



LIVING | C1
**MOTHER-DAUGHTER
 COMPLETE 21 PUZZLES
 SINCE COVID-19 ONSET**



SPORTS | B1
**SHORTENED SEASON
 CREATES ODDITIES
 IN HIGH SCHOOL
 FOOTBALL SCHEDULES**

THE MONROE NEWS

Sunday, September 13, 2020

Since 1825 | Monroe, Mich. | monroenews.com | @monroenews | facebook.com/monroenews | \$2.50

Liedel added to Michigan's Fallen Heroes Memorial

By Paula Wethington
 pwethington@monroenews.com

Joseph Liedel, a Monroe Township Fire Captain who died Aug. 23, has received another special honor with the placing of his name at the Fallen Heroes Memorial in Oakland County.

That presentation took place Friday.

The delegation from Monroe County for the ceremony included Monroe Township Fire Chief Mark Cherney and Monroe Township Fire Capt. Dave Nadeau. Local friends Dave and Anne Noland also attended.

"It was really an awesome thing," Cherney said later.

"It was very, very neat. I am so glad that I went."

The master of ceremonies for the program was Frank Beckman from WJR News Talk 760 in Detroit; the guest speaker was Detroit Police Chief James Craig. Cherney led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Cherney said the department only recently learned about the memorial; and Liedel was among nine people added this year.

The Fallen Heroes Memorial is a privately funded project on the Oakland County Government Campus in Pontiac; and honors both police officers and firefighters who died in the line of duty in Michigan. The first piece of

this project was a statue dedicated in 2002 depicting both a police officer and a firefighter; a wall of names was added in 2005. The dedication ceremony for new names takes place each year on Sept. 11.

"It was awesome to be able to see his name on the wall," Nadeau said about his colleague.

Liedel, age 48, collapsed in his driveway as a result of a brain bleed on July 31. He was on his way to respond to an emergency call in Monroe Township. He was taken to ProMedica Toledo Hospital, and died later of complications to his medical condition

See LIEDEL, A6



Joseph Liedel's name has been added to the Michigan Fallen Heroes Memorial in Oakland County. [PHOTO COURTESY DAVID NADEAU]

MCCC seeking millage renewal



Monroe County Community College is seeking to renew its five-year maintenance and replacement millage for further safety, accessibility and efficiency upgrades to its campus. [MONROE NEWS FILE PHOTO]

By Caitlin Taylor
 ctaylor@monroenews.com

Monroe County Community College is seeking to renew its five-year maintenance and replacement millage for further safety, accessibility and efficiency upgrades to its campus.

The "Zero-increase Millage Renewal for Maintenance and Replacement" will go before voters during the Nov. 3 general election. If approved, it would renew the college's .85 mill levy for five years to implement Phase 2 of its planned infrastructure and facilities improvements at its main campus and the Whitman Center in Temperance.

"The projects covered by the Zero-increase Millage for Maintenance and Replacement fall into five categories: Updating the student services and learning environments, safety, accessibility, efficiency and deferred maintenance," officials explained.

In 2016, Monroe County voters passed MCCC's 5-Year Maintenance and Improvement Millage, allowing the college to implement Phase 1 of its plan to meet critical facility and technology needs.

By renewing, the levy would not be a new tax. If approved, the college would continue to collect .85 mills - \$0.85 per \$1,000 of taxable value - through 2025.

For a \$100,000 home, the cost would be less than about \$4 per month.

Should the proposal pass, MCCC aims to renovate collaboration spaces, classrooms, labs, offices, dining areas and other commonly-used spaces. It also plans to enhance safety and security across campus, including creating a door access control system and installing fire suppression equipment.

Another goal, officials explained, is to ensure all facilities are accessible to

See RENEWAL, A6

Remember when...



The LaSalle Dreamland Gardens, circa 1937. Was about one-quarter mile south of Yargerville Road It actually had an early motel attached to it. [PHOTOS COURTESY THE MICHAEL HUGGINS COLLECTION]

Roller rinks brought Stevie Wonder, The Supremes, Neil Diamond and others to Monroe County

By Dave Eby
 Special to The Monroe News

Roller skating was invented in Belgium in 1735 and has long been a popular pastime among residents in Monroe County. Quite a number of roller skating rinks have come and gone around the county over the last 100-plus years.

The earliest known rinks locally existed at the Monroe Piers in Monroe and at the Toledo Beach Amusement Park in LaSalle. Both were circa 1910. There was an outdoor roller rink at Toledo Beach in later years that was made of concrete and used only in the summer months. It was advertised as the world's largest outdoor rink. Some rinks started out as dance halls then became roller rinks, and others started out as roller rinks and became dance halls. Some were both simultaneously. One started as a roller rink then became a country market.



The Floral City Roller Rink in 1950 in LaSalle. This became "The Club" in the 1960s, a teen dance club.

The only one that currently exists in the county and is in operation is Dixie Skateland in Newport. It was created by Chester and Gladys Berns in 1958 and is still owned and operated by the Berns family. The Dixie used to also have sock hop dances in the 1950s and 60s and they brought in up-and-coming

music talents. The list of who played there included singers such as Bobbie Vinton, Stevie Wonder, Brenda Lee, The Supremes, The American Beetles, Neil Diamond and Fabian who jammed the floor with dancers. Another earlier rink once existed in

See ROLLER, A3

OBITUARIES | A7-A8

- Janice Irene Bruck, 63, of Monroe
- Viola Eleanor Condron, 91, of Monroe
- Racheal J. Friar, 91, of Newport
- William Edward Houser, 68, of Ida
- Christine Darnell Keck, 79, of Monroe
- Juanita Elizabeth Knapp, 95, of Ida
- Judith Ann Soleau, 77, of Monroe
- Sister Margaret Sweeney, 80, of Canton
- Nora L. Wilson, 70, of Carleton

