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## Monroe Knights of Columbus receives top honor for local councils

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Monroe Council 1266

in a written release

Monroe Council 1266, Knights of Columbus received the Star Council award, the international K of C's top honor for local councils for July 2022 through June 2023.

'The Star Council Award recognizes overall excellence in the areas of growing membership, promoting Knights of Columbus insurance benefits, sponsoring Catholic faith formation programs and volunteering time through service-oriented activities,' Monroe Council 1266 said in a written release.

This year, the local council donated funds for a mobile ultrasound class and for a motorhome to be used around large Michigan universities.

'We distributed over 325 coats for kids last fall and plan on doing this again this November,' Julian Rios, grand knight, said. 'We donated funds to seminarians who are studying at Sacred Heart Major Seminary in Detroit. This is so that they could make a journey to the Holy Land to walk the same path as Jesus. We distributed over 350 boxes of food on Christmas Eve to help those who were struggling in our community. We participated in helping at Holiday Camp, Special Olympics, Walk for Life and many other programs.'

Monroe Council 1266 had 16 new members join last year.

'With all the monetary donations from the Monroe community we are able to help others who are in need. The council appreciates and is always willing to help here in Monroe,' Rios said.

Knights of Columbus is open to men age 18 and older who are practicing Catholics in union with the Holy See.

For information on joining the Knights of Columbus contact any K of C member or Rios at gk1266@mikofc.org.

To learn more about Knights of Columbus, visit kofcmonroe1266.com.

Margaret Horvath, executive director of HeartBeat of Monroe, stands by an ultrasound machine purchased by Monroe Council 1266, Knights of Columbus. The council earned the Star Council distinction, the international K of C's highest honor. DEAN COUSINO/THE MONROE NEWS

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