

the New Crescent

SERVING CEREDO, WEST VIRGINIA

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BEAUTY SHINES IN CEREDO

There is something special about summer in Ceredo. Along its quiet streets, American flags wave gently from porches and C Street while colorful flower beds brighten neighborhoods, creating a welcoming scene that reflects the pride residents take in their hometown.

Neighbors pause to chat on evening walks, children ride bicycles through tree-lined streets, and familiar faces greet one another with a smile. It's these simple moments—friends and families visiting on front porches, and gathering for local events—that give Ceredo its unmistakable charm.

The beauty of Ceredo is found not only in its blooming flowers or patriotic displays, but in the people who call it home. Their kindness, community spirit, and willingness to lend a helping hand continue to make this small West Virginia town a place where traditions are cherished and friendships flourish.

In a world that often moves too fast, Ceredo offers a gentle reminder that beauty can still be found in waving flags, vibrant flowers, and the enduring friendships that make a community feel like home.



CEREDO TOWN HALL CELEBRATES AMERICA'S 250TH

CEREDO: A COMMUNITY INSPIRED BY AMERICA'S FOUNDING IDEALS

The story of Ceredo, West Virginia, begins with the same principles that inspired the birth of the United States—liberty, equality, and the pursuit of opportunity. While America declared its independence in 1776, Ceredo was founded in 1857 by abolitionist Eli Thayer, who envisioned a community where free labor, education, and industry would thrive.

Established just a few years before the Civil War, Ceredo became one of the nation's most recognized free-soil colonies. Its citizens embraced the ideals expressed in the Declaration of Independence, believing that hard work and freedom should be available to all people. When West Virginia became a state in 1863 during the Civil War, Ceredo stood as a symbol of the Union and the enduring promise of a nation founded on liberty.

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MAY MINUTES

Regular Session

May 02, 2026

The Town Council of the Town of Ceredo met in regular session on Monday, May 02, 2026, at Ceredo City Hall. Mayor Paul Billups called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

Council members present were Steve Diamond, Joe Ratcliff, Scott Byard, and Oscar Adkins. Also in attendance was Treasurer Robert Leslie. Town Clerk, Rachel Grant, led those present in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Reading and Approval of the Minutes

Mayor Billups asked if there were any additions, corrections, or deletions to the minutes of the April 06, 2026, Regular Session. None being heard, Steve Diamond made a motion to approve the minutes as presented. The motion was seconded by Oscar Adkins. All were in favor; motion carried.

Treasurer's Report

Treasurer, Robert Leslie, presented account balances and the expenditures for the month of April 2026. Mayor Billups asked if there were any questions regarding the Treasurer's Report. None being heard, Scott Byard made a motion to approve the report as presented. The motion was seconded by Steve Diamond. All were in favor; motion carried.

Old Business

Mayor Billups presented the Grass Height Ordinance (Sec. 523.20) amendment for a second reading, with no objections motion to adopt was made by Steve Diamond, seconded by Scott Byard, and all were in favor; amendment adopted.

Mayor Billups presented the Junk Storage Ordinance for a second reading. A motion was made by Scott Byard, seconded by Oscar Adkins. All were in favor; ordinance was adopted and will be entered into the code.

Terry Moran of Potesta and Associates came to discuss the plans for revising the A Street Pump station as well as the research needed to continue the management of the overflow near Kanawha River Terminal. Mr. Moran will follow up with a field visit to further investigate.

New Business

Water leaks through the course of winter led to multiple lines being replaced. Council was presented with two requests for concrete repair following these leaks. Aaron Ferguson, and Debbie Hibbard have both requested Council review their requests. A resolution was made to contact concrete repair companies for bid.

Adjournment

There being no further business, the regular meeting was adjourned at 6:50 p.m.

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CK Angels Little League WINS!



Photo Credit: CK Little League

Mayor Paul A. Billups along with the Ceredo Town Council had the honor to recognize the outstanding sportsmanship and achievement of the C-K Angels Baseball Club for their win of the 2026 Les Ghiz Memorial Tournament.

Congratulations and a job well done!

A Tradition of Pride: Little League Baseball in Ceredo.

The Ceredo-Kenova Little League quickly became one of the region's premier youth baseball programs. In 1955, the construction of Legendary Mitch Stadium gave local children a first-class place to play, and the field soon earned a reputation as one of the finest Little League facilities in West Virginia. Built and maintained almost entirely by dedicated volunteers, the stadium became a second home to generations of young athletes.

The league's success extended well beyond the local diamond. During the late 1950s and 1960s, Ceredo-Kenova teams captured multiple West Virginia state championships, producing talented players who would go on to excel in high school, college, and beyond. Longtime volunteers, coaches, umpires, and parents dedicated countless hours to teaching not only baseball fundamentals but also sportsmanship, teamwork, and respect—lessons that lasted a lifetime.

SIGN UP FOR NOTIFICATIONS

STAY INFORMED

The Town of Ceredo prioritizes informing and updating our residents during emergency situations.



HOW TO SUBSCRIBE

To subscribe to water advisories, emergency alerts, and/or community notifications visit the following link and create an account:

https://ceredo-wv.app.reggroup.com/contacts/sign_up

CHOOSE YOUR METHOD

You can choose to receive notifications via text, call, and/or email. We will also post all emergency notifications here on our Facebook page.



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Photo Credit: Mayor Paul A. Billups

MITCH STADIUM – A LEGACY

From the very beginning, Mitch Stadium was a community project. When Ceredo-Kenova Little League was established in 1953, local businessman Floyd Stark donated the land for a permanent baseball field, and volunteers from both Ceredo and Kenova cleared the property, built the original facilities, and created what would become one of the most beloved Little League stadiums in America.

No individual became more closely identified with the stadium than Elmer "Big Mitch" Mitchell. A Kenova police officer, Mitchell devoted 27 years to the ballpark, serving as groundskeeper, concession stand operator, caretaker, and unofficial ambassador. Whether preparing the field before sunrise, repairing equipment, greeting visiting teams, or sharing stories with young players, "Big Mitch" treated the stadium as if it were his own backyard. In recognition of his extraordinary service, the facility was officially named Mitch Stadium in 1975, a fitting tribute to the man whose tireless dedication shaped generations of baseball memories.

Following Mitchell's example, a succession of volunteers continued to preserve and improve the stadium. Community leaders such as Had Dale, Paul A. Billups, and Scott Hensley provided decades of steady leadership, organizing improvement projects, coordinating maintenance, and ensuring the facility remained among the finest youth baseball parks in the nation. Their work created a culture where every improvement was made not for personal recognition, but for the next generation of children who would step onto the field.

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Photo Credit: Stanley Webb

C-K ALUMNI BAND

The C-K Alumni Band is staple in our community. Practicing every week, the band represents everything that Ceredo stands for: community, hard work, and dedication. One of the main events the band puts on is their Fourth of July concert, and this year was a great success! Led by Bill Galloway, the patriotically dressed band began the concert at 7:00 pm at the Wellness Center with our national anthem. With over fifty attendees, the band performed multiple patriotic classics, including the "Battle Hymn of the Republic," "America the Beautiful," and "God Bless the USA." One of the most well-loved pieces was "the Songs of the Armed Forces," which honored all branches of our country's military. Proud veterans stood when their branch's song was played, and all attendees showed appreciation by offering a round of applause for our local military members. The band ended their 13-song list with "Hail WV," a fast-paced number prompting the audience to jump up and clap along. Cheers and foot stomps kept time as the attendees reminisced on their alma mater's old fight song. The concert was a grand success, and there was a sense of community flowing as the music played. Ceredo was alive with pride for both our town and our nation. It was a wonderful night of celebration.

CHARACTERS OF CEREDO

BOYD WEBB

by Paul A. Billups

There was a day when Ceredo had a number of house painters. Like filling stations, grocery stores, and squirrel hunters, house painters are nearly extinct in our town. One of the last painters plying that trade in Ceredo was Boyd Webb, late of Broad Hollow. Characters have achieved their status in Ceredo in various ways, and for Boyd it was simply from being Boyd. A man of few words, for the most of his life Boyd could be seen walking daily from the hollow, dressed in a white outfit splattered with various colors of paint that was otherwise displayed on houses around town.

House painters started to decline with the increase in aluminum siding and brick diminishing the need for paint. Boyd held on, likely having no other trade and needing to work to support his regular trips to the pool room. Boyd's father, a city farmer of sorts, kept chickens on their Broad Hollow property and sold eggs from a box on Main Street for many years. Boyd apparently had no interest in farming, as when his father passed so did the egg business.

Boyd knew the way to the pool room and visited there on a regular basis. After a hard day connected to a brush and a visit to the pool room, Boyd made his way back to South Ceredo, sometimes on the sidewalk, sometimes in the street, but always ready by morning to don the white outfit and spread paint another day. Boyd Webb, a true character of Ceredo.

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Ceredo Wellness Center Classes

The Ceredo Wellness Center, located at 484 Main Street, serves the community's fitness needs. Open Monday through Saturday, the Wellness Center offers morning hours (8:00 AM to 12:00 PM daily) and evening hours (4:00 PM to 7:00 PM, Monday through Friday only) to accommodate a variety of schedules. Whether one enjoys walking on the treadmill, playing pickleball, or lifting weights, Ceredo's gym caters to all.

Not only does the Wellness Center provide high-grade exercise equipment, but it also offers multiple classes Monday through Friday for Ceredo's citizens. Each class is priced at \$5.00 and lasts for one hour.

Join us on Mondays from 5:30 – 6:30 PM and Saturdays from 10:00 – 11:00 AM for R.I.P.P.E.D, a more advanced workout class. R.I.P.P.E.D (resistance, interval, power, plyometrics, endurance, and diet training) is an interval-based course set to music. This class utilizes each muscle group and switches workouts every five to ten minutes. It incorporates both weight training as well as cardio to offer a well-rounded workout. This is a great option for those looking for a challenging, full-body workout.

If dance is more your style, the Wellness Center offers multiple dance-based classes. Our Intermediate Zumba class is offered on Tuesdays and Thursdays for dancers of all ages and backgrounds. From 5:30 – 6:30 PM, spend the hour learning how to merengue, samba and more! Zumba is all about having fun and learning different styles and techniques. During holidays such as Halloween, Christmas, and Valentine's Day, themed songs are provided for a festive-filled evening. This is a great option for those looking to work out without feeling like they're working out.

On Monday and Thursdays from 7:00 – 8:00 PM, boogie on down to the gym and get in line! Also in the dance category is the Wellness Center's newest class, Country Line Dancing. Whether your style is more cowboy hats and boots or sweats and tennis shoes, participants are encouraged to dress the part. This class places dancers in lines or rows and includes choreographed sequences to country hits. As with our other courses, line dancing is easy to learn and requires no previous training. This is a great option for lovers of country music and dance enthusiasts alike.

Lastly, our Silvers Sneakers class is held on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday afternoons from 2:30 – 3:30 PM. Geared towards the 65+ crowd, this fitness program provides low impact exercises that focus on balance, strength, and coordination. These workouts are great for memory and supply residents with opportunities to stay active and independent. Silver Sneakers is also a fantastic way to meet new people and to build a community! This is a great option for those looking to maintain their health and wellbeing without the risk of high impact workouts.

Whether you're looking for a high energy class like R.I.P.P.E.D or a fun dance course like Country Line Dancing, the Ceredo Wellness Center has classes for all your needs. With our machines, pickleball facility, and classes, we have something for each fitness level. As our website says, "The Ceredo Wellness Center is where health meets home." Try out some of our classes and find one that is perfect for you.

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SUMMER FUN

It's that time of year again, and the Ceredo Farmers Market is ready for the 2026 season! Located at Mitch Stadium, the market is home to multiple vendors selling fresh produce and goods. This opening season is extra special as the market will feature new improvements thanks to a congressionally directed spending grant provided by Ryan Browning. Visitors can now enjoy the updated seating area which features new ceiling fans and picnic tables!

The Ceredo Farmers Market has served our town for many years, and we are looking forward to another amazing season. It is open every Friday and Saturday this summer and fall from 9am – 4pm. Make sure to come support your community and enjoy the local goods.



Ceredo Farmer's Market

Ceredo Honors Charles Clarkson

The Town of Ceredo is proud to celebrate it's newest addition to the Roll of Honoree's, Charles Clarkson.

Charles is a Ceredo Native who has exhibited a lifelong dedication to his hometown, exhibited by his unwavering volunteerism, service, and leadership.

Charles has played an active role in numerous civic ventures, including serving for a number of years as a member of the Crescent Hill Cemetery Board and acting as Chairman of the annual Wreaths Across America ceremony to honor those veterans interred at Crescent Hill.

Charles acted for several years as the Ceredo liaison to the C-K Alumni Band and has served as a member of the Unsafe Housing Commission and the Ceredo Zoning Commission. His work has furthered the safety, development, and integrity of the community Charles calls home.

The Wall of Honorees was implemented January 1, 2002, by Mose A. Napier as a way to honor and celebrate individuals whose exceptional efforts have helped made Ceredo a better place.



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SERVING CEREDO, WEST VIRGINIA

DISCOVER THE STORIES THAT BUILT OUR COMMUNITY



The Town of Ceredo YouTube Channel features fascinating stories, local history, historic photographs, community landmarks, and the people who helped shape our town.

Whether you're a lifelong resident, a former neighbor, or simply love local history, there's something waiting to be discovered.

Watch, subscribe, and share!
Visit: youtube.com/@TownofCeredo

Interviews Available With:

Don Bailey
Richard Ruff
Fred Adkins
Earl Samples
David Lucas
Stanley Fink
Dan Ferguson
Mike Watts
Jerry Workman

Articles written by:
Anna Jarrell
&
Rachel Grant

HONOR ROLL

In Memory Pat & Jim Billups	11/27
Paul and Kathy Billups	07/27
Mike & Susan Watts	08/27
Jack & Ann Riggs	07/27
Connie & Mark Beford	07/27
Dinah and Dale Ledbetter	08/27
In Memory of Alberta "Dossie" & Sherman Medley	02/27
Taylor Booth	12/27
Mike & Karin Dawson	06/27
Tyler Dawson, DDS	07/27
In Memory of Esther Adkins	07/27
Donna Jones	07/27
Dr. Daniel & Suzanne Brody	07/27
Vern & Cindy Eagleston-Blaine	09/27
Greg & Joy Jarrell	09/27
Kelly & Lisa Higgins-Flanagan	12/27
Bruce Flanagan	05/27
Kevin Flanagan	06/27
Chester & Margaret Mathis	11/27
George E. & Rebecca M. McCoy	11/27
Keith & Freda Chadwick	11/27
In Memory of JJ, Gail, & John Billups	12/27
Leigh A. Johnson	06/27
Tom Smith	09/27
Carl & Frances Cornell	09/27
Lola & Gary Jackson	09/27
Michael & Debbie Hibbard	09/27
Sam Woolwine	03/27
Steve Woolwine	03/27
Patricia Holcombe	07/27
Jack Richmond	10/27
George Keighley & Brenda Francis	10/27
Charles Hensley, In Memory of Frank Hensley	12/27
Jennifer Rutherford	05/27
In Memory of Bill Evans	01/27
In Memory of Darlene Bias	01/27
In Memory of Betty Adkins	02/27
In Loving Memory of Charles M. Oshel	03/27
In Memory of Houston & Gladys Woolwine	08/27
Glenn Stotts	06/27

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@ceredowv.gov.