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Ceres, Virginia is a small rural community in the western part of Bland County and southeastern part of Smyth County. Few community resources are available to the citizens of this area. Seeing the need for community improvement the **Ceres Alumni Association**, a non-profit organization under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, was formed in the year 2000.

A major goal of the organization was to restore and preserve for community use the former school gymnasium and agriculture classroom and shop building that had been left to deteriorate when the school closed in 1992. Since Henry C. Groseclose, father of the Future Farmers of America, was born near these buildings, an Agricultural and FFA Museum honoring Mr. Groseclose has been placed in the agriculture building. The gymnasium has been named the George H. Peery, Sr. Center to honor the long-time school board member who did much to get the gymnasium constructed. Included in this building is a fitness room available for community use.

Our endeavor is costly but it will bring enrichment to the lives of the citizens of this area and be an educational attraction for tourists from other areas. Much has been accomplished but the upkeep and utilities continue to be costly.

We need your help. A major yearly fund-raising project is a multi-prize raffle with tickets to be sold by Association members throughout the United States. We need gift items to be raffled off. Your assistance will be greatly appreciated and **your gifts are tax deductible**.

If you would like more information about our Association, about our community, or if you are interested in joining our Association, please contact us at the address or phone number in our letterhead or visit our new web site which continues to grow.

Thank you for your assistance.

Sincerely,

Betty C. Hubble

Betty C. Hubble
2011 Vice President
276.682.4255

"If we don't preserve our past, how can we plan our future?" - Jackie Kennedy Onassis