



Deputy Slated to Return to Duty Despite Open Criminal Investigation

By Ken Bustin
Moorefield Examiner

A Hardy County Sheriff's Deputy who has been on paid administrative leave while under investigation since Dec. 2020 is scheduled to return to active duty in mid-May, following the release of the Special Prosecutor's – Grant County Prosecutor John Ours – report, which said that Ours found “no credible evidence” of criminal activity on the part of Deputy Tommie McCausley.

The Examiner published that report in its entirety last week.

Asked if he was completely satisfied by the report issued by Ours, Hardy County Sheriff Steven Dawson said that he was.

However, Ours issuing the report apparently does not actually mean the investigation has concluded. Corporal J. D. Carson of the West Virginia State Police Romney detachment, is the lead investigator into McCausley's case. He declined to comment on details of the investigation, but said Friday, “My report is not complete.”

Last August, Ours had told the Examiner that the investigation was

closed, a position he recanted just prior to the release of his report a week ago, explaining that he had satisfied himself about several issues raised in the investigation at that time, but that an additional issue had been subsequently brought to his attention that required additional evaluation.

Although in that telephone interview, conducted when the report was released, Ours implied that his report was initiated by the conclusion of the investigation, when asked directly on Friday if the investigation remained

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Town of Moorefield levy rates to stay the same for 2022-2023

By Hannah Heishman
Moorefield Examiner

The Moorefield Town Council followed up on previous decisions and conducted otherwise regular business at their meeting April 19.

The Council approved the Town's levy rates for fiscal year 2022-2023. The levied funds come from property taxes and help fund the Town pool, the Park, street and sidewalk maintenance, and the Moorefield Police Department.

The levy has been in place for

years, and citizens will see no change.

City Clerk Rick Freeman told the Council there will be a referendum on the November ballot that could eliminate state personal property taxes. If voters opt to eliminate personal property taxes, it will also eliminate any funding counties and communities receive from those taxes.

For Moorefield, losing those levied funds would mean that the \$268,000 the Town got this past year would be cut by more than half to \$140,000.

Since the State, County and Town governments are not otherwise downsizing, Freeman said the money would be replaced by an increase somewhere else, such as the County possibly implementing a sales tax on top of the Town's sales tax.

The Council officially approved MPD Chief Stephen Riggelman's request for 11 new BodyWorn body cameras for approximately \$55,000.

Riggelman said the price was originally \$77,000, but BodyWorn

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Sweet Sounds of Spring



Photos by Milda M. Mullins

Community members celebrated spring with “Earth Day on the Farm Fest” hosted by the Wardensville Garden Market on Saturday, April 23. The all-day festival featured an instrument petting zoo, pictured above, led by The Cat and the Fiddle owner Dakota Karper. Attendees were able to freely play instruments, mostly fiddles, in a round circle jam session throughout the day. Pictured in the left photo, from left to right, is Dakota Karper, Chris Degrassi, Jim Morris, Brian Forehand, and Michelle Pellatt. In the photo to the right, Julius Bjornson (center right) gets into the music with Forehand (left) and Pellatt (behind) also joining in. According to Wardensville Garden Market Marketing Director Anne Kirk, over 300 people attended the event, which hosts felt was successful and “a really fun vibe.” The event also included an open market farm stand, a kids zone, a variety of vendors, and a host of workshops. Workshops included a wild weed walk led by Leenie Hobbie, “art for all” from the River House in Capon Bridge, a talk on gardening and native herbs from Blooming Mountain Botanical Sanctuary, a raptor flight demonstration, a Canjo (can-banjo) workshop led by Jim Morris, a soap making demo with Wild Nettle Apothecary, and a radical home-scale sustainability workshop with Fawn's Head Grove.

Hardy young writers celebrated for several statewide wins



Photo by Ken Bustin

Hardy County students did very well in the West Virginia Young Writers Contest. Pictured, from left to right, holding their certificates, are: Jackson See – Grade 3-4, first place county winner; J. J. Carr – Grade 11-12, third place county winner; L. J. Kesner – Grade 11-12, first place county winner; Brianna Walker, Grade 9-10, first place county winner; Madison Thompson, Grade 5-6, first place winner, and; Julianne Shifflett, Grade 11-12, second place county winner. The Examiner will be publishing some of their essays next week. Congratulations!

Early voting starts Wednesday, April 27

Hardy County Democratic Women sponsors meet-the-candidate gathering



Photo by Ken Bustin

The Hardy County Democratic Women sponsored at Meet the Candidates gathering last week, at Brighton, the home of Beth See. More than 60 people were in attendance, enjoying good food, drink and conversation, as they mingled with the candidates and engaged them in dialogue about their views. Those candidates making an appearance at the gathering included: candidate for U.S. House of Representatives Congressional District #2, Barry Lee Wendell; candidate for State Senate, Amanda Pitzer; candidates for State House of Representatives, Jameson Paul Freeman and B. J. Rinard; candidate for Hardy County Clerk, Kelly Shockey; candidate for Board of Education, Dixie Bean, and; candidate for County Commissioner, Greg Greenwalt.

Highly infectious Bird flu drives free-range hens indoors to protect poultry

By David Pitt
Associated Press

Is it OK for free-range chickens to not range freely? That's a question free-range egg producers have been pondering lately as they try to be open about their product while also protecting chickens from a highly infectious bird flu that has killed roughly 28 million poultry across the country.

The U.S. Department of Agriculture recommends that chickens be

moved indoors to protect against the disease, but while some are keeping their hens inside, not everyone agrees.

John Brunquell, the CEO of Indiana-based Egg Innovations, which contracts with more than 50 farms in five states to produce free-range and pasture-raised eggs, said any of his chickens in states with bird flu cases will stay in “confinement mode” until the risk passes.

“We will keep them confined at least until early June,” Brunquell said. “If we go four weeks with no

more commercial breakouts then we'll look to get the girls back out.”

Bird flu cases have been identified in commercial chicken and turkey farms or in backyard flocks in 29 states, according to the USDA. Spread of the disease is largely blamed on the droppings of infected migrating wild birds.

The farms Brunquell contracts with are in Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky, Ohio and Wisconsin, all of which have had at least once case of bird flu. But some, like Mike Badger,

the executive director of the American Pastured Poultry Producers Association, are taking a different approach.

Badger, whose Pennsylvania-based nonprofit group has about 1,000 members across the country, believes birds kept outdoors are at less risk of infection than chickens and turkeys raised amid thousands of others in large, enclosed barns.

“We put them outside and they get in touch with the environment so I think they have a better immune system to be able to fight off threats as

they happen,” Badger said.

Research has not clearly proven significant immune system differences in chickens housed outdoors versus indoors. And Badger speculates that lower density of animals, air movement and less sharing of equipment and staff in pasture-raised operations may contribute to a lack of virus infections.

He said the decision whether to bring hens inside to wait out the annual migration of wild waterfowl is a farm-to-farm decision “based on

the comfort level with the risk acceptance.”

Commercial outdoor flocks make up only a small percentage of U.S. egg production. About 6 million hens, or 2 percent of national flock, are free-range and about 4.2 million hens, or 1.3% of U.S. egg production, are from pasture-raised chickens.

Chickens are categorized as free-range or pasture-raised primarily by the amount of time they spend out-

Continued on page 7

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SCHOOL

Moorefield High School Band Students Participate in the 2022 Shepherd University Honor Band and Region IX Honor Band



Four Moorefield High School band students participated in the 2022 Shepherd University Honor Band in Shepherdstown Jan. 14 through 16, 2022. Students participating were Cameron Lumia, Dominic Lumia, Grant Sherman, and Carson Whetzel.

Five Moorefield High School band students

were selected to participate in the 2022 Region IX Honor Band at Martinsburg High School Jan. 28 and 29, 2022. Students participating were Sicily Dunn, Lindsey Hose, Kevin Molen, Sarah Weatherholt, and Melody Yokum.

Students were nominated by their band director and were selected for their exceptional

musical ability and leadership qualities. Honor Bands such as these are some of the best instrumental music experiences that our state has to offer. It is truly a privilege and an honor to participate.

The conductors of the Honor Bands this year were Dr. Mark McCoy (Shepherd University

Honor Band) and Dr. Cheldon Williams (Region IX Honor Band). Dr. McCoy is a former President of DePauw University in Greencastle, Ind., and former chair of the Department of Music at Shepherd University. Dr. Williams is currently the Associate Director of Bands and Director of Athletic Bands at West Virginia

Congratulations to these students for being outstanding representatives of Moorefield High School and our community!



Moorefield Elementary celebrates students



Moorefield Elementary February Students of the Month are TSION YILMA AUSTIN KLAR and DAMON CRITES

\$1000 Donation given to Eastern's Foundation



Regina Hamm, CPA, located in Cumberland, Md., recently made a \$1,000 unrestricted scholarship donation to the Eastern West Virginia Community and Technical College Foundation to support an annual scholarship for students attending the community college, which is located in Moorefield, W.Va. Pictured are Dr. Tom Striplin (left), Eastern's president, and Becca Gordan (right), accountant for Regina Hamm, CPA.

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CONFIDENCE-COMMITMENT-COMPASSION-CLOSE TO HOME!

WVCBP Now Accepting Applications for 2022 Virtual Summer Policy Institute

The Summer Policy Institute (SPI) is an annual convening hosted by the WVCBP and the American Friends Service Committee that brings together highly qualified traditional and non-traditional undergraduate students, graduate students, and policy-curious people of all ages to build policy knowledge, leadership skills, and networks.

Attendees participate in interactive sessions where they learn the basics of data, policy, and state government and build their organizing and advocacy skills. Throughout the institute,

participants work in small groups to identify and develop policy proposals to shape the future they want to see in West Virginia, culminating in team "policy pitches" to state legislators and policy professionals. Many SPI attendees have gone on to continue advocating for their policy idea and to hold internships with West Virginia non-profits and in state government.

This year's SPI theme is "Growing a West Virginia that Works for Everyone."

Due to ongoing public health con-

siderations, SPI 2022 will take place virtually via Zoom from July 28 to July 30. For more info, visit <https://wvpolicy.org>. There is no cost to attend. Please don't hesitate to reach out to our team at summerpolicyinstitute@gmail.com with any questions.

We will be accepting applications through May 1. People of all ages are welcome to apply, so please feel free to share with any folks you think may be interested.

WVSOM camp for high school students will focus on pharmacology

In a year when the West Virginia School of Osteopathic Medicine (WVSOM) is observing the 50th anniversary of its founding, one of the school's most beloved outreach programs is also celebrating a milestone. WVSOM's Just Say KNOW educational camp is now in its 10th year.

Just Say KNOW was established in 2013 and is designed to introduce ninth- through 12th-graders and recent high school graduates to science- and medicine-related concepts. The event has had different focuses during its history, such as Just Say KNOW to Anatomy and Just Say KNOW to Neuroscience — but the 2022 camp will return to its initial theme of Just Say KNOW to Drugs, with participants learning about pharmacology.

Crystal Boudreaux, Ph.D., a WVSOM biomedical sciences faculty member who serves as director of Just Say KNOW, said pharmacology — the branch of medicine centered on how medications interact with the body — represents an essential part of learning about health care.

"In celebration of the program's 10th anniversary, we wanted to bring it back to how it was originally conceived," Boudreaux said. "Pharmacology integrates several scientific

disciplines, and discovering how those disciplines work together aids in the understanding of positive treatment goals."

Just Say KNOW is built on hands-on activities and games in addition to brief lectures, discussions and quiz-based learning. This year's activities will also include osteopathic manipulative treatment demonstrations and a tour of WVSOM's Fredric W. Smith Science Building.

Boudreaux said the program is designed to nurture an interest in health care among young people. Past camps have drawn virtual participants from as far away as Colorado, along with on-campus participants from Greenbrier County and other areas of West Virginia.

"Just Say KNOW showcases WVSOM and osteopathic medicine to high school students who are already thinking about their career paths. With this year's camp presented as a hybrid learning experience, we hope to again have campers from across the U.S. as well as in person," she said.

Karen Wines, a biomedical sciences faculty member who co-directs the program, explained that the camp is taught by WVSOM students with assistance from undergraduate in-

terns.

"The student interns are a vital component of the program's success. While the theme and curricula are overseen by faculty advisors, the content is developed and delivered by medical students," Wines said. "Having WVSOM students and undergraduate interns present content provides a more relatable and engaging experience for participants."

On-campus registration is limited to 20 students, and those attending in person must wear face masks. Virtual attendees will need an internet connection to participate and will receive a Webex link about one week before the program begins.

Just Say KNOW to Drugs is sponsored by the WVSOM Rural Health Initiative and the WVSOM Foundation.

The camp will take place 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., June 13-17, and can be attended virtually or in person on the WVSOM campus in Lewisburg. Students must register by submitting a brief essay about their interest in the program along with a teacher recommendation. The materials should be submitted to cboudreaux@oste.wv-som.edu by May 15.

COMMUNITY

Martinez crowned Miss Moorefield 2022



Photos by Sweet Lemon Photography

On March 19, the Miss Moorefield Pageant was held in the high school auditorium.

Guest MC was former Moorefield High School graduate Aaron Michael, assisted by Miss Moorefield 2021, Alexandria Wyman.

Coraymalis Martinez was crowned Miss Moorefield 2022. She was also Miss Photogenic.

The queen's court are as follows: First runner-up, Keyra Fisher (also voted People's Choice); Second runner-up, Allissa Biser; Third runner-

up, Chloé Weikle; and Fourth runner-up, Jadelyn Hinger.

Miss Congeniality was Madalynn Clayton.

The Junior Class would like to extend appreciation to all who helped make the pageant a success!



Yurcaba honors heritage, presents about Ukraine

On April 9, 2022, Hardy County resident Professor Nicole A. Yurcaba gave a presentation about the current war in Ukraine at the Bridgewater Retirement Community in Bridgewater, Va.

Yurcaba presented to an audience of 73 residents. During her presentation, Nicole shared several of the poems she has written in response to Russia's invasion of Ukraine. She discussed the war from the perspective of a member of the Ukrainian diaspora who has family currently fighting in the war.

She also provided residents with insights about humanitarian aid and military supply efforts by other countries, including the response of NATO, the US, and the EU. Nicole concluded the presentation by sharing information about the various organizations to which people can donate in order to support the Ukrainian military and Ukrainian refugees.

A Ukrainian-American of Lemko origin, Nicole focuses her research on the indigenous tribes of Western Ukraine, specifically the Lemko and Hutsuls. She is an internationally respected book reviewer for the US-Irish journal Sage Cigarettes and the



US-based journals Colorado Review, Southern Review of Books, and Tupelo Quarterly.

In collaboration with the Polish-Ukrainian journalist Ian Kurtz White, she writes a column focused on the latest music releases on vinyl from the Eastern European and European music scenes for Ecoustics. Yurcaba teaches poetry at Southern New Hampshire University.

Living the dream

By Connie Sherman
Special to the Examiner

Moorefield native Aaron Michael Steach has certainly come a long way from learning to cut a pattern on the floor of his friend's basement. I sat down with Aaron while he was in town for a rare visit with family and friends and to serve as the Master of Ceremonies for this year's Miss Moorefield pageant.

Aaron, who recently finished sixth out of 16 designers, competed in Season 19 on Bravo's popular television reality series Project Runway where contestants compete in challenges to create clothes based on a theme. Contestants are given a budget for materials, and are limited on time to design, create and sew a complete look for their model, which is then judged by a celebrity panel following each week's runway show. Each week a contestant is eliminated until only a few contestants remain. Aaron finished in the top three designers on six episodes (more than any other designer) this season and was eliminated the first time he finished in the bottom three.

His designs received rave reviews from some of the biggest names in today's world of fashion.

"I surprised myself. I did better than I expected. I did better than most expected," Aaron told Christian Siriano, the Project Runway mentor.

Throughout the journey, Aaron stayed true to himself, remaining positive and upbeat while adding a light touch of humor. He was considered to be this season's fan favorite contestant.

"If I goof up, I goof up. I think when you can own your mess, you quickly learn how to clean it up if it happens again," Aaron said, referring to the design for which he was eliminated from the show just after celebrating his 40th birthday with fellow designers.

Aaron was raised by his grandparents, the late Lyle and Grace Steach of Moorefield. He credits a high school experience for the beginning of his love of design and fashion. Aaron learned how to properly use a sewing machine during high school and used this as the foundation on which he started his early career in fashion. Following a brief time in college, Aaron ended up in Morgantown where he created his own costumes and outfits for drag queen pageants because, "buying them was too expensive, and Amazon and Ebay were not around at that time."

In a short period of time, he was creating outfits for countless others.

Aaron relocated to Jackson, Missis-



sippi so he could be closer to his sister and his nephews, and worked as a hotel manager. It was at that time that he received calls from contestants from RuPaul's Drag Race, and he found his way back behind a sewing machine.

Aaron auditioned for Season 18 of Project Runway, but wasn't chosen as a contestant; little did he know his fashion career was about to take off anyway. He received an invitation to showcase at New Orleans Fashion Week, and his little white dress was a hit! Following his success in New Orleans, Aaron contemplated auditioning for Project Runway Season 19. On the last day before the deadline he submitted his application at 4:41 pm and at 4:49 pm he got the call that he had been chosen for an interview.

Then came the pandemic, and taping of the show was suspended. It was close to a year later that the extensive interview process, which included a psychiatric evaluation, began with the show's producers and Bravo network representatives.

Aaron shared with me the funny story of how he was in a doctor's office when he received the call that he was chosen as a contestant for the show, so his nurse was the first person to hear the good news.

Aaron's exposure from being on the show has been life changing, and has provided him with many opportunities to advance his career. He made a friend and client in Gizelle Bryant from "The Real Housewives of Potomac" while working with her through a show challenge, and his working relationship with her continues.

His primary focus now is on creating his own brand. He will go to market in a few weeks with a bridal line that focuses on high end lace and silk fabrics, a pageant/social line and angora/cashmere cardigans.

Aaron said it best when he says of his experience on Project Runway, "How many people get to grow up and live their dream, and I got to do that." I have no doubt that we will be seeing his designs in the future and I look forward to following his career.

River life: Along the Cacapon at Stoney Creek Store in Largent

By Peter Wood
Friends of the Cacapon

First in a 6-part series appearing every 2 months about the people along the Cacapon/Lost River and their love for the river.

"That's some mighty big chickens that you have there," declared some campers at the Stoney Creek Store campground when a few domesticated turkeys wandered into their campsite.

Natalia and Andrey own and run the Stoney Creek Store along the Cacapon River and the adjoining campground. With the campers, "You get a lot of stories, wild stories."

"People come here for the river," Andrey answered when asked about the success of the store and campground in Largent. Natalia and Andrey purchased the store in 2014 so they could move full-time to their cabin along the river and raise their daughter Uliana in the country.

The store really helped them get to know the community. "We would not have met as many people without the store," they say. Natalia also works with local artists to display and sell their products.

Natalia, Andrey and their daughter are just one of the many families that live, work and play along the Cacapon River, a scenic 81-mile-long river crossing through Hardy, Hampshire and Morgan counties.

The river meanders through farmland, mountains and flood plains, tying together the people — from business owners, farmers and lifelong residents to paddlers, fishermen and naturalists.

"I wish more people knew it as a recreational river," Andrey said, highlighting the abundant fishing, boating, wildlife and scenery of the Cacapon River. Of course, domesticated turkeys are not the usual animal sightings at the campground right next to the clear waters of the Cacapon River.

Natalia chimed in, "You can see the river animals here. We have seen an otter family, duck families and beavers right there."

After fishing, tubing and swimming all day, campers at the Stoney Creek Store campground can fall asleep to the peaceful sounds of the Cacapon River. From kayaking to kids catching crayfish, visitors enjoy the river life along the 800 feet of Cacapon River shoreline. (Campers can book the sites online through hipcamp.com.)

Andrey also hosts tubing trips where folks put in upriver and end back at the Stoney Creek Store. There they can grab a meal or pick up snacks, fixings for s'mores or their favorite beverage.

"They don't have to travel far for recreational drinks," Andrey said with a grin glancing at the beer cooler. And when the locals pop into the store, every transaction is a conversation — about their grandchildren's visit or a gentle reminder that "you need to wear your hearing aid."

Located in the northern end of the Cacapon River watershed just at the edge of Morgan County, Stoney Creek Store sits along Route 9 between Paw Paw and Berkeley Springs, where Stoney Creek meets the Cacapon River.

In fact, the creek runs under the floorboards of the store. Stepping on the porch you can hear Stoney Creek splashing its way to the Cacapon River. It is a good place to enjoy the river life.



Andrey, Natalia and their daughter, Uliana, outside their Stoney Creek Store in Largent.

It is clear Andrey and Natalia came here for the river and stayed for the people.

Peter Wood is a board member of the Friends of the Cacapon River with a mission to preserve, protect, and promote the environmental health and scenic character of the Cacapon River and its watershed.

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More scenes from Earth Day on the Farm Fest

Photos by Milda M. Mullins



On the left, Alyssa Rexroad (front), Hannah Pike (middle), and William Cowgill (back) help gather vegetables for Trish Thompson (right front) and Linda Gilbert (right back) who were shopping at the farm market stand on site. A variety of vegetables and greens were sold throughout the event.



Pete Hobbie set up a station where he demonstrated his craft of carving wooden spoons by hand. Hobbie was one of many vendors and artisans set up at the event who showcased a variety of goods from spoons and soap to jewelry and homemade drinks.



Byron Gaylord, the studio coordinator for Dakota Glassworks talks to a visitor, Gary Smucker, about his work and the studio classroom.



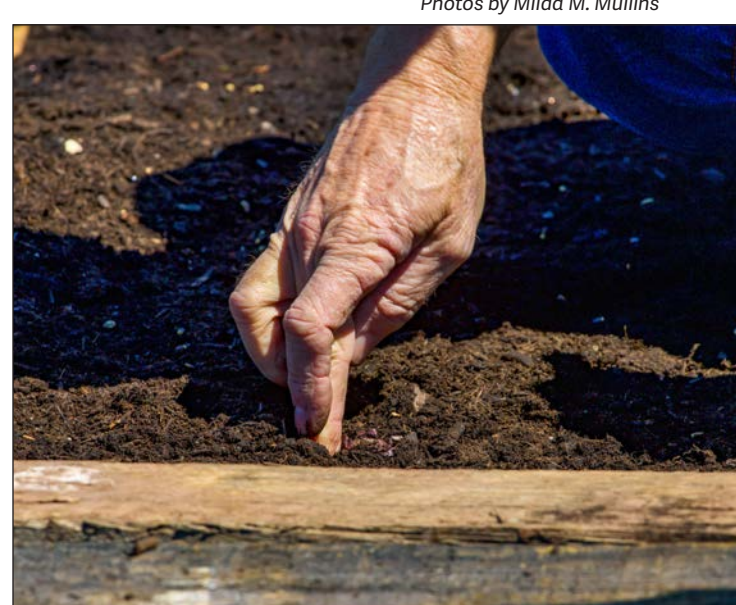
Alyssa Rexroad waters plants at the Garden Market's open market stand.



From left to right, Alexis Whitacre, Taylor Mowrey (behind), Emma Whitacre, and Claude Jones play a variety of string instruments in the old time circle.

Pollinator stations started at Eastern W.Va. Community and Technical College

Photos by Milda M. Mullins



~~~~~ Saving the bees ~~~~~

Eastern West Virginia Community and Technical College has begun planting pollinator beds to help native species that rely on flowers and other flora. Seeds for the flower beds were provided by West Virginia University Extension, and Eastern provided the soil and supplies to help erect the new stations. Pictured above, from left to right, are the participants: WVU Extension forestry agent Dave McGill, WVU Extension wildlife agent Sheldon Owen, volunteer Donna Barr, volunteer Harlan Barr, Eastern's Mass Bio Coordinator Maya Paul, and Jennifer Sunryder, also with Eastern. The group planted the seeds on Wednesday, April 20, on Eastern's campus.

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Yellow Jackets hurdle mistakes defeating East Hardy

By Carl Holcomb
Moorefield Examiner

The Yellow Jackets overcame early blunders trailing 5-1 by buzzing back with timely hits and capitalizing on miscues from East Hardy in rallying for an 8-5 Hardy Boys Hardball Classic victory at George Hott Field on Wednesday which avenged a previous collapse against the Cougars.

East Hardy commandeered a comeback for a 12-10 win in Baker, but this time around it was Moorefield's turn to flip the switch with the new lights on the field shining brilliantly in the win.

"We show a lot of pride in ourselves and made really good plays when we needed to tonight. In the fourth inning, we showed a really good refuse to lose mentality. We made good things happen," Moorefield coach Wade Armentrout commented.

"There's always going to be mistakes in a game and that's just life and you've got to learn to overcome things when things aren't going perfectly for you. It's how you respond to that. We take risks every time we are out there and making some type of mistake, but what is key is how you recover from it and don't dwell

on it. You don't need to think about the past. Everybody held their composure and had a good start from Karson [Reed] and [Michael] Cost has done a fantastic job in every role for us. He threw a lot of strikes. We got a lot of hits when we needed them and built on that and good things happened."

Moorefield senior pitcher Karson Reed got his first start of the season on the mound and tossed five strikeouts in two and a third innings and allowed three hits, but blunders enabled some Cougars runs.

Reed issued a game opening free pass to East Hardy leadoff batter

Noah Sager, then struck out Brandon Jones.

East Hardy's Dawson Price connected for a single into left field and Reed countered with a strikeout to Levi Mongold.

Gabe Henderson launched the ball into right field where the ball was dropped allowing Sager to score and advanced to second base on the sequence as the Cougars took a 1-nil edge with Price holding up at third base.

A wild pitch from Reed opened the door for Price to come home giving East Hardy a 2-0 lead, then Kollin



Moorefield's Karson Reed swings at a pitch from East Hardy's Nate Smith during the Hardy Boys Hardball Classic at George Hott Field.

Photo by Carl Holcomb

Continued on page 2B



East Hardy's Bryce Miller stretched for the catch before Frankfort's Emma LaRue arrived at first base during the Bub Riggleman Memorial Softball Tournament at Sager Field in Moorefield.



East Hardy catcher Emma Heishman had an expression of frustration observing the ball ricochet out of her glove during a diving attempt against Frankfort in the Bub Riggleman Tournament.

Photos by Carl Holcomb



East Hardy pitcher Gabby Miller prepared to throw the ball in the strike zone against the Falcons during the Bub Riggleman Memorial Softball Tournament in Moorefield.

Cougars clawed past Frankfort in Bub Riggleman opener

By Carl Holcomb
Moorefield Examiner

Frankfort took an initial 2-0 lead and the Cougars responded with eight runs in the first inning, then the Falcons rallied to tie the game before East Hardy unleashed a three-run blast by Gabby Miller en route to a 16-10 win in Bub Riggleman Memorial Softball Tournament on Friday

afternoon.

"I was pleased with the productive at bats and we were seeing the ball. Our game focus on the base path got us extra bases and plated runs when needed," East Hardy coach Kelly Heishman remarked.

"We had a few mental defensive errors in the game midway, but was able to get redemption for those as innings went on. We got to utilize

our pitching depth to help change the styles the opposition's hitter would see that benefited our club down the stretch."

East Hardy pitcher Gabby Miller allowed a leadoff single by Frankfort's Avery Noel and countered with a strikeout to LaRae Grove.

Frankfort's Adison Pritts hammered an RBI triple into right field for the initial lead, then Raley Nestor

smacked an RBI groundout with the throw back home not in time as the Falcons went up 2-0.

Miller fielded a bunt for the last out of the side.

East Hardy leadoff batter Autumn Crites crushed a double to the center field fence off Frankfort pitcher Leah White and advanced to third base on a groundout from Madison Heishman.

Emma Heishman ripped an RBI double to the left field fence as the Cougars cut the deficit to 2-1.

East Hardy tied the game as Miller notched an RBI single just past the dive of the shortstop.

Mackenzie Blair was issued a walk, then Addison Armentrout smashed an RBI double to give the Cougars a 3-2 edge.

The momentum continued as Tori

Pratt delivered a two-run producing double and scored on an error going for third base to make it 6-2.

East Hardy's Victoria Ames was hit by a pitch then Jace Thompson connected for an RBI double in left field to boost the lead to 7-2.

After a free pass to Crites, Frankfort sent in Aubrie Root to pitch and Madison Heishman hit into a field-

Continued on page 2B

Yellow Jackets survive marathon battle over North Marion

By Carl Holcomb
Moorefield Examiner

The Yellow Jackets buzzed ahead for a 6-2 lead, but North Marion rallied to tie the game before a three run blast by Sterling Kump helped stave off a comeback by the Huskies as Moorefield garnered a 14-12 victory in the Bub Riggleman Memorial Softball Tournament on Friday afternoon.

Bub Riggleman was instrumental in starting softball in the Moorefield

area and was a mentor to current Moorefield Softball coach Bridget Sions.

There were 13 teams participating in the Bub Riggleman Memorial Softball Tournament this season hosted by Moorefield: East Hardy, Tucker County, Hedgesville, Pendleton County, Frankfort, Greenbrier West, Independence, Washington, Berkeley Springs, Tyler Consolidated, North Marion and Musselman.

"After the season we had with snow and sleet, I kept checking the

forecast for this weekend. To have sunshine here today, it is just a great day to play softball and so nice to have all these teams here. All the coaches were thankful for the weather," Moorefield coach Bridget Sions stated.

"Bub [Riggleman] was one of my very first softball coaches. He brought softball into our area and his daughter was a really good friend of mine, so just to be able to do this for him is something very special to

Continued on page 3B



Moorefield pitcher Carlee Haines reached down to make a tag as North Marion's Jaylen Schell slid across home plate for a score during the Bub Riggleman Memorial Softball Tournament at Sager Field.

Photo by Carl Holcomb

Sibert hurls 11 K's ruining Moorefield senior night

By Carl Holcomb
Moorefield Examiner

It was a bittersweet game on Thursday at George Hott Field as Strasburg pitcher James Sibert fanned 11 Yellow Jackets during a 14-2 victory which crashed Moorefield's senior night ceremony.

Moorefield Baseball honored its eight seniors with special recognition: Matthew Delawder, Bryce Hines, Ryan McGregor, Coleman

Mongold, Karson Reed, Branson See, Garrett Strickler and Gavin Wolfe.

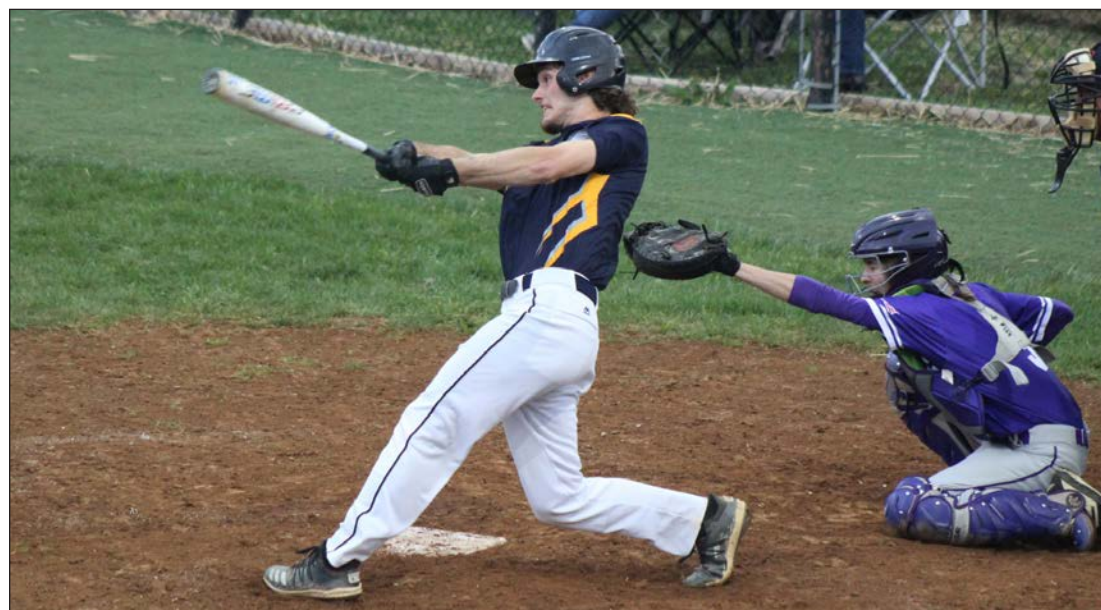
"One game never characterizes what those guys have done and what they have accomplished. They work hard and are a great group of guys and great teammates with each other. Those are the things they will take with them in life," Moorefield skipper Wade Armentrout stated.

"They do the little things behind the scenes that nobody might see in a

game. They come early to practice to help the young kids, throw extra batting practice to each other, those are the kind of things. They work hard and have great team camaraderie. We got behind in the count today and had to make defensive swings. It is always difficult when you get behind in the count. We just have to put the ball in play more, when it is earlier in the count."

It was a rocky start for the Yellow

Continued on page 3B



Moorefield Baseball senior Coleman Mongold hammers the ball for a single into center field against Strasburg at George Hott Field on Thursday.

Photo by Carl Holcomb

Moorefield Yellow Jackets rally to edge the Silver Knights

By Carl Holcomb
Moorefield Examiner

Tyler Consolidated lanced the Yellow Jackets with four runs, then Moorefield rallied to commandeer a 6-5 victory in the nightcap of the Bub Riggleman Memorial Softball Tournament on Friday.

"We came out and they got ahead early, but we didn't give up. We kept fighting every single inning and there

in the end we had a lot of good hits and good plays defensively and we came out on top. They had a very good day and I am proud of them, especially with four starters being out. Our starters returned for this game, but these girls can roll with whatever we throw at them. I am proud of them and they beat the heat, Moorefield coach Bridget Sions noted.

The Silver Knights commenced the game with the leadoff batter Leah

Loudin hitting a pop-up off Moorefield pitcher Emily Kuykendall and the ball fell in between three Yellow Jackets converging on it.

An error allowed Loudin to reach third base and scored on a sacrifice bunt by Hailey Sandy, giving the Tyler Consolidated a 1-0 lead.

Kuykendall issued a walk to Briann Templeton before striking out Braeden Wall and Heavner collected a groundout to retire the side.

Moorefield's McKenna Crites bunted for an out fielded by Tyler Consolidated catcher Shelby Thomas, then Sterling Kump flew out in center field.

Kuykendall was hit by a pitch from Silver Knight Braeden Wall and courtesy runner Hannah Snyder came in at first base.

Moorefield's Carlee Haines singled into left field, but both runners were stranded on a groundout by Ma-

lina Price.

Kuykendall started the second inning throwing strikeouts to Tyler Consolidated's Ashlee Spencer and Tanley McEldowney.

Lexus Rocchio singled for the Silver Knights into left field and advanced to second base on a throwing error, then Thomas hit an RBI single in center field for a 2-nil edge.

Loudin crushed an RBI triple and Sandy followed up with an RBI dou-

ble and was thrown out trying for a triple as Tyler Consolidated boosted the advantage to 4-0.

Moorefield's Daleny Crites executed a bunt single and Amber Williams reached base on a pop-up error.

Marissa Ward and Wachter hit into fielder's choice outs at third base.

The Yellow Jackets were going to be denied a score as McKenna Crites

Continued on page 2B

SPORTS

Moorefield defeats East Hardy

Continued from page 1B

Quarles grounded out.

East Hardy starting pitcher Nate Smith had a pitch hit into right field by Moorefield leadoff batter Karson Reed which was tracked down by A.J. Swisher.

Moorefield's Coleman Mongold reached base on an error and scored on an RBI double rocketed into left field by Tyson Arnold to cut the deficit in half, 2-1.

Smith gave Bryce Hines a walk to load the bases for the Yellow Jackets, then Alex Miller hit a pop-up causing an out on the infield fly rule.

Moorefield's Ryan McGregor hit into a fielder's choice out at third base to retire the side as the Cougars escaped further damage.

Smith reached base on an error in the top of the second inning for East Hardy, but was stranded on three consecutive strikeouts by Reed to Logan Sager, J.W. Teets and Noah Sager.

Moorefield's Adam Landes grounded out to Teets at second base, then Guyan Kahangirwe hit a pop-up caught by shortstop Dawson Price.

Gavin Wolfe drew a walk for the Yellow Jackets and managed to steal around to third base with the help of an error, but couldn't be brought home as Reed flew out.

Entering the third inning, the Cougars hopped on base with a double smashed by Jones and Price tapped

the ball up the middle for a single and stole second base before the bases were juiced on a walk to Levi Mongold.

Henderson hit into a fielder's choice out at home, then Quarles drew a walk to plate one run for a 3-1 lead.

The Yellow Jackets brought in southpaw Michael Cost to the pitching mound and he jammed Smith into a pop-up caught by first baseman Ryan McGregor.

East Hardy's Logan Sager smacked a two-run producing single into right field with the aid of an error putting the Cougars ahead 5-1.

Reed made a diving catch in left field to retire the side off the bat of Teets.

Moorefield's Coleman Mongold singled into left field for the initial baserunner, but was left on the pond as Arnold flew out and Smith induced back-to-back groundouts by Hines and Miller with Mongold reaching third base safely to deny a double play on the former.

After a flyout in the top of the fourth inning, East Hardy's Brandon Jones singled up the middle and Price garnered a single in center field and advanced to second base on the throw.

Both baserunners were stranded as Cost tossed a strikeout to Levi Mongold and induced a groundout by

Henderson.

McGregor reached base on an error for the Yellow Jackets and Landes belted the ball into right field as McGregor dashed to third base for runners on the corners.

Kahangirwe plated McGregor with the assistance of an error and Wolfe notched a sacrifice fly as Moorefield cut the deficit to 5-3.

The rally continued for the Yellow Jackets as Reed was issued a walk, then Coleman Mongold smashed a game-tying two-RBI triple into right field.

Arnold connected for an RBI single into left field with the help of an error giving Moorefield a 6-5 edge.

East Hardy's Noah Sager came to the pitching mound and recorded a flyout and strikeout to end the frame. "Just got to eliminate mistakes, thought we hit the ball well, just left too many people on the bases," East Hardy coach Tyler Mongold remarked.

Smith and Logan Sager delivered back-to-back singles with one out for the Cougars.

After a pop-out, Noah Sager drew a walk to load the bases before the baserunners were stranded on the pond as Cost induced a groundout from Price.

McGregor was issued a free pass and Landes reached base on the error for the first two Moorefield baserun-

ners aboard.

Kahangirwe hit an RBI groundout to extend the lead 7-5 before Sager countered with a strikeout to Wolfe.

Reed swatted an RBI single into center field as the Yellow Jackets went up 8-5.

After a stolen base, Coleman Mongold reached base on an error and the Cougars got out of the jam on a strikeout to Arnold.

Price flew out in left field to start the sixth inning for East Hardy, then Jordan Teets reached base on an error despite a kneeling stop by third baseman Bryce Hines.

Henderson hit into a fielder's choice and Cost struck out Quarles to quell a potential rally.

Sager put the Yellow Jackets down in order on two groundouts and a flyout.

Smith launched the ball into shallow center field where it was tracked down by second baseman Coleman Mongold for the initial out of the seventh inning.

Logan Sager's long ball was snatched by Wolfe in center field, then J.W. Teets reached base on an error.

The Cougars failed to score as Moorefield closed the game catching a fly ball by Noah Sager to seal the 8-5 win to even the series.

East Hardy claws past Frankfort

Continued from page 1B

er's choice out at third base.

East Hardy's Emma Heishman collected another score producing double to build an 8-2 advantage.

Root walked Miller, then Blair popped out to end the first inning with the bases loaded.

After a flyout, the Falcons got a baserunner on a walk given by Miller to White.

Carlee Kesner went down on strikes looking, then Miller walked Morgan Weimer.

Frankfort's Avery Noel garnered an RBI double to the center field fence to cut the deficit to 8-3, but Miller responded with a strikeout.

After two groundouts, Ames smashed an inside-the-park home run (triple) with the help of an error to give the Cougars a 9-3 lead.

Thompson poked in a single and Crites recorded another double, but the East Hardy runners were stranded on a flyout.

East Hardy pitcher Jessica Dove allowed a leadoff single by Pritts in the third inning which ricocheted off Thompson's glove at third base.

Dove issued a walk before notching a strikeout for the first out.

Root connected for an RBI single into center field as the Falcons made it 9-4.

An infield fly rule was in effect as the ball dropped between the infielders, then Dove walked Kesner.

The Cougars brought in Tori Pratt to pitch, then there was a timeout for the grounds crew to repair an issue in the pitching circle.

Weimer hit into a fielder's choice out at third base with the bases loaded.

After a groundout, East Hardy got on base on a sharp grounder by Miller which was saved on a dive at shortstop without time to make a play.

Blair reached base on an error before both runners were stranded on a groundout and pop-up.

Frankfort started the fourth inning with a walk given to Noel, then East Hardy catcher Emma Heishman had two remarkable diving plays nearly making a catch before Grove finally drilled the ball for a blooper into shallow left field.

Pritts delivered a two-run producing single for the Falcons and advanced to second base on the throw to make it 9-6.

The Cougars attempted to turn a double play with a groundout and toss to third base, but the ball was jarred loose.

A pickoff attempt developed into a Falcons run to cut the deficit to 9-7, moments after a strikeout, then East

Hardy retired the side on a ground-out. Ames singled past the diving third baseman and stole second base before being thrown out at third base on another steal attempt.

Thompson popped out and Crites grounded out to end the inning.

Beginning in the fifth inning, a walk was issued by Pratt to White prior to a single by Kesner.

Miller returned to the pitching circle and the Falcons scored twice on back-to-back RBI groundouts from Weimer and Noel to tie the contest at 9-all.

East Hardy's Madison Heishman singled into left field and Emma Heishman reached base on an error and advanced to second base on the play.

After a strikeout to Miller, the Cougars regained the lead 10-9 on a sacrifice fly from Blair before a flyout ended the frame by Jenna Combs.

Frankfort went down in order during the sixth inning as Miller jammed the first batter into a pop-out and collected a pair of strikeouts.

After a flyout, East Hardy loaded the bases as Ames was hit by a pitch prior to Thompson and Crites receiving walks.

A little frustration caused two runs to score on the bases loaded walk to Madison Heishman as the pitcher threw the ball down allowing a second run to cross the plate.

Frankfort sent White back in for pitching duties and East Hardy's Emma Heishman smacked an RBI single into left field.

East Hardy's Gabby Miller obliterated a three-run home run to create a 16-9 advantage.

Blair singled and was left on base on a pop-up and flyout.

Root doubled off Miller in the seventh inning for the Falcons, then Miller countered with a strikeout to White.

Kesner advanced Root on a groundout, then Root scored on a wild pitch to make it 16-10.

Frankfort's Weimer reached base on an error and Noel was issued an intentional walk before a fly ball was caught by Pratt to end the tournament opener as the Cougars sealed the 16-10 win.

The Cougars lost the second game of the tournament to Hedgesville 5-1.

East Hardy defeated North Marion 6-2 on Saturday morning during the second session of the Bub Riggelman Memorial Softball Tournament and finished the day with a 4-0 loss to Musselman.

East Hardy catcher Emma Heishman was selected to the Bub Riggelman All-Tournament Team.

Moorefield rallies to victory

Continued from page 1B

delivered an RBI double, then Kump smashed a two-run producing single and the throw home was late with the catcher making the punch out at second base with the lead chopped down to 4-3.

Moorefield's Amber Williams came in to pitch in the third inning and allowed a leadoff double by Templeton prior to inducing two groundouts.

Tyler Consolidated's Spencer recorded an RBI single past the dive of Crites for a 5-3 lead.

Kump caught a pop-up in foul territory to retire the side.

Kuykendall reached base with an error on a pop-up, then Haines flew out and Price hit into a double play.

Rocchio singled on a short grounder rolling towards second base in the top of the fourth inning, then advanced on a groundout.

Loudin made a bunt single and

Kump caught a line drive before a groundout retired the side.

Moorefield went down in order on two groundouts and a flyout.

Williams tossed a strikeout to begin the fifth inning, then allowed a single by Romana Rice prior to catches by Williams and Haines.

Breanna Green commenced the bottom half of the fifth inning for the Yellow Jackets with a walk and McKenna Crites singled into center field.

A sacrifice bunt by Kump advanced the runners, then Kuykendall plated one run on an error.

After a strikeout by Haines, Price sent the game-tying run home on another miscue and a strikeout ended the frame.

Williams induced two groundouts to start the sixth inning, then Tyler Consolidated's Loudin singled and was stranded on a flyout.

After a pop-out by Williams, Ward was issued a walk and Green flew out to left field.

Crites reached base on an error as the Yellow Jackets threatened.

Kump made the game-winning RBI single going up 6-5 and the last out was made on that play at third base.

Williams closed out the game for the Yellow Jackets for the win, putting the Silver Knights down in order on a groundout to Kuykendall, a line drive catch by Kump and a flyout to Daleny Crites to seal the 6-5 win at the Bub Riggelman Memorial Softball Tournament.

Moorefield defeated Pendleton County 10-4 on Saturday, then lost in the semifinals to eventual runner-up Hedgesville 13-2.

Washington won the Bub Riggelman Memorial Softball Tournament Championship with a 14-nil victory

in five innings over the Eagles.

The Yellow Jackets had three players named to the Bub Riggelman All-Tournament Team: McKenna Crites, Carlee Haines and Sterling Kump.

Joining the Moorefield trio on the 2022 Bub Riggelman All-Tournament Team were: Emma Heishman, East Hardy; Avery Townsend, Pendleton County; Allison Gray, Berkeley Springs; Braeden Wall, Tyler Consolidated; Avery Noel, Frankfort; Delany Buckland, Independence; Musselman's Sara Munsen and Addison Miller; Hedgesville's Brenna Collis, Shay Darlington, Laken Copenhagen and Faith Cooper; Washington's Chloe Constantino, Maddy Ruffner, Anna Sedlock and Gabby Bibb. The Bub Riggelman Tournament MVP was Washington catcher Cam Noland.

Correction: Pendleton County shortstop Avery Townsend was misidentified as Avery Thompson in the Moorefield Softball military veterans appreciation game story and photo caption in the Wednesday, April 13, edition of the Examiner. The Examiner regrets the mistake.

Advertisement for Capon Valley Bank and East Hardy High School. Includes school calendar for May 2022 with dates and events like exams, games, and graduations.

Advertisement for Summit Community Bank and Moorefield High School. Includes school calendar for May 2022 with dates and events like exams, games, and graduations.

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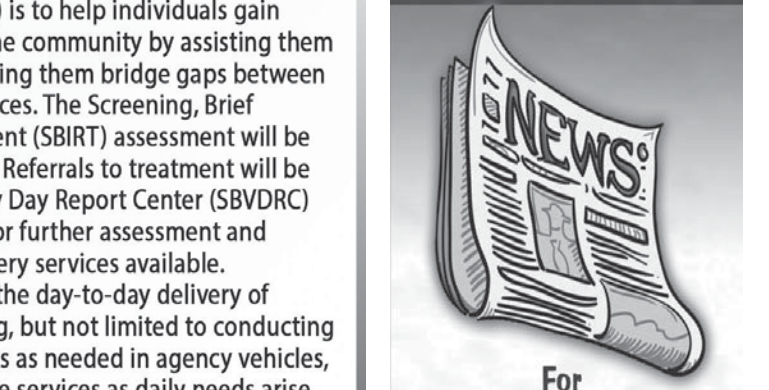


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PART-TIME
IMMEDIATE OPENINGS

The South Branch Valley Day Report Center is hiring 1 Intake/Recovery Assistant for each of its three offices (Romney, Moorefield, and Franklin). The primary function of the Intake /Recovery Assistant (I/RA) is to help individuals gain access to needed resources in the community by assisting them in overcoming barriers and helping them bridge gaps between their needs and available resources. The Screening, Brief Intervention, Referral to Treatment (SBIRT) assessment will be utilized for the intake purpose. Referrals to treatment will be delivered to South Branch Valley Day Report Center (SBVDR) Case Managers as appropriate for further assessment and delivery of any applicable recovery services available. Additionally, I/RA's will assist in the day-to-day delivery of services at the SBVDRC including, but not limited to conducting drug testing, transporting clients as needed in agency vehicles, and any supportive rehabilitative services as daily needs arise.

The applicant must have a High School Diploma or GED and have a valid driver's license. The hours will be part time only at 20 hours weekly 2pm to 6pm M-F (Subject to change as needs arise). No benefits or overtime will be paid for this position.

Send resumes to South Branch Valley Day Report Center, Darren Taylor, Executive Director, PO Box 844, Romney, WV 26757.

Darren E. Taylor
Executive Director
South Branch Valley Day Report Center
(304) 902-0029 Mobile
(304) 822-3009 Office

Advertising rates in this section: \$8.00 first 25 words and 20¢ per word each additional word. Blind ads double the above rates. Display state law. Only current paid-up accounts will be allowed to charge classified and/or display advertising. All others must be paid in advance. Political advertising must be paid in advance. The Moorefield Examiner assumes no financial responsibility for typographical errors in advertisements; only one corrected classified insertion can be printed at no charge, so immediate notification regarding incorrect classified advertisements is required. The Moorefield Examiner reserves the right to be an unlawful employment practice, unless based on bona fide occupational qualifications or except where based upon applicable security regulations established by the United States or the state of West Virginia for an employer or employment agency to print or circulate or cause to be printed or to use in any form or application for employment or to make an inquiry in connection with prospective employment, which expresses the following: Directly or indirectly any limitation, specifications or discrimination as to race, religious creed, color, national origin, ancestry, physical handicap, marital status, sex, age or any intent to make such limitation, specification or discrimination. Rentals and Real Estate: Notice: All real estate advertised herein is subject to the Federal Fair Housing Act, which makes it illegal to advertise "any preference, limitation, or discrimination because of race, color, religion, sex, disability, marital status, or national origin, or intention to make any such preference, limitation, or discrimination." We will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate which is in violation of the law. All persons are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised are available on an equal opportunity basis.



304-538-5356



208 S. Main St.
Moorefield, WV 26836



www.pilgrims.com



BROILERS

Contact

Duke Dunkle

304-703-7407

Larkin.Dunkle@pilgrims.com

BREEDERS

Contact

Craig Hannas

304-538-5352

Craig.Hannas@pilgrims.com

Pilgrim's Moorefield/Broadway Breeder Department is seeking additional housing for hatching egg production for our growing facility. Extended term contracts and new building incentives are available.



Upgrade incentives and new housing incentives available.



Fuel pay incentives of \$.05/sq ft paid year round.
All litter amendments and bug spray paid year round.



We have many opportunities to expand existing farms. Upgrades can be done within one year of transfer.