



## **Town of Ceredo Town Council Regular Session December 6, 2021**

The Town of Ceredo Town Council met in regular session on Monday, December 6th, 2021 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; and Councilmen Oscar Adkins, Steve Diamond, Ron Jarrell, Robert Leslie and Joe Ratcliff.

### **Reading and Approval of the Minutes**

The Mayor asked if Council had any additions or corrections to the minutes of the November 8th, 2021 regular session. None being heard, on a motion by Steve Diamond and a second by Oscar Adkins, Council voted to approve the minutes of the November 8th, 2021 regular session as presented. All were in favor, motion carried.

### **Treasurer's Report**

Treasurer, Robert Leslie, presented Council with the balances of each account and the expenditures for November 2021. The Mayor asked if Council had any questions on the Treasurer's Report. None being heard, on a motion by Robert Leslie and a second by Ron Jarrell, Council voted to accept the Treasurer's report as presented. All were in favor, motion carried.

### **New Testament Freewill Baptist Church**

Pastor Charles Hay, of the New Testament Freewill Baptist Church, presented signed drawings to the Mayor and Council, which reflected the construction of a new facility that would be the future home of the New Testament Freewill Baptist Church in the 800 block of "A" Street.

Pastor Hay also informed the Mayor and Council, that once they receive the bids and the prices for the new facility, they would report back to Council with the date for the initial construction. He also expressed the membership's appreciation for all the Town had done for the Church.

The Mayor advised Pastor Hay he would be in touch with them once Council and the Town's engineer had an opportunity to review the drawings.

### **Floodwall Inspection**

The Mayor reported the Town passed the inspection of the floodwall, which was conducted on November 18th, 2021. He added that the Town would need to perform trial installations of two gates prior to Spring of 2022.

### **Town Clock**

The Mayor reported on the status of the refurbishment of the Town clock.

### **Wreaths Across America**

The Mayor informed Council the Wreaths Across America ceremony had been scheduled for 12:00 noon on December 18th, 2021 at the Crescent Hill Cemetery. He added that 174 veterans were interred at the cemetery and would be honored with wreaths.

### **Terence Moran**

Mr. Terence Moran of Potesta and Associates joined the meeting via conference call. He reported on the following:

- ▶ 6th Street Sewer Line Extension Project
  - o The design phase of the project had been completed and permitted.
  - o They were still waiting for the original signed easement.
- ▶ Plaza Stormwater Project
  - o The proposal for the base mapping will be presented to Council in January 2022.
  - o The monies for the project will be derived from various sources; therefore, the Town will need to advertise for engineering services.

The Mayor explained the process for the easement and informed Council a letter had been sent to Mr. Trimby regarding the signed easement docu-

ment.

Kathy Elliot with Region II Planning and Development, advised Council that once the original signed easement is received, the project should go along as planned. She also discussed the cost of building materials, which would affect the bids submitted for the project.

### **Replacement of the Beautification Building**

The Mayor updated Council on the replacement of the beautification building and a meeting he had with Riedel Wilkes Construction on the size and type of the building.

The Mayor also advised Council of the need to revisit this project and discussed 2 bids that had previously been received from Riedel Wilkes Construction, which included one at a cost of \$157,000. The Mayor informed council that actual construction costs could be higher due to increases in steel pricing and difficulty in obtaining building materials.

After discussion, Council agreed to rebuild on the current pad and the Mayor indicated he would meet with Riedel again and would seek additional bids reference the construction of a new building.

### **Longevity Pay for Town Employees**

The Mayor discussed the history of the longevity pay for the Town employees. After discussion and on a motion by Ron Jarrell and a second by Oscar Adkins, Council voted to proceed with the longevity pay process as modified in 2020. All were in favor, motion carried.

### **Sewer Utility Rental Fee**

The Mayor discussed the institution of a sewer utility rental fee for town space to become effective January 1st, 2022. On a motion by Robert Leslie and a second by Steve Diamond, Council voted to impose a \$500 per-month sewer utility rental fee. All were in favor, motion carried.

### **Sanitary Sewer Incident**

The Mayor reviewed a sanitary sewer incident wherein the main line sewer serving Greenwood and Fairwood Drives was clogged, resulting in damage to the lower level of Deal Apartments.

### **Proposed Ordinances**

#### **ORDINANCE #361.15, Sections a-d: Ordinance Regulating Parking of Recreational Vehicles and Commercial Vehicles in Residential Areas.**

On a motion by Joe Ratcliff and a second by Ron Jarrell, Council voted to approve Ordinance 361.15, Sections a-d - Ordinance Regulating Parking of Recreational Vehicles and Commercial Vehicles in Residential Areas, on first reading. All were in favor, motion carried. See attached copy.

#### **ORDINANCE #361.16 - Ordinance Regulating Off-Street Parking.**

On a motion Joe Ratcliff and a second by Ron Jarrell, Council voted to approve Ordinance 361.16, on first reading. All were in favor, motion carried.

### **BB&T Bank Building**

The Mayor informed Council the Animal ER had purchased the BB&T Bank building, thus alleviating a parking problem on 2nd Street West when the Animal ER moves.

### **Police Department Report**

Police Chief, Tony Poston, reported they were working to complete the weapons qualifications for the officers.

### **Adjournment**

No further business was brought before the Council. The meeting was adjourned at 7:47 p.m.

## **MESSAGE FROM THE MAYOR PAUL BILLUPS, MAYOR**

The new year in Ceredo is starting with a flurry of activity. Renovation of the Wellness Center cafeteria should be completed by early February, allowing our new tenant, the Lincoln County Opportunity Company, to begin using the facility. The Lincoln County agency is the successor to the Wayne County Community Services Agency, appointed by the Governor to serve residents of Wayne County after the Wayne agency was closed.

Current plans call for the agency to prepare, serve, and deliver meals to residents of Ceredo, Kenova, and Westmoreland four days each week. In addition, the agency will provide social programs for the elderly each day and assist the town with functions at the Wellness Center. The renovation project includes new commercial appliances and paint in the kitchen provided with town excess levy funds. The facility also has a new heating and air conditioning system in the main dining hall, funded by the Ceredo-Kenova Alumni Band, and a partial roof replacement funded with American Recovery Act monies.

When the Lincoln County agency begins occupancy, the cafeteria and dining hall will also be utilized by the Alumni Band, the Tuesday Night Pickers, and the Ceredo Corn Hole Society, along with occasional special town functions. With the renovations, the facility will qualify for use as an emergency

shelter, should the need arise.

It is expected that a contract to replace the Beautification Building that was destroyed by fire during last February's ice storm will be awarded this week. The old building, located immediately behind the Town Hall Annex, was constructed with structural steel. Given current steel prices, the Town Council is considering an internal wood frame building, wrapped both externally and internally with aluminum. The building will be used solely for storage.

Phase 3 of the street light replacement project will be completed with the arrival of warm weather. The third phase includes replacement of lights on High Street between Main and 2nd Street West along with new installation on B Street from Main to 4th Street West. The total phase includes nine new lights.

The town has received \$250,000 from the American Recovery Act, a federal allocation aimed toward replacing and improving infrastructure in states and municipalities. As with any federal allocation, there are restrictions as to how the funds may be spent, but we are fortunate to have had two sewer projects in the planning stages that will qualify. The 6th Street West sanitary sewer will be improved, with bids expected in April, and the stormwater line serving Greenwood and Fairwood Drives will be enlarged later in the

summer. These two projects will deplete the initial federal allocation, but the town should receive an additional \$250,000 grant later this year.

For the past four years we have asked, begged, and pleaded with the Department of Highways to pave Crescent Drive between Main Street and Crescent Hill Cemetery, obviously to no avail. It has been indicated to us, without a promise, that the road will be placed on the county paving schedule this year. If the project does not appear on the paving schedule, the town will take bids and, if financially possible, undertake the project on our own. I don't like having to do this, but it is very unfair for our residents living on Crescent Drive not to have a decent road.

Those are the projects currently underway in Ceredo. If you have any suggestions for additional projects, or particular needs in your neighborhood, please let me know before March when our annual budget must be completed. Thank you for your continued support of Ceredo!



## Coal Update

The financial well-being of Ceredo has, since 1947, been directly related to the coal transfer terminal located on the Ohio River at Main Street. Originally built by the Truax-Traer Coal Company, the business was later purchased by the Oglebay Norton Company, made famous by singer Gordon Lightfoot as the owner of the ship ‘Edmund Fitzgerald’ and her sinking in Lake Superior. The business has since been operated as Kanawha River Terminal, currently owned by SunCoke Energy Partners.

As America has moved toward cleaner energy sources the coal industry has suffered. While no mining is performed within 60 miles of Ceredo, the local company is the largest transfer terminal – moving coal from rail cars into barges – on the Ohio River. Thus, the tonnage of coal mined almost anywhere in southern West Virginia has a direct impact on the work performed at the Ceredo dock, and the amount of coal moved into and out of Ceredo directly affects the town’s tax revenue.

Coal production in West Virginia between 1970 and 2020 averaged around 144 million tons per year. Since 2010, state production has been on a steady decline, with only 73 million tons being mined during fiscal year 2020-2021, a decline of roughly fifty percent.

The decline in coal production affects Ceredo in two ways. The first, and most simple, is that less coal being mined equates to less coal being shipped through the Ceredo terminal. The town charges a Business and Occupation Tax on revenue generated at the terminal, and fewer tons passing through the Ceredo dock means less B&O tax payable to the town. The second tax impact is a bit more difficult to follow, but also directly impacts town revenue.

West Virginia charges a severance tax to coal companies based on the sale price of mined coal. Of that amount, the state retains 93%. The remaining 7% is apportioned among the state’s



55 counties and 228 incorporated municipalities. Of that 7%, three-fourths (75%) is divided among the state’s coal-producing counties, distributed according to each county’s production level. In 2010, Wayne County coal production was 4,740,482 tons. In 2020, Wayne County coal production was zero, meaning the county did not receive a county producing share of the 75% of the 7% allocated from the state fund.

The remaining 25% of the 7% allocated by the state is divided among all counties and municipalities, according to population. Under this formula, Ceredo received a grand total of \$3,219 in coal severance tax for fiscal year 2020-2021.

Even the most optimistic prognosticators

don’t forecast that West Virginia will ever again see the glory days of coal production. The Town Council in Ceredo has acted in a very fiscally responsible manner in dealing with the decline of coal revenues, and the management of Kanawha River Terminals has done a commendable job in being the “last man standing” among transfer terminals in this region of the Ohio River. As we move forward it won’t help to spend time lamenting “what was”; rather, we must continue to act in a fiscally responsible manner to ensure that our residents continue to receive the municipal services which have always made Ceredo the “Most Livable Small Town” in West Virginia.

## The First Garbage Truck

Paul Billups, Editor

Those born after 1960 may be surprised to know that Ceredo once had a town dump. In the days before creation of the Environmental Protection Agency, Department of Environmental Protection, Clean Water Act and other government programs created to save our environment, most towns like Ceredo and Kenova maintained their own trash dumps.

In those pre-EPA days, residents kept a “burn barrel”, usually a discarded 55-gallon steel drum, in which they placed residential garbage. Every few days, the contents of the barrel were set on fire, thus creating more room in the barrel for trash and a pungent aroma of smoke around town. Town garbage service in those days consisted of a dump truck making weekly rounds with two men lifting and emptying the burn barrels in the truck bed.

The Ceredo dump was located on the east end of B Street, on the site of the present-day police gun range. The Kenova dump was located along Virginia Point Road. The local dumps, here and across America, quickly became mountains of trash, attracting various rodents and other varmints, and seeping unsanitary liquids into the soil and eventually into out waterways. As much as we may dislike government intervention, it was surely time that the pollution caused by local dumps, not to mention air quality damaged by residents burning trash, had to be stopped. Such were the circumstances in 1972 that forced Ceredo to close the town dump and acquire a bona-fide garbage truck to haul trash to a certified dump.

Purely by coincidence one winter day in that year, I happened to stop in Town Hall when Mayor Mose Napier was exclaiming outrage over the “delivery fee” requested by the manufacturer to deliver Ceredo’s new garbage truck. Mayor Napier found the \$300 delivery fee to be outrageous for bringing the truck from its place of manufacture, Oshkosh, Wisconsin, to Ceredo. Being young and far more adventurous than intelligent, I quite frivolously stated that I would go get the truck for \$300. Before I could laugh, Mayor Napier turned to the Town Clerk, Shirley Blake, and said “write him a check.”

There I stood, \$300 check in hand, not having any idea where Oshkosh, Wisconsin was, less idea of how to drive a large truck, and absolutely no idea of how I would get there. As I was pondering my predicament I received a call from Frank Blake, local policeman and husband of the Town Clerk. Having heard of my adventure, Frank volunteered to join me on the trip. Knowing that Frank was a bit older and had been in the Navy, I figured he might know how to drive a truck. I agreed to hire Frank as my assistant driver shortly before he told

me that he had never driven a truck.

Fifty years later, I’m surprised the trip went as well as it did. After some map study and before panic, I determined that any journey to Wisconsin must go through Chicago. Amtrac was in its infancy, but I knew the “Cardinal” still ran through Huntington on its way to Chicago. The Amtrac ticket agent was helpful, explaining that we could go from Huntington to Chicago, then change trains with a short layover to Milwaukee. The agent explained that Milwaukee was the end of the line, but that we might consider a bus for the Milwaukee to Oshkosh portion of the trip.

Frank and I departed Huntington at around 11 p.m. and arrived in Chicago around mid-day. Union Station in Chicago was something for a young Ceredo boy to behold ... more rails, more trains, and the largest building I had ever been inside with marble everywhere. Somehow, Frank and I figured out how to board the train to Milwaukee just as the thought hit us that we would have to drive a garbage truck through Chicago the following day. Our stay in Milwaukee was brief as we caught a cab from the train depot to the bus depot for what I remember as being an hour or so ride to Oshkosh.

We arrived in Oshkosh around dark, checked into a hotel that was reasonably clean, and started to feel confident in completing half our adventure. Then the snow started falling. We had a nice dinner at a small pizza restaurant, but couldn’t enjoy much of it as we watched the snow get deeper and tried to convince each other that surely Wisconsin had good road crews and would have the highway clear by morning. We didn’t sleep much that night, both of us waking hourly to check snow conditions.

Daylight revealed around twelve inches of snow, but the roads appeared to be in reasonably good condition. A cab ride to the Leach Manufacturing Company, a couple of signatures, and I was presented with the keys to a new garbage truck, emblazoned with “Town of Ceredo” on each door. Anxiety again took over as we climbed into the truck. Both Frank and I could drive a standard-shift car, but we both got big eyes when we discovered that the truck had two gear shift sticks.

The best advice of the trip came from Frank, when he suggested that maybe I ought to drive the truck around the manufacturer’s lot a time or two before hitting the highway. By the time I completed the first lap around the lot, several employees had come out to watch. The second lap was a little better, and not wanting to be humiliated further by the laughing employees, we headed south.

I am afraid to this day to estimate our average speed over the first twenty miles or so, but suffice it to say we didn’t pass any other vehicles. Then we came upon a truck weigh station. Those were times before commercial driver’s licenses were mandated, and that is a good thing. The officer in the first weigh station was understanding, explaining to us that we were required to go over the scales, but since we had a new, empty truck, we could simply drive slowly and keep trucking. If the man would have asked us a question about the truck we would likely still be there.

As bad as I now know Milwaukee and especially Chicago, traffic to be, I have no real recollection of problems motoring through the cities. We had managed by then to shift the truck into a highway gear and were hesitant to even stop in a rest area for fear that we couldn’t find the proper gear again. Somehow, that evening we brought the rig into Ceredo, transmission surprisingly intact.

The next morning town employee Bob Adkins climbed behind the wheel, pronounced the truck to be in perfect condition, and made the first-ever garbage pick-up with a true garbage truck in Ceredo. I don’t recall how much money Frank and I split at the conclusion of our great adventure, but if it was enough to buy lunch at the Parkette I would be surprised. This trip was, after all, more about the adventure than the cash.

The old Ceredo dump was eventually spread out and covered with dirt under the guidance of state environmental authorities. The area that was once a smoldering mountain of foul-smelling trash is now a two-acre grass field, leaving no indication that the area was once a dump.

Now, the rest of the story .... In 1980 or 1981, I don’t recall which, the town bought a second new garbage truck. Sure enough, Mayor Napier called to see if I remembered the way to Oshkosh and back. The mayor explained that he wanted his teenage son, Philip, to see the world and suggested that I take Phil on the garbage truck journey. The town had a new police car at that time, and the mayor explained that Officer Tim Wilson would drive Philip and I to Wisconsin and that I would drive the truck back.

While not as exciting as the initial foray into truck driving, Tim, Phil and I had a great time exploring the world as it grew for us. We delivered the truck without incident, perhaps a bit wiser for our journey, and the residents of Ceredo have enjoyed super garbage service ever since. I have, however, officially retired from any work related to driving garbage trucks from Wisconsin to Ceredo!

# Origins of the C-K High School Songs - “Sing To C-K!”

Charles M. Clarkson, Contributing Columnist

The doors were closed in 1997, but the memories of the “Wonder”ful years at Ceredo-Kenova High School will not long be forgotten. This includes the songs played by the Green and White C-K High School Band who enthusiastically played them at sporting events and other occasions as warranted. In the next several publications of the New Crescent we will revisit these songs and their origins. Today we remember “*Sing To C-K!*”.

*Oh sing to dear old C-K High,  
Sing ‘til the rafters ring,  
Stand to give a cheer once again,  
And ev’ry loyal student sing.  
Oh sing to all the happy hours,  
Sing to the carefree days,  
Sing to dear old C-K High School,  
The school of our hearts, always!*

Many of you may know that the words were composed by our very own Charles M. Oshel, who led many a high school musician as band director from 1952-1977 and later with the C-K Alumni Band. But did you know that the melody was a reproduction of the University of Maine school song called “The Maine Stein Song”? And that “The Maine Stein Song” was a reproduction of a song known as “Opie”, a march written by E. A. Fenstad. To get to the heart of the matter let’s look to Wikipedia for a more comprehensive history of this tune:

In 1902, Adelbert W. Sprague, a sophomore at the University of Maine, discovered Opie, a march written by United States Army bandmaster E. A. Fenstad, while he was playing in an or-

chestra in Bar Harbor, Maine. In 1904, Sprague, then a senior and the school’s band leader, was preparing for a concert to be held at the University. He handed part of Opie to his roommate, Lincoln Colcord, and asked him to provide some Maine-themed lyrics for the song. Colcord wrote the lyrics in half an hour and Sprague then rearranged the song slightly to fit the lyrics. The song was presented to the faculty advisor on music affairs, who disapproved of it on the grounds that it was a drinking song and it would be in poor taste for the state university of a state that prohibited the manufacture and sale of liquor to have its students singing such a song. However, Sprague had a chance meeting with University of Maine President George Emory Fellows, who told him that the lyrics were all right. The song was a hit at a concert and became popular with the student body.

The lyrics were first published on February 15, 1905 in the University of Maine magazine The Maine Campus. The song was copyrighted on June 23, 1910 by Carl Fisher, who owned the copyright to Opie, under the name “Opie” – The University of Maine Stein Song.

Rudy Vallée heard the Maine Stein Song when he attended the University of Maine from 1921 to 1922. In 1929, the National Broadcasting Company acquired the rights to Opie and Vallée, the host of the network’s Fleischmann’s Yeast Hour, recorded the song with a faster tempo and a few word changes. The song topped the charts for two months and was the leading song of 1930. It became the only college song to become a number one hit.

In 1953, Vallée sang the song before a live television audience of 60 million persons (broadcast live over the NBC and CBS networks) as part of The Ford 50th Anniversary Show.

At the time the song became popular, its reference to drinking was said to be a violation of the Volstead Act. Its lyrics were also criticized for being pagan by proposing a toast “to the gods” and “to the fates”. In 1930, Johnny Johnson and Harry McDaniel wrote I’d Like To Find The Guy Who Wrote The Stein Song, a comedy song about a man who is fed up with constantly hearing The Stein Song on the radio. In the late 1980s and early 1990s, the song came under moralist fire again for its promotion of drinking and lyrics that were considered ‘sexist’ (“let every Maine man sing” and “to the lips and the eyes of the girls who will love us someday”). Various individuals began to push for a revision of the lyrics or the adoption of a new school song. These persons did not meet with success, the song remaining widely popular throughout the student body. Bill Studwell ranked The Stein Song as the sixth best college fight song in his book College Fight Songs: An Annotated Anthology.

Given that Mr. Oshel served in the U.S. Army Band it was no surprise that he was familiar with the song and found its lively cadence to be appropriate for singing the praises of C-K High.

So there you have it! A song first played as a march, which became a university school song, which became the words and sounds of the school song for our dear old Ceredo-Kenova High School.

## New Parking Ordinances

Two new ordinances relating to parking in Ceredo were adopted after second-reading during the regular meeting of the Town Council on January 3, 2022. The ordinances became effective that same date.

As most of our residents are aware, when the streets and residential lots of Ceredo and most other towns were laid out, cars had not been invented and twenty-five-foot-wide residential lots were common. Times have changed. Our residents now average having two cars and we are seeing more commercial vehicles parked on our streets. The residential lot sizes haven’t changed; thus, parking is a continuing problem.

Adding to the parking problem is the fact that several residents have commercial trucks that are being parked on the streets, along with recreational vehicles, boats, and other vehicles that deprive neighbors of parking spaces along with creating situations that diminish neighborhood values and are not aesthetically pleasing.

The Council put off adopting these ordinances for several years, hoping that the parking problems would resolve themselves. Instead, the problems have increased to the point that action became necessary. On a continuing basis, we receive complaints at town hall about residents having no street space on which to park, often because neighbors have several cars or are parking a commercial vehicle on the streets for long periods. We have likewise received numerous complaints about the parking of motor homes, camper trailers, and commercial trailers in driveways, thus blocking street views.

Another type of parking complaint received is of residents parking on grass in the front or sides of houses. This practice is prohibited, with parking on residential lots limited to areas with an impervious surface and only after having a curb-cut approval by Council. This is not meant to prohibit an occasional parking on grass for short periods, but rather to stop parking where the grass becomes rutted and property values suffer.

The text of both new ordinances is included in this issue. The police have been instructed to issue only warnings to violators until such time as our residents are aware of the changes and are able to make adjustments to parking that are in compliance.

### ORDINANCE REGULATING OFF-STREET PARKING

#### Sec. 361.16

**Off-street parking of any motor vehicle, car, truck, recreational vehicle, trailer or boat in the front or side grass yard of any residential housing unit, or any other space visible from a public street, is prohibited. This ordinance does not prohibit parking on a designated and approved driveway or other parking area that is constructed of hard surfaced asphalt, concrete, or other non-pervious material, provided the space has applicable curb-cut approval.**

### ORDINANCE REGULATING PARKING OF RECREATIONAL VEHICLES AND COMMERCIAL VEHICLES IN RESIDENTIAL AREAS

#### Sec. 361.15

(a) **No person shall stand or park a commercial motor truck, bus, or business or commercial vehicle in any street adjoining any private property primarily used for residential purposes, except for the purpose and during the time reasonably necessary for delivering persons or merchandise to the premises or receiving persons or merchandise from the premises, or for rendering services to persons occupying the premises.**

(b) **No person shall stand or park a recreational vehicle, motor home, trailer or boat in any street adjoining any private property primarily used for residential purposes, except for the temporary parking reasonably required to load, unload, or otherwise prepare such recreational vehicle, motor home, trailer or boat for personal trip use or to winterize or do other seasonal preparation, and in any event not to exceed a period of forty-eight hours.**

(c) **No person shall stand or park a recreational vehicle, motor home, trailer or boat in any residential driveway or on any residential premises, other than storage in a private garage, except, a recreational vehicle, motor home, trailer or boat may be parked in a residential driveway for a period not to exceed forty-eight hours for the purpose of winterizing, loading or unloading for a personal trip.**

(d) **Whoever violates any provision of this section is guilty of a misdemeanor, and subject to a fine not to exceed One Hundred Dollars.**

### HONOR ROLL

Eleanor Terry.....	11/22
Jim Billups.....	02/22
Paul and Kathy Billups.....	10/23
Mike and Susan Watts.....	10/22
Leigh Ann Johnson.....	04/22
Jack & Ann Riggs.....	10/22
Connie & Mark Beford.....	10/24
Dinah and Dale Ledbetter.....	10/22
Katrina Childers.....	07/22
In Memory of Alberta “Dossie” & Sherman Medley ..	04/22
In Memory of Charles & Dorothy Watts.....	10/21
Karin & Mike Dawson.....	02/23
In Memory of Anagene Wooten Gibbs.....	08/22
In Memory of Kathleen Wooten Marcum.....	08/22
In Memory of Herm Wooten Matney.....	08/22
In Memory of Larry Cole.....	08/22
George & Brenda Keigley.....	09/22
CUMC.....	12/21
Roberta and Charlie Mitchell.....	03/22
In Memory of Larry Jack Heck.....	10/22
Mike & Karen Skeens.....	08/22
Dr. Ron & Lucenda Akers.....	07/22
Marlene Simmons.....	07/22
Brother Otis Adkins.....	01/22
Brother Mose & Sister June Napier.....	01/22
Susann Meurer.....	12/21
Robert & Mary Lee Leslie.....	01/22
Taylor Booth.....	03/22
Michael & Debby Hibbard.....	04/22
Susan & Stephen Woolwine.....	04/22
Gary & Marsha Adkins.....	04/22
John Hall.....	04/22
Tyler Dawson, DDS.....	10/22
In Memory of Esther Adkins.....	10/22
Donna Jones.....	10/23
Dr. Daniel & Suzanne Brody.....	10/22
Cindy & Vern Eagleston-Blaine.....	11/22
Glenn Stotts.....	11/22
In Memory of Charles & Bet Pratt.....	12/22
Greg & Joy Jarrell.....	12/22

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@ceredovg.gov.

# 1966 Championship Game – Two Views

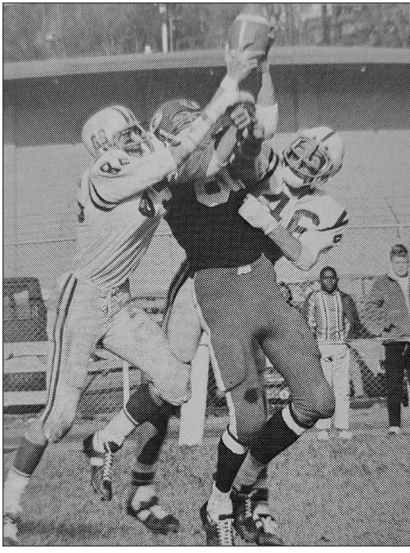
The first portion of the following article was written by former Gary High School football player Dennis Webb, recounting his memories of the 1966 West Virginia State Championship football game, played at Logan Island Stadium on November 19th, 1966, in which the Gary Coaldiggers defeated Ceredo-Kenova, 33-14. The second portion of the article is a compilation of memories from several C-K players of the same game. The two perspectives, some 55 years removed, are both similar and interesting.

This may be a little anti-climactic – but we WON! The 1966 West Virginia Class AA football champions are the Gary Coaldiggers! A second for McDowell County as the Gary District team had won the 1956 championship for their class, when schools were still segregated.

It started with the coaches, team and support staff gathering at GHS that morning to ride a chartered Greyhound or Trailways bus, I don't remember which bus line now, I just remember it wasn't a school bus like we usually took to games. We made the 65-mile trip to Logan with some of us sleeping and some of us just reflecting on what the day was about. I think most of us knew, at the time, that Gary had only played once in the state championship game, losing to Beckley in 1951.

We arrived in Logan and had a pre-game meal around 10:30 at a restaurant in Logan, then went on to the field to get ready for the 1:30 p.m. kickoff. Ball carriers got their ankles taped and everyone got their uniforms on and we went out for warm-ups around 12:30. Then we came back into the locker room where coaches Cure, Perdue, Wilkerson, Dykes and Radnoczi each went through last minute instructions and reminders about the Ceredo-Kenova Wonders team and what we should look for from them, and what our plan was and what we needed to do to be successful.

One thing that I remember was it was a terrific day, weather-wise, to play a football game. It was sunny and around 50 degrees, I believe, with little wind to affect passing and kicking. The fans may have needed to bundle up a bit in the chill, but it was pretty ideal weather to play in. The parents, faculty, students and fans made the drive and we could hear them cheering us on, all the time. The cheerleaders and band kept things peppy



Jim Gregory's catch that turned the game.

and us motivated. They were all great!

Finally, the kickoff came and we kicked off to C-K and they moved the ball for a bit but we held them and they had to punt. Leon Allison ran the punt back for what we thought was a touchdown, but was called back for a penalty. Their defense, which was very tough in the first half, held us to three plays and we had to punt. The punt went to Mike Smith, their state scoring leader halfback, who fumbled the ball and Leon Stout recovered on their 9-yard line. The coaching staff called what looked like our bread-and-butter power sweep to the right, but the call was actually a bootleg where I would throw it to Jim Gregory or try to run it in. When I cleared the end, I saw open field to the goal line and ran it across the goal line for our first score!

I'm not going to do play-by-play of the game, just give you a few of my memories of the game and day. C-K scored after we did and the score was 7-6. We got the ball back and ran a series of plays and on fourth down it appeared we were going to punt, but the coaching staff called a fake punt that we successfully pulled off for a first down. Then we ran our "banana split" pass where a dive play was faked to Buck Perry who continued through the line down the center of the field, while the ends ran "out" routes that pulled the C-K safeties to the sidelines and Buck 'split' them in the middle of the field and he caught the pass and was tackled at the four. Unfortunately, that C-K defense I mentioned had a great goal-line stand and we weren't able to score.

The second quarter was kind of quiet until near the end. We drove into C-K territory but

got a penalty and had a fourth and long situation and threw a pass to Jim Gregory who went up between C-K defenders and brought the ball down for a 25-yard gain and a first down. Jim looked like he was pulling down a rebound, as he did so well at East Carolina University during his college basketball career. After trying to run a play against the tough defensive line of C-K, the coaches called an option play and I was able to get around the end for the score and a 13-7 halftime lead.

The second half, we played better offensively, though penalties nagged us a bit. We successfully ran the button-hook and lateral play between Jim Gregory and Leon Allison for a touchdown midway through the third quarter, giving us a 19-7 lead. I think we ran that play about four times during the season and scored on three of them. Then, near the end of the third quarter Al Wade recovered a fumble and we drove down into C-K territory where Buck Perry took the ball across with about one minute left in the quarter to give us a 26-7 lead.

Early in the fourth quarter both teams played defense until C-K was able to put a drive together and score midway through the quarter to make the score 26-14. Then both teams played good defense with Harvey Silas making ours better by intercepting a pass near the end of the fourth quarter and returning it to C-K's 39. We were able to quickly get to the C-K three-yard line. I told the guys in the huddle that all the backfield except Jon Thornton had scored a touchdown, so let's get one for him. We ran our bread-and-butter power sweep with Jon taking the ball in for the final touchdown wit 13 seconds left. Buck Perry booted the extra point to make the score 33-14. After the kickoff to C-K time ran out and we were State Champs!

Of course, the fans in the stands went crazy and we had a terrific time celebrating after the final gun. The C-K team were real gentlemen and congratulated us on our win. Little did Buck Perry and I know we would play freshman football at Marshall the next year with C-K's Mike Smith. Fumbles caused by our great defense hurt C-K, as they lost three of four, whereas we had no

fumbles.

The trophy presentation was neat as Mr. C.W. Dean, Jr., Gary's principal for about thirty years by then, was a member of the West Virginia Secondary Schools Activities Commission and represented the Commission in presenting the trophy to his own school! Pretty awesome!

\*\*\*\*\*

A recollection of the 1966 State Championship game from the C-K perspective must start with the statement that the best team that day won. The game has been replayed many times over the past 55 years by the boys sitting around the coal stove in the hardware store, and while many have proffered reasons (or excuses) as to why we were beaten by 19 points, the truth is that on that day Gary was the better team.

The 1966 championship came in the midst of a state record run of success by C-K football teams. Between 1962 and 1969, C-K played in four state championship games, winning three, and compiled an overall record during that span of 76 wins against 8 defeats. Seven of the eight losses were to Class AAA schools, with Gary being the only Class AA school to defeat the Wonders. In the four years that the Wonders didn't qualify for championship game, they finished as the third rated AA team in West Virginia.

C-K had a solid team in 1966, losing the season opener to a good Huntington East team at Fairfield Stadium by a 13-7 score, then running off nine straight wins without a serious challenge. Overall, the team was healthy at season's end with the exception of tackle Bill Perdue, who had several stitches in his hand due to an accident in shop class. Offensive starters for C-K were Allen Adkins at center, Gary Perdue and Jerry Workman at guards, Bill Perdue and Don West at tackles, Odie Rakes and Billy Evans at ends. John Stephens played quarterback, with Mike Gibson at fullback and halfbacks Mike Smith and Mike Murphy.

Championship week in 1966 was approached by the C-K coaching staff as a regular game. Perhaps because this was the third championship appearance in four years, or maybe not wanting to create additional pressure or hype, we went about practice as usual, no special plays, no increased emphasis. On game day the football team took two school busses down Route 10 for the curvy hour and a half trip to Logan, accompanied by the C-K Marching Band in three additional school busses.

Upon arrival in Logan, the team used the school cafeteria for a place to eat our brown-bag lunches of peanut and butter or bologna sandwiches brought from home. It was a great football day, with a large contingent of fans from each school attending. As with most C-K championship games, the standing joke was that the last fan to leave C-K turned off the traffic light, as both towns emptied-out to go to the game.

It was obvious early in the game that Gary had a fine team. The boys at the hardware store have, for 55 years, questioned several "false start" penalties that were called against C-K fullback Mike Gibson. The early movement charged against Gibson consisted of him flexing his hand once he was in a three-point stance. Probably a bit picky in a high school game, but it's unlikely the penalties were the sole cause of the defeat.

From the C-K perspective, the game turned on two plays. Late in the second quarter with C-K holding a 7-6 lead and Gary facing a fourth and long situation, the Coaldiggers completed a long pass to 6'7" end Jim Gregory for a first down. Gregory was well-covered by two C-K defenders, but simply out-jumped the shorter players to make a great catch. Gary went on to score and take a 13-7 lead at the half. The second play that broke the game open was a hook and lateral play in the third quarter, perfectly executed, that went for a score and gave the McDowell County team a 19-7 advantage.

For the day, C-K lost 3 of 4 fumbles and suffered one interception. While we can replay the game around the coal stove, the turnovers were more critical that the penalties called on the Wonders. It should also be remembered that Gary has one touchdown nullified by a penalty also.

Gary had a fine football team. Following the game the players and fans were excited, but humbled by their victory and great sportsmen. Two members of the Gary team went on the play at Marshall, two played at Bluefield State, one played at WV State, and the tall end, Jim Gregory, played basketball at East Carolina. Obviously, all fine athletes.

The Wonders made the long ride back to C-K, turned in their pads to Bo Bo Caines that Saturday evening, and were issued their basketball shoes the following Monday. It is of note that the 66-67 C-K basketball team made a state tournament appearance, losing in the semi-finals.

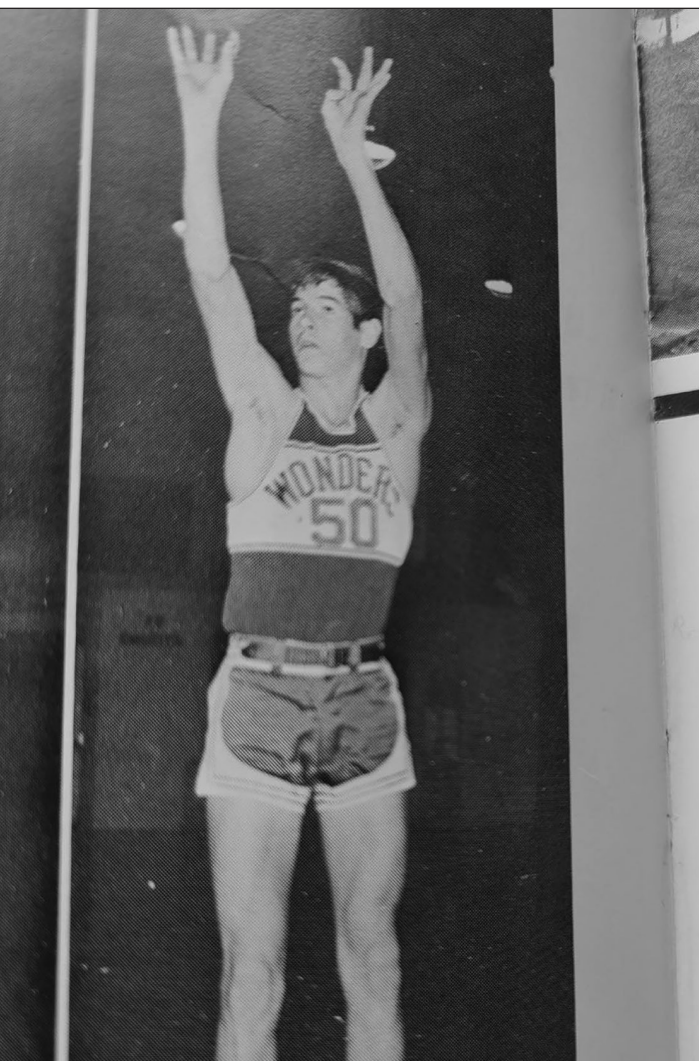
## From Buddy League To The Garden

by Randy Maynard, Sports Editor

"The Garden." Those two iconic words translate to the nickname for Madison Square Garden. There can be no doubt that a number of boys, who grew up in the Ceredo-Kenova area, would have given anything to be able to step onto that historic New York City court and play in a meaningful basketball game. There may have been others but the only immediate C-K area person that I know, who actually participated in a full-fledged contest at this historic venue, was 1969 C-K High School graduate, Tom Ferrell.

However, when contacted by phone at his Seven Lakes, North Carolina home, Ferrell said that while it was nice to have once played at that venerable arena it wasn't anything really special. "To me, it was just another game."

Ferrell got the opportunity to play in "The Garden" on February 24, 1974. On that Saturday, his Marshall University Thundering Herd squad lost to the Fairfield Stags 86-63. When asked if there was anything memorable that happened during that game, Ferrell laughingly responded, "Yeah, I got knocked out." He went on to explain that he thought he had timed it perfectly to block a Stags players jump shot, only to have the opposing player's shoulder raise up and then hitting him on the chin. He said he was



Tommy Ferrell

knocked out cold and he could not return to the game.

In commenting further on his experience at Madison Square Garden, Ferrell noted that "it was nice to play there" but that season he'd already participated in games at the fabled Alumni Gym on the

campus of DePaul University and at Keaney Gymnasium in Providence Rhode Island, the home of the Rhode Island Rams. Ferrell then added, "You know having played at C-K under Coach (Dale) Craycraft and facing good basketball teams on the road,

I just wasn't in awe when I entered Madison Square Garden."

Ferrell mentioned that he was not that highly recruited out of high school and he decided to attend Eastern Illinois University to further his education and to play basketball. "The facilities were wonderful and many of them were brand new," Ferrell noted. "However, it was a 'suitcase university' and outside of the campus it was surrounded by soybean and wheat fields. There was just not all that much to do in Charleston, Illinois."

Ferrell opted to transfer to Marshall. He had to sit out one year due to the rule concerning transfers and then calamity struck when a

routine pre-season physical determined that he had a degenerative back that caused him to delay his basketball participation at Marshall. Due to all of the above, Ferrell only donned the Thundering Herd uniform for the 1973-1974 campaign. "I wanted to get back the one year that was taken away from me but the NCAA denied my request.

### 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

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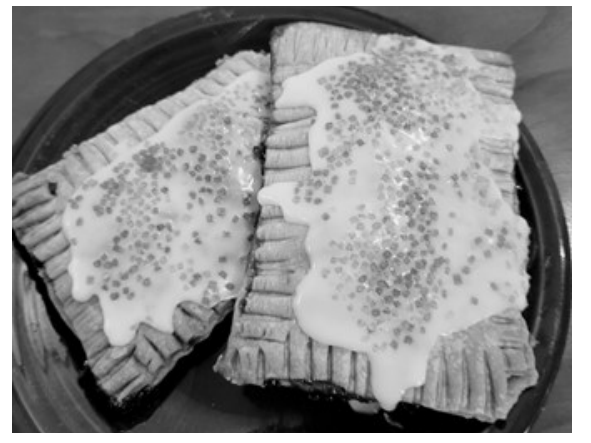
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**The Crescent Kitchen**

**HOMEMADE  
 POP-TARTS**  
 by Natalie Hemann

I haven't had a Pop-Tart in probably over 30 years, but for some reason I have been craving them lately. I think the commercials on TV for them got to me! Homemade Pop-Tarts must be pretty popular because I found all kinds of recipes online for them, and they are all basically the same. They could not be simpler! The recipe calls for so few ingredients and I already had all of them so I didn't have to make a trip to the store. I used red and green sprinkles on the ones I made. I think these would make a special treat for Christmas breakfast for your children or grandchildren, or even us old folks!



**Ingredients:**  
 1 Box - store bought pie crust (I used Pillsbury)  
 ½ Cup Preserves (I used strawberry)  
**Icing:**  
 ½ Cup Confectioners Sugar  
 2 Tbs. Milk  
 ¼ tsp. Vanilla extract  
 ¼ tsp. Almond extract (Optional)  
 Your Favorite Sprinkles

**Directions:**  
 Preheat oven to 425°F. Line a baking sheet with parchment paper and set aside.

Flour a large work surface and lay both pie crusts out on it. Roll the circles to 11 inches across. Use a knife or pizza cutter to cut the edges off, about 1 inch off all sides, to create two 9-inch squares. Then cut each square into three 3-inch stripes, or 6 total. (You can make mini Pop-Tarts by cutting smaller squares.)

Spoon 1-2 tablespoons of preserves in the center of 3 strips, spreading to ½ inch from the edge, and top with remaining 3 strips. Use a fork to crimp the edges together on all sides. Repeat with remaining pie crust. Move the pop tarts to the prepared baking sheet. Bake for approximately 10 minutes, until golden. Cool.

After the pop tarts have cooled for several minutes, whisk powdered sugar, milk, and extracts together to create an icing glaze. Spoon over the top of each pop tart and immediately sprinkle with sugar sprinkles. Let the icing dry, either on the baking sheets or on a dry rack.

(With the leftover strips of dough you cut to make squares, I formed them together to create a flat surface and put butter, cinnamon, and sugar on them to make a little tasty treat!)



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## “Our Cemetery”

The Ceredo Advance  
By Progressive Citizen

The following article was taken from the June 1896 issue of The Ceredo Advance. The author is unknown. It took over 100 years for this citizen's dream to become a reality but thanks to the founding and current Crescent Hill Cemetery Board members we now have a cemetery to be proud of with perpetual care that was once lacking. In addition, the board now has maps and a listing of everyone interred in the cemetery, as well as rules & regulations governing the property. Burial plots are still available for purchase at a cost below any other cemetery in the Tri-State Area. For more information you may visit the town's web site at [www.ceredowv.gov](http://www.ceredowv.gov) and click on the cemetery link. You may also contact Charles Clarkson at 304-908-9704 to purchase burial plots, ask questions, or raise any concerns.

One thing which our Town needs above all things, and which is seldom mentioned even by those who should be interested the most, is a public cemetery. It is a burning shame and an everlasting disgrace to the fair name of our little city and our citizens as well. There is not, we will venture to assert without any possibility of a contradiction, another town as large or as old in the whole State, whose citizens

have so little respect for friends and relatives who have passed away, or not another town but what has a public cemetery owned and controlled by the town who, in turn, sells the lots to families and individuals and which is kept in good condition by a sexton appointed to that position, and who is paid by the town, who are not ashamed for visitors and strangers to visit their burial place. How about our own cemetery, situated on the top of a hill perfectly barren with soil of yellow clay, where flowers and grass are utterly unknown, the burning sun shining down on the graves of our loved ones who have gone, tombstones toppled over, and what was once termed a fence made of common wire surrounding the enclosure, but which is now partially destroyed, allowing stock to run at will through and over the last resting place of our loved ones? The cemetery lies partly in an apple orchard, where boys, in their eagerness to get the fruit, run over and trample on the graves. There is no ingress nor egress to the cemetery for hearse or buggies, a funeral procession being compelled to stop at the bottom of the hill which necessitates the carrying of a corpse up a steep incline of 300 or 400 yards. Again, we say it is a shame, an outrage and an everlasting disgrace to the citizens of our town. This is a matter of vital importance to everyone and should be taken up and acted on at once.

## Wreaths Across America Ceremony



Volunteer Luke Dawson



Members of the Spring Valley High School JROTC

The Ceredo Crescent Hill Cemetery Board, in conjunction with the Gold Star Mothers and the Westmoreland Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution conducted a beautiful ceremony on December 18, 2021, honoring military veterans interred at Crescent Hill Cemetery. In collaboration with the national Wreaths Across America program, fresh pine wreaths were placed on the graves of 174 veterans.

The Spring Valley High School JROTC Honor Guard presented the colors, followed by a stunning rendition of the National Anthem by DAR member Stephanie Smith. Rev. Scott Byard delivered the opening prayer, and following remarks by Mayor Paul

Billups, Marilyn Oppenheimer of the DAR spoke on the history of the Wreaths Across America program and the importance of honoring our veterans. Pastor Jeff Canterbury offered prayer over the wreaths, and a group of 56 family members and community volunteers then placed the wreaths.

Cemetery Board member Charles Clarkson did a great job of coordinating the event, and the Daughters of the American Revolution provided coffee and hot chocolate that made a brisk weather day more tolerable.

This was the second year for the wreath program at Crescent Hill. The wreaths, at a cost of ten dollars each from the national organization, were purchased through community donations. Given

the large attendance this year, the joint groups plan for an even bigger ceremony next December. Special thanks to all the community volunteers that made this event possible through your donations and attendance at the ceremony.

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

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Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press; or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the Government for a redress of grievances.

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