

WELCOME TO HERITAGE WEEKEND!



MOOREFIELD EXAMINER

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and Hardy County News

USPS 362-300

Community Devastated by Murder Of Moorefield Middle School Teacher

Coby Found Murdered

By Jean A. Flanagan
Moorefield Examiner

When Joy Coby did not show up for work on Wednesday morning, her coworkers became concerned. Coby, 43, was a teacher at Moorefield Middle School. It was extremely uncharacteristic for her to do something like that.

MMS Principal Patrick McGregor called the Moorefield Police Department and requested a welfare check.

Moorefield Police went to Coby's home in Moorefield around 9:30 a.m. They confirmed Coby had not

come home Tuesday night, but that her boyfriend, Jared D. Connors, had come home, but left again.

Hardy County Sheriff's Deputies and West Virginia State Police joined Moorefield Police in trying to locate Coby. A search of a neighboring field and wooded area was initiated with the help of the Moorefield Volunteer Fire Department.

Moorefield Police and the Hardy County 911 Center attempted to locate Connors with the help of a cell phone locator. Police determined Connors was driving Coby's vehicle,

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Joy Coby

A Community Mourns

By Jean A. Flanagan
Moorefield Examiner

Messages of love and grief, written in colored chalk, surround Moorefield Middle School. Students have written messages to their teacher, Joy Coby, on the sidewalk around the school. "We've done nothing but celebrate Joy's life," said MMS Principal Patrick McGregor.

Coby was murdered last week, allegedly by her boyfriend. He later shot himself in the parking lot of a Wal-Mart in Staunton, Va.

"I talked to the kids for about an

hour yesterday," McGregor said. "I told them not to waste their time wondering why she was taken. We'll never understand that. We want to remember how she left her mark on every student."

Coby taught 7th-grade reading at MMS. "This was the second time she taught here," McGregor said.

Coby taught 5th-grade at MMS until Moorefield Intermediate School opened in 2009.

Moorefield Intermediate School houses 3rd, 4th and 5th grades. Moorefield Middle has 6th, 7th and

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Moorefield Middle School students have filled Joy Coby's classroom with messages of love and sorrow. We have purposely obscured names of students at the request of MMS Principal Patrick McGregor. Classroom photos by Jean Flanagan. Coby's photo courtesy of the family

Israeli Minister of Agriculture To Keynote WV Ag-Tech Showcase

By Daniel Silver
Special to Examiner

With decades of Israel's technology-driven agricultural innovation and improvements in his portfolio, Menahem "Menny" Hesse, Minister for Agriculture and Science Affairs at the Embassy of Israel in Washington, DC, will keynote the Agricultural Technology Showcase

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Wardensville Council Votes to Purchase Surveillance Cameras

By Jean A. Flanagan
Moorefield Examiner

The town of Wardensville is purchasing cameras to keep eyes on the inside of town hall. The Wardensville Council voted to purchase the cameras at the monthly meeting held Monday, Sept. 14.

For the past several months, Wardensville Mayor Barbara Ratcliff has asked council to approve a \$500 surveillance camera package. According to the mayor, items have been removed from town hall, files have disappeared and personal property has been taken.

Previously, the council has refused to authorize the purchase, citing financial hardship. At this month's meeting Ratcliff advised

donations in the amount of \$330 have been received towards the purchase of the cameras.

"Does the public have any right to looking at the cameras?" audience member Vicki Dyer asked.

"To what end?" attorney John Orndorff asked.

"Can anyone change the files?" Dyer countered. "I don't think anything should be changed by any town employee."

"Who will have access to the information?" Councilwoman Maureen Martin asked.

Ratcliff said those issues would be decided when the cameras are received.

The council unanimously approved the motion to purchase the cameras. Councilwoman Grace

Garrett said hopefully other donations will come to offset the cost.

Mayor's Report

Ratcliff reported there is no news regarding the West Virginia Attorney General's investigation into the prior administration. "Clearly they found more to investigate," she said.

An audit, performed by the West Virginia Auditor's Office is complete and the report should be forthcoming shortly, Ratcliff said.

"They found several irregularities," she said. "We asked the State Auditor to audit the town's finances to provide a baseline for this administration and to insure present and future compliance to

Continued on page 11

Tanya Tucker Sings in Moorefield



Photo by Carissa Kuykendall

Country Music Star Tanya Tucker performed in Moorefield Saturday as part of the grand opening celebration of Weimer Automotive Group's Ford store. More photos can be seen on page 9.

Moorefield Approves Paving, Trick or Treat

By Jean A. Flanagan
Moorefield Examiner

Trick or Treat 2015 will be held on Thursday, Oct. 29, according to the Moorefield Town Council. The council met on Tuesday, Sept. 15.

"Do you want it on Thursday, even when Halloween is on Saturday?" asked Councilwoman Carol Zuber.

"Saturday is the Homecoming dance at Moorefield High School," replied Councilman Doug Mongold.

"There's also a stock sale on Saturday and lots of farmers will be leaving town," added Councilman Roger Pratt.

"There'll be too much traffic in town on Saturday," concluded Mayor Gary Stalnaker.

Trick or Treating will be held from 6 - 8 p.m. Residents who want to participate should leave their porch lights on.

Street Paving

The council approved paving Monroe Street and Kuykendall Lane. According to Public Works Director Lucas Gagnon, Springfield Valley Paving had the lowest

bid at \$48,500.

Gagnon said the work would be done by the end of September.

Rohrbaugh Lane and Tannery Hollow Road will be considered for paving next year.

Park Director

The council approved hiring Juliana Bridger as park director at

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Wednesday

SUNNY
High 77°



Thursday

SUNNY
High 77°



Friday

SUNNY
High 73°



0 94922 99328 1

Coby Found Murdered

Continued from page 1
a 2005 Honda CRV.

Connors was located traveling on Interstate Route 81 near Staunton, Va. Virginia State Police were contacted and a "Be On the Look Out" (BOLO) was issued.

According to broadcast reports, Connors was located in the Wal-Mart parking lot, on Richmond Avenue in Staunton, Va. As police approached the vehicle, Connors shot himself. He was transported to Augusta Health Center and then flown to the University of Virginia Medical Center. He is in critical condition.

At approximately 2 p.m., Coby's body was found in a wooded area near her home. She was the victim of fatal gunshot wounds.

The West Virginia State Police Crime Scene team conducted the investigation at the crime scene. Coby's body was removed and sent to the medical examiner for autopsy.

The crime remains under investigation by the Moorefield Police Department, with assistance by the Hardy County Sheriff's Department and the West Virginia State Police.



Photo by Brian Zinn, News-Leader
Jared Conner shot himself in the Wal-Mart parking lot in Staunton, Va. in Joy Coby's SUV.

DNR Starts Youth Hunting Program

(AP) - State officials are hoping to increase the number of children participating in wildlife and hunting activities.

The Division of Natural Resources says it has started a youth hunting program for children ages 8 to 17. Participants must submit an application, complete a hunter education course, having a valid hunting license if required, and have a release form signed by a parent or guardian.

More information is available through local DNR offices.

DNR law enforcement chief Col. Jerry Jenkins says participants will learn how to hunt safely and legally.

A youth squirrel hunt is planned for Saturday. Youth hunts for antlerless deer are set for Oct. 17, Dec. 26 and Dec. 28.

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| <p>One Owner</p> <p>'14 Toyota Tacoma 4x4 Dbl. Cab, V6, 7,600 miles WAS \$33,995 On Sale \$31,550</p> | <p>One Owner</p> <p>'14 Ford Focus SE Auto., Sunroof, 11K miles WAS \$16,995 Sale Price \$14,875</p> | <p>One Owner</p> <p>'14 Nissan Juke AWD, Sunroof, 10K miles WAS \$22,995 On Sale \$19,950</p> |
| <p>Loaded Up!</p> <p>'14 Jeep Grand Cherokee Hemi, Auto., 4x4, 25K miles WAS \$36,995 On Sale \$34,950</p> | <p>Local Owner</p> <p>'13 Ford Escape 4x4 Titanium, Leather, 51K miles WAS \$24,995 Sale Price \$22,550</p> | <p>Local Trade</p> <p>'13 Chevy Equinox LT AWD, Auto., 38K miles WAS \$21,995 On Sale \$19,875</p> |

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| | | |
|--|--|--|
| <p>One Owner</p> <p>'13 Ford F-250 XL Crew Diesel, 4x4, Longbed, 22K miles WAS \$37,995 On Sale \$35,350</p> | <p>One Owner</p> <p>'13 Ford F-150 SXT 4x4, X-tra Cab, V8, Auto., 21K mi. WAS \$29,995 Sale Price \$27,775</p> | <p>Like New!</p> <p>'13 Ford Fiesta SE Auto., Low Miles - Only 21K WAS \$13,995 On Sale \$11,999</p> |
| <p>Local Trade</p> <p>'12 Chevy Silverado 1500, 4x4, Auto., 36K miles WAS \$30,995 On Sale \$28,950</p> | <p>Clean Car!</p> <p>'12 Kia Rio LX Auto., PW, PL, 76K miles WAS \$10,995 Sale Price \$8,950</p> | <p>One-Owner</p> <p>'12 Ram 1500 4x4 Crew Cab, Hemi, Leather, 34K miles WAS \$35,995 On Sale \$32,775</p> |
| <p>Locally Owned</p> <p>'12 Jeep Compass 4x4 Auto., PW, PL, 39K miles WAS \$17,995 Sale Price \$15,850</p> | <p>Loaded Up!</p> <p>'11 Chevy Equinox LT PW, PL, AWD, 70K miles WAS \$17,995 Sale Price \$15,888</p> | <p>Great Truck!</p> <p>'10 Chevy 3500 4x4 V8, Crew Cab, Longbed, 75K miles WAS \$34,995 On Sale \$33,495</p> |
| <p>Low Miles</p> <p>'09 Ford F-350 4x4 Crew Cab, 8-ft. Bed, 34K miles WAS \$30,995 On Sale \$28,550</p> | <p>Rt. 220, Moorefield 304-530-6566</p> | <p>Low Miles</p> <p>'09 Ford Focus SES Sunroof, Auto., 35K miles WAS \$12,995 Sale Price \$10,950</p> |

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