, saying he wished he had the nerve to embark on such a journey.

We arrived in Ceredo late that afternoon, still holding our eighty-cents. Not wanting to ruin a good memory by having cash in our pockets, we went to the Party Shop and bought two bottles of Pepsi, thus allowing us to walk in our apartment flat broke, but with memories that have lasted a lifetime.

Pickleball Tournament Update

The Ceredo Pickleball Club held two very successful tournaments this summer, both held on the Ceredo Outdoor Courts located in the town park. The first tournament, held July 10th, was a ladies doubles event that drew twenty teams in two classifications.

In the Ladies 2.5 Class, the gold medals were won by Pam Conrad and Denise Reynolds. Silver medal winners were Cindy Gue and Carol Thompson, while Mindy Patrick and Danita Miller took home the bronze medals.

In the Ladies 2.0 Division, Nashua Campbell and Karrie Fisher survived several close games to win the gold. Runners-up, winning silver medals were Donna Norris and Debbie Hoback, with Kathie Gue and Catina Naegel being awarded bronze medals.

Competition was keen throughout the day. As a way of welcoming players and fans, the Club provided a cookout during the day prepared by chefs Jacob Skeens and Matt Myles. According to all in attendance (and the courts were full of players and fans) the chefs did a great job. Dallas Adkins, Karin Dawson, and Steve Morris served as tournament directors and kept play moving in an orderly fashion that drew compliments from many players.

On August 20th, a mixed-doubles tournament was held, drawing entries from several regional towns. To the surprise of many, a very talented fourteen-year-old Kennedy Fisher and her grandfather, Randy Ward, won the event. Second place finishers were Melissa Pemberton and Tom Cannon. Jennifer Plymale and Fritz Leichner took the third-place bronze.

Once again, the courts were full all day with players and fans enjoying the Ceredo facility.

Local players Steve Morris, Fritz Leichner, and Caroline Caines participated in a regional tournament held in Charleston on May 22. Leichner and Morris played in the Men's 3.0 over 50 Division and took silver medals. Morris and Cannon played in the mixed doubles over 50 3.5 Division and finished with a 5-1 record, losing the gold medal by one point to a team featuring a fellow that won a national tournament in Charlotte the week before.

This past weekend, Morris and Mick Benton participated in the Ashland Pickleball Club tournament held on the Central Park courts in Ashland. The Ceredo lads lost in the finals of their division to a team from Columbus, Ohio. A silver medal in tournaments as large as Charleston and Ashland, where players come from several states, is truly an accomplishment.

Two school functions have been held at the courts this month. C-K Middle School students were introduced to pickleball during their orientation day. Dallas Adkins and Buffy Dawson provided instruction. Later, all Wayne County physical education teachers received several hours of paddle-on instruction, with the intent that pickleball will be taught as part of phys-ed classes this year.

The C-K Autumnfest Committee will be holding a "Pumpkinball" tournament during the week of October 17. Entry forms may be found on the C-K Autumnfest website or picked up at Town Hall. This will be the second year for the Pumpkinball event.



THE NEW CRESCENT

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