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THE MONROE NEWS

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Health department open during renovation



The Monroe County Health Department, 2353 South Custer Road in Monroe, will remain open during a seven-month construction project that began this week. TOM HAWLEY/MONROE NEWS

Dental care practice accepting new patients

Suzanne Nolan Wisler
The Monroe News
USA TODAY NETWORK

MONROE, MI — A seven-month, \$2.4 million renovation project has begun at the Monroe County Health Department, 2353 South Custer Road in Monroe.

All health department services will continue to be available during construction, including Dr. Tuka Sada's Monroe Pediatric Dental Care, which just opened inside the building and is accepting new patients.

"Preparation for the construction began on July 9, with construction expected to begin July 14," said Jamie Dean, health officer/director of the Monroe County Health Department.

Work will be done on several spaces inside the building and on building systems.

"The focus of the project is to enhance code

See RENOVATION, Page 3A



Hope Chinchak started The Wandering Librarian Bookstore, a mobile store that will debut July 18 at The VinMod Venue's vendor show during the Downtown Monroe Wine Crawl. Chinchak is holding a book of stories, letters and poems by Edgar Allen Poe. "It was my great-great-grandfather's. He passed it to my grandpa, who then passed it to my mom and now I have it," Chinchak said.

PROVIDED BY HOPE CHINCHAK

Mobile bookstore debuts at wine crawl

The Wandering Librarian making multiple stops

Suzanne Nolan Wisler
The Monroe News
USA TODAY NETWORK

LaSALLE, MI — Hope Chinchak wants to bring books directly to readers.

So she just started The Wandering Librarian Bookstore, a mobile bookstore. Its first official stop is at July 18's Downtown Monroe Wine Crawl. Chinchak will set up her book display from 5-8 p.m. at The VinMod Venue, 12 S. Monroe St.

The Wandering Librarian Bookstore also has a couple more stops this month, including July 26's Glimmer Gala: A Fae Celebration at Green Witch Gardens, 8930 S. Custer Road in Monroe.

"I'm so excited to see how everything goes and

See BOOKSTORE, Page 8A

Rogue petunia draws visitors

'The Ida Petunia' sprouts on a sidewalk on Lewis Avenue

Suzanne Nolan Wisler
The Monroe News
USA TODAY NETWORK

IDA, MI — The Ida Petunia showed up on Wednesday, July 9.

A single pinkish/purplish petunia sprung up in a sidewalk crack near The Hair Shop and Pressed Rose in the 2800 block of Lewis Avenue.

"I came to work on Wednesday. Amy (Szott), the barber, was sitting out there and said, 'Look at that petunia.' I just fell in love with it and said, 'This is the Ida Petunia.' We're having a lot of fun with it," said Amanda Sharp, owner of the gift shop Pressed Rose.

The petunia is just a couple inches tall.

"It's very little. That's what makes it even more special," Sharp said. "There's a new bud coming on it, so that could mean extra life. The petunia is a pink that almost looks purple. It honestly kind of changes,

See PETUNIA, Page 2A



A single petunia grew through a sidewalk crack in Ida. Business owner Amanda Sharp named it the Ida Petunia. Since Wednesday, many have stopped by to see the flower and some have left items for a display. PROVIDED BY AMANDA SHARP

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