

Gambka resigns from NOCFA Board again

■ Rose Township to appoint another board member to NOCFA board

By Sharon Stone

During the North Oakland Coun-

ty Fire Authority (NOCFA) Board of Directors meeting Monday, March 20, the board voted 3-0 to accept the resignation of Paul Gambka, the Rose Township treasurer. His resignation was ef-

fective March 20.

Gambka did not attend the NOCFA meeting and citizen-at-large Brad Stilwell was excused from the meeting. NOCFA Chair/Holly Township Supervisor

George Kullis read aloud Gambka's resignation letter.

The NOCFA Board is currently comprised of Kullis, Holly Township Clerk Karin Winchester, Rose

See **GAMBKA** on 8



Paul Gambka



Linden's 'Small Town Soldier' is prepping for his biggest fight

See story in Sports on page 10

Midweek Times

VOL. 30 NO. XII

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 23, 2023

\$1.00

Statewide tornado drill happens today

■ March 19-25 is Severe Weather Awareness Week

March 19-25 is Michigan's Severe Weather Awareness Week, and the Michigan State Police, Emergency Management and Homeland Security Division (MSP/EMHSD) is calling on residents to act by participating in a voluntary statewide tornado drill today Wednesday, March 22, at 1 p.m.

"We are approaching the anniversary of the deadly EF3 tornado that devastated the city of Gaylord last year," said Capt. Kevin Sweeney, deputy state director of Emergency Manage-

See **WEATHER** on 8



New columbariums installed at Oakwood Cemetery

Matthew Butts, owner of Fenton Memorials, helps center one of the new columbariums at Oakwood Cemetery in Fenton on Tuesday, March 21. The two new columbariums together have 96 spaces for cremains.

See story on page 5. Photo: Hannah Ball

Center of Hope has heat

■ Directors credit local HVAC company and other generous donors

By Sharon Stone

After going the entire winter with indoor temperatures of approximately 40 degrees, Dee Cramer, Inc., based in Holly, along with The Niles Foundation and other generous donors, made possible the installation of a new heating and cooling system at Fenton Center of Hope's main building.

Jennifer Strygulec, who directs the FCOH with her husband, Bob, said that all three heating units had failed and was causing their construction plans to come to a near standstill.

"Thanks to Dee Cramer, Inc. and some other generous donors,

See **HEAT** on 9



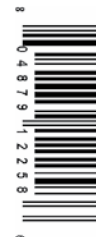
“Hey Linden, speak for yourself. I love our little library here in Fenton. It's a local branch we can all be proud of.”



“We like Broad Street in Holly just the way it is. Less traffic and more parking for locals, she said with a wink and a smile.”



“I am so happy we have Sheriff Chris Swanson, the Dan Campbell of law enforcement. Keep up the good work.”



Holly man sentenced over social media posts

■ Pled no contest to malicious use of a telecommunications service

By Sharon Stone

On Monday, March 20, Anthony Engelberg of Holly was sentenced to 24 months of probation and numerous other conditions in Oakland County 52-2 District Court.

In addition to the probation, the judge ordered community service, no use or possession of alcohol, random drug screening, counseling, no contact with the victim, no threatening behavior, no possession of firearms, and payment of fees and court fines.

During a pretrial on Jan. 13, Engelberg pleaded no contest to one count of malicious use of a telecommunications service. The charge was filed in April 2022.

Using multiple fictitious accounts, Engelberg made derogatory state-

ments to multiple people on social media websites regarding Rose and Holly township officials and North Oakland County Fire Authority (NOCFA) members.

On June 8, 2022, Engelberg emailed an apology letter to Holly Township Supervisor George Kullis, Michigan State Police Trooper Matthew Kalakay and NOCFA Chief Jeremy Lintz.

In documents obtained through a Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request to the MSP, in an email to Kalakay, Engelberg wrote, "Over the last couple of months, I was one of a number of people who used real and fake names on Facebook to say some outright hurtful and disgusting things. I admit it, I own it and I am ashamed of it. Some of the names I used were (redacted). I flat out 100 percent was wrong."

See **SENTENCED** on 9

Sunshine Week legislation introduced

■ To increase trust and transparency in Michigan government

State Sen. Jim Runestad announced during Sunshine Week a series of bills he is introducing to increase trust and transparency in Michigan government.

"I am proud to announce the creation of this legislation during Sunshine Week, which is observed March 12 through 18 this year and continues to call attention to the importance of integrity and openness in government," said Runestad (R-White Lake).

Senate Bill 222 would require "cooling-off" periods for lawmakers who wish to become lobbyists after serving their terms in the Legislature: Three years for former committee chairs and two years for all other former members.

"Most states require this kind of cooling-off period and Michigan should

join them," Runestad said. "For far too long, there has been a revolving door of Michigan legislators who go from serving one day to lobbying the next. This common practice is ethically concerning. Mandatory cooling-off periods would minimize conflicts of interest and promote integrity."

SB 221 would prohibit the spouses of currently serving legislators from being employed as a lobbyist or lobbyist agent.

Additionally, SBs 223 and 224 seek to increase public access to communications and documents from all state offices by expanding Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) and Legislative Open Records Act provisions regarding the governor, lieutenant governor, their staffs, and the Legislature.

"Michigan continues to be rated among the least transparent states in the entire country," Runestad said. "Our

See **SUNSHINE** on 6



State Sen. Jim Runestad

SATURDAY 7:00 PM

FAN APPRECIATION NIGHT

REGULAR SEASON FINALE

Dort Financial CENTER

Vietnam and Vietnam era veterans to be honored

■ Luncheon to be held at Holly American Legion Post on March 29

Wednesday, March 29 is National Vietnam Veterans Day. The Holly Area Veterans Resource Center will hold a luncheon in their honor at the Holly American Legion Post 149 starting at noon. Veterans and spouses are invited to the event.

Approximately 3.5 million Americans served in Vietnam from 1961 to 1975. More than nine million served in the U.S. military totally throughout that time and 58,382 names are etched on the black granite of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial in Washington, D. C.

These are the American service people who gave their lives in defense of freedom.

Of the 3.5 million who served in Vietnam, this number includes the more than 500,000 who served in the waters off Vietnam. Americans came home from the war to a divided country and were treated poorly by their fellow citizens. Once the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Wall was dedicated in 1982 and the Vietnam Veterans of America came into existence, attitudes began to change.

National Vietnam Veterans Day

Wednesday, March 29
Luncheon – 12 p.m.

Honoring all Vietnam and Vietnam era veterans

Luncheon will be held at the Holly American Legion Post 149, 408 S. Saginaw St. Holly

Veterans and spouses welcome
The luncheon is free for everyone

Speakers: Vietnam Veterans of America
Michigan State Council, Michigan Veterans Affairs Agency

There will be a Commemorative Pinning

Agent Orange, post traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) and the Prisoner of War/Missing in Action were main issues. Vietnam and Era veterans fought on every political front to get the government to give the benefits they earned.

Currently the number of POW/MIAs from Vietnam is 1,581.

The luncheon in Holly will honor all who served during that time frame. As Commemorative Partners of the 50th See **VETERANS** on 9



Vietnam veteran Dick Rossell (right) is comforted by Joe Mishler during a previous pinning ceremony.



Former State Sen. Dave Robertson pins a Vietnam commemorative pin on a Vietnam veteran at a 2016 event in Holly. Times file photos



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The Tri-County Times (USPS 018-092) is published weekly (with exceptions) by JAMS Media, LLC, 256 N. Fenway Drive, Fenton, Michigan 48430. Periodical postage paid at Fenton, Michigan 48430-2699 and other post offices. Subscription Rate: 55.00 per year. No non-member subscribers. Postmaster: Send address changes to Tri-County Times, 256 N. Fenway Drive, Fenton, Michigan 48430-2699. We reserve the right to accept or refuse any content and/or advertising submissions.



VIEW Newspaper Group

HOURS:

Monday-Friday:
Open by appointment
Saturday & Sunday
Closed

news@tctimes.com

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Sharin' the Spotlight

By Editor Sharon Stone

Since it's award season, I wanted to give thanks and praise to some very important people I work with who received some very important awards. Last week the Michigan Press Association announced winners of the 2022 MPA Better Newspaper Contest.

The Tri-County Times was among 89 newspapers in Michigan that submitted entries to the contest, which was judged by the Colorado Press Association. More than 2,854 individual entrees were submitted.

The Times always strives to provide as much news and information about the tri-county area as possible. With so many businesses having a high turnover of employees, I'm really proud that we have many longtime employees. I'm in my 19th year here in the editorial department, however, I also was in our composition department for three years from 1990-1993. With several of our employees being here for 20-plus years, we know this area like the back of our hands.

I won a few individual awards, which made me happy, but I wanted to recognize the dedication and hard

Grateful to be surrounded by talented and dedicated coworkers

work of my co-workers.

Our graphics department can turn any thought or design idea into a work of art. Having a graphic design background myself, I am in awe when I look at our finished ads and the layout of our paper. To top it off, they have to work quickly in order to meet every deadline.

We took second place for "Best Newspaper Design," led by Jennifer Ward, the Times' general manager and the absolute most creative graphic designer there is. Jennifer also propelled our Agriculture featured section to first place with her design.

In our sports department, Sports Editor David Troppens won first place for "Best Sports Column," called "Denny, you will be missed." Dave earned an "honorable mention" with his feature story on Denny Hopkins retiring. He won first place for a sports photo called, "Fenton's Patrick Hamilton," who plays on the varsity soccer team. Dave also won third place for his story on swimmer Gracie Olsen capturing her state championships.

In the editorial department, reporter



Sharon Stone

Hannah Ball won first place on her feature story called, "A barn full of memories." This story captured the essence of Barnfest at Stoney Acres, a musical festival each fall in Fenton Township. The barn is bursting with local memorabilia including unique business signs that the Schmelter family has

acquired over the years. Hannah won second place with her educational story called, "You're not dead until you're warm and dead." This story involved training the village of Holly Fire Department conducted last spring to practice a water rescue when ice is still present. Hannah won first place for her series of stories called, "Afghan refugee Sayne Gholami comes to Fenton." She also won third place for a series of stories on Dan and Arlene O'Rourke, the parents of slain officer Sgt. Patrick O'Rourke. For her photos, Hannah won second place for "Fenton mask protest draws a crowd, police respond to three-vehicle accident," and third place for "Fenton fire destroys speakeasy."

Our sales, graphics and editorial
See **SPOTLIGHT** on 6

Hotlines

Submit Hot lines online at tctimes.com
or text to 810-771-8398

All submissions, if approved for publication, must be 50 words or less and do not necessarily reflect the views of the Tri-County Times. We reserve the right to edit for clarity, length and liability.

REGARDING ARTICLE, 'FOOD waste to soil.' What issues with the city of Detroit involve a Burton business? Which is very good idea, long overdue.

■■■■
ANYONE WHO ABUSES a pet needs to suffer as much as the animal victim of that abuse.

■■■■
I AGREE WITH the idea that people kill people, not guns. In that case, shouldn't we stop evil people from having guns (background checks and the like)?

■■■■
WHAT ARE THEY going to do let the highway rot out over railroad tracks? I have called MDOT several times over the years. Still rust; no paint.

■■■■
STOP DRINKING THE Kool-Aid. Proper curation of school libraries to remove adult themed publications is not a book ban.

■■■■
PAYING SOMEONE MONEY to go away isn't a crime. Ask Bill Clinton. He paid a stripper \$850,000 to disappear before his governor's race.

■■■■

Compiled by Hannah Ball, staff reporter — Question asked to Tri-County Times' Facebook followers

What was your first job?



"I worked in the kitchen at Fenton Extended Care Center (now Fenton Healthcare Center) and answered phones for my dad's business, Jerry's Appliance Sales & Service, until he moved the business out of our house."

Vicki Peterson Hadfield, Fenton



"Moved to Michigan when I was 10. A lot of relatives managed and worked at Town & Country Bowling Alley. I started working in the nursery to watch the kids while parents bowled. I made \$1.10 an hr. Bought all my own school clothes."

Terri Dawson Jordan, Fenton



"Paper boy for the Fenton Independent."

Greg Elston
Fenton



"My first real paycheck job was at Player's Pizza on Torrey Rd when I was 15. Making pizza, playing video games, and seeing my friends every night. It didn't get better than that."

Nathan James
Fenton

street talk

New columbariums installed at Oakwood Cemetery

■ Pricing to be determined on new cremains spaces

By Hannah Ball

Fenton — Two new 11,000-pound columbariums were installed in the southeast area in Oakwood Cemetery on Tuesday, March 21 in Fenton.

Made of moonlight gray granite with stainless steel frames inside, the structures each contain 48 niche spaces for cremains. The columbariums are approximately 35 inches by 117 inches.

“I’m thrilled that we could get this done. I didn’t know where we were going to go if we hadn’t been able to get these two. We were just going to have to keep trying to do cremains in the graves,” said Doug Tebo, cemetery chairman. “There are a lot of people who prefer being buried above ground so that’s what this allows them to do.”

Fenton Memorials organized the installation and negotiated the deal with Coldspring Granite Co. in Minnesota, which is the same company that made the first columbarium in the cemetery approximately 20 years ago. They had

a large crane pick up the 11,000-pound columbariums and place them on concrete pads next to the first columbarium on Tuesday.

“This granite only comes from their quarry,” Tebo said. “We wanted to match. So now we’re going to have three that all match. They’re going to be there for years and years and years.”

Together, they cost approximately \$37,000. The city ordered the units 16 months ago. Tebo said if they had waited and ordered them a few months later, it would have been 10% more expensive.

“We were glad to get them ordered before the price increase,” he said.

They’re following the plan created by the Oakwood Cemetery Board in 2000. This also includes putting in a new concrete courtyard around the monuments, benches and new landscaping.

Tebo said more and more people are choosing to be cremated after they die, and the addition of 96 niche spaces will help meet that demand. The Michigan Association of Municipal Cemeteries



Photo: Hannah Ball

(MAMC) reported that by 2025, columbarium niches will be 63% of all burials in Michigan.

“We allow cremains in our grave spaces but a lot of people like to be buried up out of the ground,” he said. “Right now, cremation is about 60% of the burials in the state of Michigan. Genesee County is a little bit higher. We’re getting closer to 65%.”

Every space in the first columbarium is sold and claimed. Tebo said Fenton clerk’s office can take orders from people who would like to pay for a

space. They don’t yet know how much a space will cost.

“That’s something the board is going to talk about,” he said.

Matthew Butts, owner of Fenton Memorials, said the installation on Tuesday went “very easy.”

“It just gives those people who chose cremation a choice instead of a ground burial. Cremation gardens are prolific in all cemeteries. Everybody’s putting gardens up all over the place because they want people to use the cemetery,” Butts said.



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Road commission working to grade roads

■ Commission maintains 400 miles of dirt/gravel roads in Genesee County

By Hannah Ball

The warmer temperatures are a reprieve for those who frequently drive on dirt and/or gravel roads and encounter potholes.

Dirt and gravel roads are common in Michigan and the county. The Genesee County Road Commission is responsible for 1,600 miles of paved and unpaved roads. They're also under contract with the Michigan Department of Transportation for about 800 miles of their roads.

The GCRC currently has 15 graders to maintain the 400 miles of gravel roads in the county. They're taking advantage of the warmer weather to grade roads.

Kylie Dontje, communications coordinator with the GCRC said overcast weather is not good for grading. Roads should be dry so it does not become muddy when grading. The GCRC was able to

grade gravel roads earlier this week.

"Today's (Tuesday, March 21) sunshine should help dry roads out a bit but there is more rain in the forecast. Living in Michigan, you never know what the weather will do, but we will take advantage of the dry weather to grade," she said. "We thank drivers for their patience as we continue to get to all of the gravel roads in the county. There's no way of knowing how many they'll get through this week because it is so weather-dependent but we'll be out as weather permits," Dontje said.

Potholes, caused by rainwater and drainage issues, and certain weather conditions, such as rain, present challenges in grading dirt and gravel roads.

Before the weather warmed this week, the GCRC released this statement on Friday, March 16.

"The Genesee County Road Commission has received numerous calls from citizens requesting that their roads be graded.

See **ROADS** on 7



Mark McCabe

67th District Court

Ask the

judge

THE RIOT ACT OF 1714, MICHIGAN'S RIOT ACT, AND THE USE OF FORCE

There is an old saying when a person is upset with another person for engaging in improper behavior, that they "read the riot act" to the offender to make them stop.

This phrase actually has a legal history as it comes to us from England's "Riot Act of 1714."

The Act applied when 12 or more people were "unlawfully, riotously, and tumultuously assembled together."

When this occurred, a public official would read a portion of the Act to them to disperse. If they failed to obey within one hour, force could be used against them. If there was serious property damage, the penalty was death.

In more recent times, we know that riots still occur, some of which have been deadly and with major property damage.

All states have riot statutes.

Michigan's statute provides that an unlawful riot is when "five or more persons, acting in concert, to wrongfully engage in violent conduct and thereby intentionally or recklessly

cause or create a serious risk of causing public terror or alarm." Rioting is a 10-year felony.

Officers have the right, upon an order from a proper authority, to use means, including armed force, to disperse and suppress the riot and arrest those responsible.

As to the use of force, on March 16 the Michigan Court of Appeals released its opinion in *People v DeBondo* regarding the possible criminal liability of a police officer when using force at a riot.

The case arose out of allegations that Detroit Police Officer DeBondo criminally assaulted three photo journalists May 31, 2020 by firing rubber bullets at them at a protest they were covering following the murder of George Floyd.

The protest had been declared an unlawful assembly by the Detroit Police Chief and it was to be dispersed.

The question to be decided was did DeBondo have immunity or was it a trial defense in view of the statute's language that in taking action he "shall be held guiltless and fully justified in law?"

The answer was that it was a defense only and the case was sent to the District Court for further proceedings.

This was a case of first impression and means that each riot fact situation is to be examined individually and that everyone is to be treated equally.

SPOTLIGHT

Continued from Page 4

departments won second place with our "Welcome Summer" featured section. Graphic designer Lorie Gavulic won third place for her ad

design for Vic Canever Chevrolet and she won first place for her ad design for Hippo's restaurant.

I am so grateful to be surrounded by such talented and dedicated colleagues providing the best community paper for our valued readers.

SUNSHINE

Continued from Page 2

government must be open and accessible to Michiganders who provide their hard-earned tax dollars for its operation. It's beyond time for us to make better strides toward more transparency. I will continue to advocate for openness and accountability wherever I see a place in which we could do better."

In February, Runestad introduced SB 53, following the death of 5-year-old Ethan Belcher and the arrest of his parents, in order to give members of the Legislature and professional news organizations access to limited Child Protective Services case information under certain circumstances. It was referred to the Senate Committee on Oversight for further consideration and has not yet been given a hearing.



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- Science teacher at Holly High School

Why did you want to become a teacher?

When I was in college, I worked at Camp Copneconic in Fenton taking kids on trips. On

one of the trips, the campers were washing their breakfast dishes and I heard a scream. I ran over and the kids had found a large millipede and were scared of it. I picked it up and was able to teach the kids all about it. Watching them go from terrified to curious and amazed was an experience that I cherish and I'm glad I get to do that all the time teaching.


How do you motivate students?

I think the best way to motivate students is to get them involved in their learning. One of the ways I've seen the most success is by getting to know who my students are, what they like, and what they want to do when they graduate. I know not every one of my students is going to become a theoretical astrophysicist when they graduate but I hope they can still take the critical thinking and analytical skills that they learned with them.

Are you involved with any clubs/organizations?

I sponsor the Chess club and the Class of 2026 (this year's freshman). I also tutor after school for students needing extra help in science.



HOLLY AREA SCHOOLS
www.hask12.org

Fenton police plan golf outing fundraiser

■ Funds will benefit Shop With a Cop, other charitable efforts

By Hannah Ball

The Fenton Police Department is planning its inaugural Fenton Police Officers Association Charity Golf Outing for Monday, July 24.

The event will take place at The Majestic at Lake Walden at 9600 Crouse Road in Howell. Funds will go to the annual Shop With a Cop event and other police department charitable efforts.

"The purpose of this golf outing is to spread awareness of our Fenton Police Officers Association and the involvement we have with our great community. This charity golf outing will allow us to raise more funds to give back to our community and citizens of Fenton that are in need. With all of the events that happen in our community year round, the FPOA would like to have a bigger hand in engaging with the community and helping those in need," Officer Cole Hopkins said.

They're hoping to sell out and welcome a full roster of 36 teams and 144 players. Fenton officers will play in the outing. Hopkins said most of them play in numerous golf outings throughout the year.

Registration begins at 7 a.m. and shotgun begins at 9 a.m. There will be numerous competitions during the fundraiser, including closest to the pin contests, long drive holes for men's and women's and a hole-in-one contest for a big prize.

Attendees can expect breakfast and then 18 holes of golf. Lunch will be

provided on the course. There will be contests for closest to the pin/longest drive for men and women, hole in one contests, goodie bags, raffles and drink tickets. The event will also provide a BBQ dinner.

"Fundraising events like this really help the community to become more engaged with the first responders that serve the community. Great communication/partnerships with the community, business and citizens strive to make our city safe. Making the city of Fenton an enjoyable place to live and raise a family," he said.

The cost is \$100 per person or \$400 per foursome. Lunch and dinner costs \$35. RSVP by July 3 by contacting Officer Cole Hopkins at (810) 629-5311 or hopkinsc@fentonpolice.org.

Make checks payable to the Fenton Police Officers Association.


Sponsor levels:

Gold: \$300

Silver: \$200

Bronze: \$100

On Thursday, March 16, the Fenton Police Department announced the event.

The statement reads, "Our Police Officers Association is proud to announce their first golf outing fundraiser! This will help support our Shop With a Cop event and help local families in need. We need sponsors and we anticipate it will sell out quick so act fast if you're interested!"

DAY OF GIVING!

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 29TH

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810-820-6286

1053 North Irish Rd.
Davison, MI
810-652-6081

3409 Owen Rd.
Fenton, MI
810-208-7281

ROADS

Continued from Page 6

Unfortunately, dirt and gravel roads are too wet to grade. The soil is so heavily saturated that it would be like filling ruts or 'washboards' with mud. With more rain in the forecast, the ground will become wetter/muddier and less stable, which means any of the benefits of grading would be quickly diminished. Consequently, the Road Commission work crews cannot effectively grade roads until conditions dry out. Thank you for your patience."



Alive & Well Fenton offering wellness options

Alive & Well Fenton held a ribbon-cutting ceremony Monday, March 20 to celebrate opening at 202 W Shiawassee Ave., suite 110. They were joined by fellow members of the Fenton & Linden Regional Chamber of Commerce as well as family and friends. Owner Rachel Peabody, who's been a registered nurse for 15 years, offers IV hydration, vitamin infusions, vitamin injections and more. Appointments are preferred. Walk-ins are accepted from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., evenings by appointment only. Alive & Well Fenton offers packages and memberships. They've been in this location since September 2022 and remodeled the space to make it more functional for a medical setting. Peabody's supervising physician is Dr. Todd Britt. **Photo: Hannah Ball**

GAMBKA

Continued from Page 1

Township Clerk Debbie Miller and Stilwell of Rose Township.

NOCFA provides fire and EMS services equally to Rose and Holly townships.

This was not the first time Gambka has resigned from the NOCFA Board.

Gambka resigned April 14, 2022, from the NOCFA board, however, the Rose Township Board of Trustees reappointed him to the NOCFA board during a special meeting Tuesday, April 26, 2022.

During that same April 26, 2022 meeting, the Rose Township Board of Trustees also appointed Trustee

Glen Noble to the NOCFA board. Noble later submitted his resignation to the Rose Township Board of Trustees effective Dec. 15, 2022, which also removed him from the NOCFA Board.

Gambka and Rose Township Supervisor Dianne Scheib-Snyder were both the target of a failed recall effort in 2022. Petitioners did not gather enough valid signatures to get the recall on the November 2022 ballot.

The Rose Township Board of Trustees will now have to appoint another board member to the NOCFA Board. The Rose Township Board of Trustees is comprised of Scheib-Snyder, Gambka, Miller and trustees Agnes Miesch and Patricia Walls.

WEATHER

Continued from Page 1

ment and commander of the MSP/EMHSD. "It serves as an important reminder to take steps now to prepare and create a plan to protect your home, your family and your pets."

According to The National Weather Service, the state of Michigan averages 15 tornadoes each year.

"This drill gives people a chance to make a plan and put it to the test, so we are all better prepared when a disaster strikes," Sweeney said.

Businesses, organizations, families, and individuals are encouraged to engage in this statewide preparedness activity but are not required to do so. During the drill, residents will observe or hear alerts on TV and radio stations, as well as outdoor sirens in their community if the local emergency management agency is participating. Contact your local emergency management agency to learn how local alerts are administered in your community and if your community is participating.

The average lead time for tornadoes to develop is 10 to 15 minutes, which means residents need to be ready to react quickly when a warning is issued.

To be ready for a tornado:

- **Know the difference:** tornado watch means conditions exist for a tornado to develop; tornado warning means a tornado has been sighted or indicated

by weather radar.

- **Know the signs** of an approaching tornado: dark, often greenish sky; large hail; a large, dark low-lying cloud; and a loud roar, like a freight train.

- **Stay tuned to** commercial radio or television broadcasts for news on changing weather conditions or approaching storms.

- **Develop an emergency** preparedness kit with essential items such as a three-day water and food supply, a NOAA Weather Radio, important family documents, and items that satisfy unique family needs.

- **Identify a safe** place in your home for household members and pets to gather during a tornado.

- **Make sure everyone** understands the tornado warning system in your area.

- **Engage with your** local emergency manager to find out if they are participating.

For more information about being safe before, during, and after a tornado, follow the MSP/EMHSD on Twitter at @MichEMHS or go to michigan.gov/miready.

The MSP, Emergency Management and Homeland Security Division is responsible for coordinating state and federal resources to assist local government in response and relief activities in the event of an emergency or disaster, as well as coordinating homeland security initiatives and various federal grants.

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VETERANS

Continued from Page 3

Anniversary Commemoration of the Vietnam War, they will pin all those who have not yet been honored.

They also invite any veteran to help us celebrate this day.

The luncheon is free to all. There will be a short program, which will include pinnings if there are eligible veterans in attendance.

This is the first time that the National Vietnam Veterans Day has been cel-

ebrated locally. the program also will include speakers from Vietnam Veterans of America Michigan State Council and Michigan Veterans Affairs Agency.

The Holly Area Veterans Resource Center (HAVRC) is in the Karl Richter Center. The HAVRC is a 501(c) 3 and they serve all veterans.

The luncheon is being held at the Holly American Legion Post 149, at 408 S. Saginaw St, on the corner of Sherman Street. If you are going to attend, contact Joe Mishler at (248) 348-9960.

To all veterans, welcome home.

HEAT

Continued from Page 1

we're finally getting a brand new system installed," she said. "This is such a huge blessing and affects the lives of so many people who rely on the Food Pantry, Baby Closet, and many other services this building will host. Thank you!"

Matt Cramer, president of Dee Cramer, Inc., said his family has known the Strygulecs for some time and got involved when they learned that Center of Hope was struggling with completing their new location. He added that the new HVAC sys-



tem was an effort by several people and companies, as well as The Niles Foundation.

"Fenton Center of Hope is a great organization serving a huge need in this area," Cramer said. "As in the past, we're always willing to help out and step up to help organizations."

SENTENCED

Continued from Page 2

In the June 28, 2022, letter to Kullis, Lintz and Kalakay, Engelberg wrote, "My intention was to defend a friend, Diane (SIC) Scheib-Snyder against harassment and in doing so in the method I did, I engaged in exactly the kind of behavior that I was outraged about. Diane told me on repeated occasions that the Chief and his department were out to get her ... And while she did not direct me to do what I did, her numerous claims brought me to the point where I reacted the way I did. I have no words to express my regret because I know there were much better ways I could have and should have handled it. I should have asked her for proof of these claims and then contacted the Chief in a professional and dignified manner. Had I done so I might have had the opportunity to get both sides of the story. I know it. I understand it, and I apologize for not doing things that way."

Engelberg added that he was seeking counseling.

On June 10, 2022, Lintz emailed his NOCFA staff. He wrote, "As you may recall over the past three months there was a series of obvious fake Facebook profiles in which the person's comments were lewd, threatening and outright disgusting, and were all directed at NOCFA and even at individual staff. There were many profiles created such as "Henry Majewski" and "Tony Robert" just to name a couple.

"After seeing some of these comments, I contacted the State Police

and filed a report. Trooper Kalakay took the information I gave him and was able to get a warrant for Facebook. After some investigating, he was able to track down the individual responsible for these fake accounts.

"The individual's name is Tony Engelberg. After Mr. Engelberg was notified through Facebook that his fake accounts had been discovered, he turned himself in to the state police. He then requested a meeting with myself and Captain (Tim) Seal. We all met last week and discussed the matter. Mr. Engelberg was very apologetic and wanted to know what he could do to try and make things right. I suggested for starters that he write a letter of apology to the department. He agreed.

"The attached (June 8, 2022 email) document is an email that Mr. Engelberg sent to me explaining why he did what he did and apologizing for doing it. I will let each of you read it and come to your own conclusions. I will not try and suggest to you how you should feel after reading it, however I will ask those of you who after reading it feel that verbal retaliation is warranted, to please refrain from doing so on any public or social media platform. Let's remain professional. My personal view on it is that people do stupid things. Sometimes they do a lot of stupid things until they are caught. My hope is that Mr. Engelberg is sincerely sorry and will learn from this.

"I do not know as of yet what will happen from a legal aspect. It's still being investigated by MSP and they will ultimately determine the outcome."

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Tigers' future looks bright with returning players

By David Troppens

It was a heartbreaking way to end a season.

The Fenton varsity boys basketball team came within a loose ball, a converted bucket or a converted free throw of winning the program's first regional semifinal contest

since beating Marysville 67-56 in 1990 after losing a 69-68 double-overtime verdict against Clarkston on March 13.

But while it was a heartbreaking loss, the defeat also shows how much progress the Tigers' program has made in recent seasons. Before this season, the last time the

Tigers won a district title was in 2012. As recent as the 2018-19 season the Tigers lost double the contests the squad won (7-14), and in 2020-21 still finished the season with a losing record (6-9).

However, a shift started last season. The See **TIGERS'** on 12

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 22, 2023 | PAGE 10 | MYFENTON.COM/SPORTS

Fenton's
Ja'Hion Bond

Sports Times

Linden's 'Small Town Soldier' is prepping for his biggest fight

■ Spencer competes against Jesus Alejandro Ramos on pay per view this Saturday

By David Troppens

After defeating Kevin Salgado Zambrano by unanimous decision in his 10-round bout on Sept. 4, 2022 Linden's "Small Town Soldier" Joey Spencer knew he was ready to make a big step up in competition.

On Saturday, the rest of the world gets to see how prepared Linden's 16-0 super welterweight is in what is clearly Spencer's biggest fight to date.

Spencer will be fighting a super welterweight fight against another top prospect, Jesus Alejandro Ramos, as the co-feature event during a pay per view show at Las Vegas' MGM Grand. Both enter the fight with undefeated records. Ramos holds a 19-0 record with 15 knockouts.

"I was on my phone on the way home from my last fight and I was like, who should I fight for my next one," Spencer said during a recent PBC interview. "I went out and checked the rankings for different sanctioning bodies and I realized that Jesus Ramos was in the top five in the WBC, he was top five or top 10. ... (He was asked about me in a past interview and) he said he felt like he wanted a fight that would bring him close to the title and he thought I'd be more of a step backward, and when I saw that, I was just like (that's it)."

Spencer said Ramos was respectful

of him and at the time of the interview he really hadn't fought the level of fighters Ramos had, and understood his comments. However, after Spencer beat Zambrano, it was a fight he wanted, and apparently both wanted. The bout will be a rarity in the world of professional boxing, when two of the top young prospects fight before belt status is in question. Ramos, 21, is ranked 10th in the WBO rankings while Spencer isn't currently ranked in the top 15. However, a win against Ramos in their 10-round bout would probably change that dynamic.

"I couldn't be happier. It's surreal, coming from being young and dreaming about moments like this," Spencer said. Just to be the co-main on a card this big, is going to be ... a dream come true. I'm so thankful for just being able to be here. These are the moments that we looked forward to as a kid. They weren't guaranteed they would ever come, and that we'd ever make it to this point, so it's definitely nothing to take for granted the fact we are here not and that we are able to live this dream out now."

About Ramos

Both fighters are 22 years old, but Ramos has progressed a tad further in terms of quality of opponents to this

See **SPENCER** on 12



Linden's Joey Spencer's last professional boxing match was a 10-round victory against Kevin Salgado Zambrano. His next bout is his biggest professional fight to date when he faces Jesus Alejandro Ramos as a co-feature event during Showtime's pay per view production Saturday night.

Trappfotos/TGB

Final Tri-County Basketball Standings

Here are our standings for our first "Tri-County Conference champion" for boys and girls hoops. Congrats to the Fenton boys team, the Lake Fenton girls squad and the Lake Fenton combined program for their unofficial championships. Area boys teams faced off 11 times while the area girls squads competed against each other 10 times, or a combined 21 instances among all the programs.

Boys Standings

| Team | Rec | Pct. | GB |
|-------------|-----|------|-----|
| Fenton | 6-2 | .750 | --- |
| Lake Fenton | 2-1 | .667 | 1.5 |
| Holly | 3-2 | .600 | 2.0 |
| Linden | 0-6 | .000 | 5.0 |

Girls Standings

| Team | Rec | Pct. | GB |
|-------------|-----|-------|-----|
| Lake Fenton | 3-0 | 1.000 | --- |
| Linden | 5-2 | .714 | --- |
| Fenton | 2-4 | .333 | 2.5 |
| Holly | 0-4 | .000 | 3.5 |

Combined Varsity Standings

| Team | Rec | Pct. | GB |
|-------------|-----|------|-----|
| Lake Fenton | 5-1 | .833 | --- |
| Fenton | 8-6 | .571 | 1.0 |
| Linden | 5-8 | .385 | 3.5 |
| Holly | 3-6 | .333 | 3.5 |

Tri-county results/schedule

Dec. 6 games

Lake Fenton 65, Linden 19 (G)
Lake Fenton 71, Linden 41(B)

Dec. 16 games

Holly 47, Linden 41 (B)
Linden 53, Holly 10 (G)

Jan. 6 games

Lake Fenton 78, Fenton 43 (G)
Lake Fenton 51, Fenton 50 (B)

Jan. 10 games

Fenton 61, Holly 50 (B)
Fenton 48, Holly 32 (G)

Jan. 20 games

Fenton 60, Linden 42 (B)
Linden 37, Fenton 20 (G)

Feb. 1 games

Fenton 65, Linden 56 (B)
Linden 48, Fenton 38(G)

Feb. 3 games

Holly 74, Linden 62 (B)
Linden 53, Holly 27 (G)

Feb. 7 games

Fenton 64, Holly 54 (B)
Fenton 63, Holly 41 (G)

Feb. 17 games

Fenton 89, Linden 55 (B)
Linden 50, Fenton 27(G)

Feb. 21 games

Fenton 81, Lake Fenton 52 (B)
Lake Fenton 64, Linden 43 (G)

Feb. 24 game

Holly 69, Fenton 52 (B)

Fenton's Idoni, Holly's Fugate thrive at GLIAC schools

By David Troppens

A handful of seasons ago, Fenton graduate Chloe Idoni and Holly graduate Rebecca Fugate were two of the big names in tri-county girls basketball.

They are now two of the big names in the Great Lake Intercollegiate Athletic Conference.

Now in their senior seasons at the collegiate level, the two are Division 2 stars at their schools.

Ferris State University's Idoni had a pretty decorated season. She earned GLIAC Player of the Week honors twice this season (weeks 1 and 11), was an All-GLIAC All-Tournament selection and an eventual All-GLIAC First-Team selection for the season overall.

It's not hard to see why she earned so many honors. She finished the season as one of three Ferris State players to start in all 29 games played by the squad, averaging 19.3 points a contest. The forward hit on 199-of-408 field goals (48.8 percent) and led the team with 136-of-165 free-throw shooting. No one on her team has attempted half as many free throws as Idoni.

But scoring wasn't all Idoni did. She was second on the team with 219 rebounds and first with 68 offensive boards. She was third on the team with 53 assists and second with 29 blocked shots. She also had 34 steals.

She scored at least 30 points in four games, including a season-high 34 points in a 63-60 victory against Michigan Tech on Jan. 26.

For her career, Idoni has started 71 of the 81 games she's played, and averaged 13.6 points a game. She's also averaged 6.0 rebounds during her career. Ferris State finished the season with a 17-12 overall record and a 9-9 GLIAC mark.

Fugate, who plays for Wayne State, started all 27 games for the Warriors and averaged 13.4 points a game from the guard position. She also grabbed 174 rebounds, led the team with 57 assists and earned 28 steals. She was a second-team All-GLIAC selection. Fugate started in 67 of the 103 games she's played during her career, averaging 8.6 points a game. She has dished off 165 assists and recorded 68 steals. Her best game was a 27-point



Tri-county graduates Chloe Idoni (above) and Rebecca Fugate (left) had outstanding senior seasons at their collegiate schools. Idoni, a Fenton graduate, played for Ferris State University and earned GLIAC Player of the Week honors twice this season, earning first-team All-GLIAC honors. Fugate, a Holly graduate, played for Wayne State and was a second-team All-GLIAC pick. She dished off 165 assists during her senior season.

performance she had in a 79-72 victory against Purdue Northwest on Dec. 9.

Wayne State finished the season with a 14-13 record, including a 7-11 GLIAC mark.

SPENCER

Continued from Page 10

point in his career. His most recent victory was a May 28, 2022 unanimous decision victory against Luke Santamaria (13-2-1) and prior to that he also earned a strong TKO victory against Vladimir Hernandez (13-4-0) on Feb 4, 2022. The last time Ramos didn't fight a boxer with at least an above .500 record was 10 bouts ago when he knocked out Kevin Shacks on June 6, 2019. Each of his last nine opponents had at least 16 bouts under their belt and none had a worse record than Hernandez's.

Spencer's progression has been slightly slower, but he's been impressive with each step he's also made. And he's also stepped up in competition in recent bouts. Zambrano was 14-0-1 entering his loss to Spencer and four of his last five fights have come against opponents with strong winning records with at least 15 professional bouts under their belts.

"I feel like I'm more underestimated coming into this level, and I want to prove who the young top fighter is on the PBC roster," Spencer said. "The fact he had that high ranking made it make perfect sense (to face him next). ... I feel like he's got a lot of praise, and rightfully so. A lot of people think highly of him, and I want to come in and put on the type of performance that puts the division on notice. ... He's a little bit further along than me in the



Linden's Joey Spencer (right) records his 16th professional boxing victory in as many fights against Kevin Zambrano on Sept. 9, 2022. Spencer competes in his biggest professional fight to date when he faces Jesus Alejandro Ramos at Las Vegas' MGM Grand on Saturday night as part of Showtime's pay per view package of fights. Trappfotos/TGB

Tale of the tape

Here is a head-to-head comparison of Linden's Joey Spencer against Jesus Alejandro Ramos entering Saturday's Showtime Pay Per View broadcast.

Joey 'The Small Town Soldier' Spencer



Record: 16-0-0 with 10 knock outs
Pro rounds fought: 66
Weight: 154 pounds
Height: 5-foot-10
Reach: 70 inches
Stance: Orthodox
Age: 22
Last fight: Unanimous decision 10-round fight against Kevin Zambrano

Jesus Alejandro 'Mono' Ramos



Record: 19-0-0 with 15 knock outs
Pro rounds fought: 71
Weight: 154 pounds
Height: 5-foot-10
Reach: 72 inches
Stance: Southpaw
Age: 22
Last fight: Unanimous decision 10-round fight against Luke Santamaria

rankings, so I feel like it was a perfect step in the right direction for me. It comes down to our boxing skills. He does not have a crazy amount more of boxing ex-

perience than me. Even though he does have a slight bit more experience than me, it's not substantial. I feel it's going to come down to who is the better fighter."



Sam Dillard II (right) was one of the two junior guards that helped lead the Tigers to a Division 1 District championship this winter.

Photo: Mark Bolen

TIGERS'

Continued from Page 10

Tigers recorded a 14-7 record a year ago, earning wins against Goodrich and traditional state power Detroit Country Day.

This season, the Tigers took another step forward. Fenton finished this season with an 18-7 overall record and dominated the Flint Metro League Stripes Division by earning a perfect 10-0 record. Fenton defeated Lake Fenton to advance to the Metro League's championship game, losing it to Holly 69-52.

And, this season, the Tigers did something they rarely do — they had postseason success. The Tigers opened the district tourney with a strong 56-49 win against Howell, and followed that up with a 50-42 victory against Hartland, earning the squad its first-ever D1 district crown. The last one came in 2012 when the Tigers had their only other district championship of the 20th century, defeating Clarkston in another tourney game that went into double-overtime. The Tigers won it 68-66, ending Clarkston's 18 straight seasons of district titles.

"Our team has grown as a unit as much as you can grow," Fenton varsity boys basketball coach Chad Logan said. "This is a really good group to be around. They are tougher than I give them credit for.

"We don't have a lot of districts in Fenton basketball, ... so this is pretty special year for us."

This doesn't have to be just one special season. The Tigers graduate just three players. Justin Banura and Colin TerBurgh were key starters and rotation players this season, while Ben Grob played sparingly. The rest of Fenton's squad returns, including its guard tandem of Ja'Hion Bond and Sam Dillard II.

"I see us going farther and more than what we went this year," Bond said about the future. "The senior's season is over, but this loss doesn't sit well and we're off to make sure it won't happen again."

"Next year they are going to be great," Banura said. "They are probably going to get better every year. Every player will improve. ... I'm glad I was able to help the team the way I could, and I hope they do better next year."

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POLICE & FIRE REPORT

COMPILED BY SHARON STONE

FENTON POLICE CATCH SHOPLIFTER WITHIN MINUTES

On Thursday, March 9, at 7:30 a.m., a Fenton police officer was dispatched to a grocery store on N. LeRoy Street to investigate a report of a female shopper, later identified as a 33-year-old Fenton resident, exiting the store without paying for store items. The woman was seen getting into a white Chevy Cobalt and traveling southbound on N. LeRoy Street. The responding officer spotted the car and initiated a traffic stop near North Road. The driver, the suspected shoplifter, admitted leaving the store with store items without paying for them. She removed the items from her purse and police returned them to the store. She was arrested for retail fraud.

SURE-TRAC DUMP TRAILER STOLEN IN FENTON

At 7:56 a.m. on Tuesday, March 14, Fenton police received a



report of a stolen 12- by 7-foot, black Sure-Trac dump trailer (similar to the one shown here) from property in the 2000 block of Silver Lake Road in Fenton. The complainant said they last saw the trailer Monday, March 13 at 7 p.m. and noticed it missing the next morning. Approximate value is \$10,000. Police observed evidence from where the lock

was broken. The trailer was entered into the Law Enforcement Information Network (LEIN) as stolen. If anyone knows the whereabouts of the trailer, they are to call Fenton police at (810) 629-5311.

GRAND BLANC WOMAN ARRESTED IN FENTON FOR OWI

At 12:22 a.m. on Saturday, March 18, a Fenton police officer was monitoring activity from a parking lot near River and S. LeRoy streets in Fenton. March 17 was St. Patrick's Day. While parked, the officer observed a black Jeep enter the parking lot right in front of the patrol vehicle and hit another vehicle as the Jeep driver attempted to pull into a parking space. The officer observed the collision and activated the patrol vehicle's overhead lights. The officer made contact with the driver, a 41-year-old Grand Blanc woman who admitted to having a few drinks. She failed field sobriety tests and a breath test revealed her blood alcohol level was twice the legal limit. She was arrested for operating a vehicle while intoxicated and lodged until she was sober.

CATALYTIC CONVERTERS STOLEN IN FENTON

Sgt. Dan Forbush of the Fenton Police Department said that there have been several reports of stolen catalytic converters from vehicles parked at Georgetown apartments off Torrey Road in recent weeks. He said it takes thieves less than a minute to cut off the catalytic converter from underneath a vehicle. Forbush added that thieves tend to target older vehicles. If anyone observes any suspicious activity or individuals, they should call 911 immediately.

HOT LINE CONTINUED

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YES, WITH ALL candidates running for president taking a cognitive function test and a lie detector test.

BIDEN CARES HOW much water we use in our washing machines? Really?

DOES ALL THE hot air generated by Congress cause global warming?

THE EXPECTED ARREST of former President Trump is such a political joke. This only shows that the Democrats in charge are scared of losing and losing their intake of wealth when he becomes president again. Follow the money! I'd love a mean tweet right about now.

DEMOCRATS NEED TO remember one thing. What comes around, goes around.

Obituaries

Dorothy Elizabeth "Dot" Dolliver 1928 – 2023

Dorothy Elizabeth "Dot" Dolliver - age 94, of Linden, passed away March 20, 2023. Funeral services will be held 3 PM Friday, March 24, 2023 at Sharp Funeral Homes, Fenton Chapel, 1000 Silver Lake Rd., Fenton. Burial will follow in Fairview Cemetery.



Auxiliary. She loved watching University of Michigan football, traveling, playing Euchre and in her younger years, was an avid bowler. She is survived by her children, Debora (Brent) Lavanway, Ann (Mike) Dimmer, David (Cindy) Dolliver, Chuck (Vicki) Dolliver

and Bill (Debbie) Dolliver; son-in-law, Charles (Linda) Bucknam; many grandchildren and great-grandchildren. She was preceded in death by her daughters, Sharon (Tom) Cowell and Sandra Bucknam; grandchildren, Brad Newsom, Kristy Newsom and Kimberly Gardner; six siblings. Tributes may be shared at www.sharpfuneralhomes.com.

Visitation will be held from 1 PM until the time of service. Those desiring may make contributions to the Loose Center in Linden. Dorothy was born August 16, 1928, in Flint, the daughter of Joseph E. and Leona Iva (Patterson) Dunk. She married Nolan Joseph Dolliver on April 21, 1945; he preceded her in death in 1991. She married Lloyd Flewelling in 2006; he preceded her in death in 2018. Dorothy was a longtime member of Trinity Lutheran Church and the Fenton VFW



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52 Meadow

54 Spinning toy

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Midweek Sudoku

| | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|--|---|
| 8 | | | | 2 | | | | 1 |
| | | 9 | | | 8 | 2 | | |
| | 1 | | 4 | | | | | 6 |
| | 6 | | | | 3 | 4 | | |
| 3 | | | 1 | | | | | 7 |
| | | 2 | | 7 | | 6 | | 3 |
| | | 7 | 5 | | | | | 9 |
| | 4 | | | 6 | | | | 5 |
| 5 | | | | | 9 | 8 | | |

WEEKLY SUDOKU
BY LINDA THISTLE

Place a number in the empty boxes in such a way that each row across, each column down and each small 9-box square contains all of the numbers from one to nine.

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ◆◆◆

◆ Moderate ◆◆ Challenging
◆◆◆ HOO BOY!

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Midweek Jumble

JUMBLE

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

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THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME
by David L. Hoyt and Jeff Knurek

SEYZT
○ ○ ○ ○ ○

OSUEH
○ ○ ○ ○ ○

JTREEC
○ ○ ○ ○ ○

BNILEB
○ ○ ○ ○ ○

Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

“ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ” THE ○ ○ ○ ○ ○

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Horoscopes

ARIES
Mar 21/Apr 20
It is very important that you do not count your chickens before they hatch, Aries. Something you suspected was a sure thing may not pan out this week.

TAURUS
Apr 21/May 21
You have a secret desire that you want to let out, Taurus. But you're not sure of the timing. Stop letting your head dictate your heart and put plans into action.

GEMINI
May 22/June 21
Friendships could falter due to your insecurities, Gemini. Others want to be around you for good reason. Try to see the value in relationships and make the effort to socialize.

CANCER
June 22/July 22
Cancer, you could be defeating your own efforts this week. There may be something telling you that you're not good enough to go for your goals. A pep talk can put you back on course.

LEO
July 23/Aug 23
There's a fresh development in your love life coming down the pike, Leo. Romantic feelings solidify and you might be in for some exciting adventures in the weeks to come.

VIRGO
Aug 24/Sept 22
Virgo, the crowd around you may not be the support system you need right now. Making new friends can be tough, but it's worthy pursuit at this point.

LIBRA
Sept 23/Oct 23
Libra, no matter how much you want to spend time with family or friends right now, work seems to draw you away. Focus on finding more balance.

SCORPIO
Oct 24/Nov 22
You might be feeling fed up with the pace of lessons being taught to you, Scorpio. If the teacher or mentor simply isn't effective, then you might need to find a new educator.

SAGITTARIUS
Nov 23/Dec 21
Sagittarius, it might seem like having the utmost control sets you up for security, but that's not always the case. Being too controlling may push others away.

CAPRICORN
Dec 22/Jan 20
This may be an emotional week for you, Capricorn. Your relationship will have to weather a few storms before things right themselves again.

AQUARIUS
Jan 21/Feb 18
Poor habits can keep you from getting where you want to go, Aquarius. A friend or family member may need to step in to show you where you could be going wrong.

PISCES
Feb 19/Mar 20
Help a partner heal by being sensitive to his or her suffering. You may not know all the ins and outs, but being supportive can help greatly.

For the week of
March 20, 2023



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