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SPORTS, 1B

THE MONROE NEWS

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Members of the BridgePoint Church Youth Group are shown in front of the new location for Heartbeat of Monroe. The youth group recently volunteered at Heartbeat and provided donations. Heartbeat will hold a grand opening at the new space on July 17. PROVIDED BY HEARTBEAT OF MONROE

Meet the Heartbeat of Monroe

You can tour Heartbeat's new space, learn about offerings on July 17

Suzanne Nolan Wisler

The Monroe News
USA TODAY NETWORK

Heartbeat of Monroe is in its new building and is back offering more services.

"We added two new classes taught

in-house: breastfeeding and labor and delivery," said Margaret Horvath, executive director of Heartbeat of Monroe. "We've increased our ultrasounds to another day a week. They are now offered twice a week."

Heartbeat of Monroe, which opened in 1973, is a "Christ-centered, life-affirming, non-profit pregnancy care and resource center," according to its Facebook page. It offers free and confidential help to anyone pregnant or parenting.

On Friday, July 17, attendees can

learn about Heartbeat and tour its new building, 1120 W. Front St. in Monroe. A Monroe County Business Alliance ribbon-cutting and grand opening is set for 2-5 p.m. Refreshments will be served. Horvath said there also will be speakers and people can ask questions.

"We are very blessed to be in (the new building). It's really working out very well for us. We would just like

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HomeBuys coming to Monroe

Lisa Vidaurri Bowling

The Monroe News
USA TODAY NETWORK

It's official. Discount retailer HomeBuys is coming to Monroe.

"We are taking over the former Big Lots at 1575 N. Telegraph Road in Frenchtown Township," confirmed Bill Konves, HomeBuys marketing director in an email. "This is our second Michigan store, after the one in Southgate on Eureka Road."

"We are very excited to come into Monroe, Michigan under the HomeBuys banner," said Brady Churches, CEO and former Big Lots executive. "HomeBuys is different. We're the most unique store in America. We have a treasure hunt atmosphere where you never know what you're going to find. High-quality merchandise at very low

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Milan Mini-Con to return with games, artists, cosplay contests on July 18

Janis Reeser

The Monroe News
USA TODAY NETWORK

A pop culture festival featuring gaming, cosplay and local artists will take over downtown Milan on July 18.

The event, known as Milan Mini-Con, runs from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. and of-

fers activities for all ages, according to a community announcement. The gathering is organized by Adventure Ink in collaboration with Whimsical Sprites and transforms the downtown area into a fan-focused experience.

Admission costs \$10 per person, while children 10 and younger can enter for free.

Gaming demos, vendors and artist showcases planned

Attendees can explore a developer room where indie creators, students and educators will demonstrate original games and discuss the development

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