



Chance of snow, high of 32°
Weather, 6B

MONDAY
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GAZETTE NEWS-CURRENT

Big Picture, Local Focus.



YEAR OF THE POTATO

CELEBRATE WITH ALL DIFFERENT RECIPES
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NFL PLAYOFFS

COLTS, COWBOYS SHOCKED IN POSTSEASON LOSSES
- Page 2B

APPLAUSE



Martin Maner
Three faculty members from Wright State University's College of Liberal Arts are featured in Ohio Magazine's annual Excellence in Education Recognition Program in the December issue. Martin Maner, professor of English, Sarah Twill, assistant professor of social work, and Donna Schlagheck, chair and professor of political science, were nominated for the honor by Wright State students and colleagues. To suggest an Applause candidate, email editor@xeniagazette.com or editor@fairborndailyherald.com

AT A GLANCE

Community.....3A
Get your community news.

DEATHS

- Forrest S. West, 91, Jamestown
- Marie Adkins, Fairborn
- Sau T. Tran, 83, Beavercreek

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TOP 3 LOWEST GAS PRICES
in GREENE COUNTY

Price	Station	Time
\$2.96	Meijer Colonel Glenn Beavercreek	1/13 @ 12:06 p.m.
\$2.96	Marathon Colonel Glenn Beavercreek	1/13 @ 11:49 a.m.
\$2.97	Shell N. Detriot Xenia	1/13 @ 12:53 p.m.

Elect Dick King
Greene County Commissioner
Republican

★ ★ ★ ★ ★
Spend less. Tax less!
"Keep government out of our pockets."
Voice your opinion at
www.DickKing.US
Please Vote March 4th
www.DickKing.US; Yoki E. King, Tr, 1429 Sugar Hill Ln, Xenia, OH 45305

Compassionate medicine

Local couple works at health center in Swaziland

By ELIZABETH STUDEBAKER
Feature Writer

From the time they were quite young, Harry and Echo VanderWal have dreamed of being medical missionaries. Today, they are thrilled to be living their dreams in Swaziland, a small country, about the size of the state of New Jersey on the African continent. Nowhere is the need greater than in that place which has the highest HIV rate in the world and the lowest life expectancy anywhere.

Grandparents and children, many of them orphaned, survive, but the in-between generation is virtually wiped out. Hundreds of households are headed by 12-year-olds because their parents have died.

The government of Swaziland is under extreme pressure to cope with the present situation. The biggest gap is in the remote rural areas. The service offered by Harry and Echo and their team is what is lacking the most in Swaziland as they treat the patients and do HIV testing in remote areas. When news is brought to these areas that this team will visit, queues to see them stretch endlessly. The team often works into the early hours of the following day under very difficult conditions (e.g. using a small transformer for lights) in order to diagnose and treat every



Dr. Harry VanderWal and Dan Gallagher, Beavercreek, load the 40-foot shipping container that is on its way to Swaziland from Xenia filled with medical supplies and clothing, among tons of other donations.

patient. They see as many as 400-500 patients a day.

Harry VanderWal, Jr., a doctor of pediatrics and internal medicine, has been headed to the overseas mission field since his freshman year at Pensacola Christian College. From the time eight-year-old Echo heard a missionary speak of great medical needs in Zaire, she's been determined to study and practice medicine as a physician's assistant and serve Jesus in Africa.

In mid-January the couple and their four sons - triplets Luke, Jacob and Zeb, age 6, and Zion, 3, will leave on their sixth trip to the epidemic-ridden, far-

away land. (On a bright note, the VanderWals say Swaziland is a "paradise" for their boys who are home-schooled by video - the rocks, sticks, dirt and trees.)

When they arrive, thanks to many supporters on this side of the ocean, the First Church of Christ, and local businessmen, for example, a 10-foot shipping container filled with medical supplies, clothing, shoes, Bibles and trailers will be there waiting for them. To be effective in their mission in southern Africa, the VanderWals founded the Luke Commission. The

See Africa, Page 2A



The VanderWal family in Swaziland. Medical missionaries Dr. Harry and Echo, a physician's assistant, with their six-year-old triplets Luke, Jacob and Zeb, and three-year-old Zion.

Bush says Iran poses danger to the world

By TERENCE HUNT
AP White House Correspondent

ABU DHABI, United Arab Emirates (AP) — President Bush gently nudged authoritarian Arab allies Sunday to satisfy frustrated desires for democracy in the Mideast and saved his harshest criticism for Iran, branding it "the world's leading state-sponsor of terror."

Speaking in this Persian Gulf country, about 150 miles from the shores of Iran, Bush said Tehran threatens nations everywhere and that the United States was "rallying friends around the world to confront this danger before it is too late."

See Bush, Page 2A



Barb Stone/Greene County Dailies

Support our troops

Yellow Springs residents show support for American troops during a peaceful demonstration over the weekend.

Suspect in slain N.C. Marine case spotted

By MIKE BAKER
Associated Press Writer
JACKSONVILLE, N.C. (AP) — The key suspect in the brutal slaying of a 20-year-old pregnant Ohio Marine was spotted in Louisiana and could be headed into Texas, authorities said Sunday.

Marine Cpl. Cesar Armando Laurean was seen at a Greyhound bus station in Shreveport, La., Saturday night by several fellow passengers, said Onslow County Sheriff Ed Brown. The bus Laurean was riding was headed to Texas, he said, but authorities didn't know yet if he continued on that route.

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Schmidt named president of Treasurer's Association

By ELIZABETH STUDEBAKER
Feature Writer

The County Treasurer's Association of Ohio today announced the election of Greene County Treasurer James W. Schmidt, CPA, as president of the Association for 2008.

"Jim was elected to this position with a great deal of confidence in his abilities," Tom Steenrod, CTAO executive director, said. "The association believes his experience and expertise establish him as a most capable individual to lead the association," he continued.

Schmidt has served as treasurer, secretary and vice presi-

dent of the association and continues to serve on the Legislative Committee. The County Treasurer's Association was established in 1924 to promote and protect the interest of taxpayers, to introduce and promote legislation for the benefit of all Ohio residents, and for the better administration of treasurer's offices. "I am honored to have been chosen by the County Treasurer's Association to be its next president," Schmidt said.

"I've devoted my career to serving as Greene County's chief investment officer, promoting the concept of the efficient management of my office and safeguarding local funds.

Being the local tax collector is not an easy or popular position, but it's essential to our system of government. I'm looking forward to the challenges and rewards that leading the association will bring to Greene County, to working with its members and with other State leaders, and to recognize the considerable responsibilities and increasing expectations that county treasurers in all 88 counties face each day."

As the longest serving treasurer in the history of Greene County Schmidt brings a wealth of experience to the office. He is an attorney and a

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Greene County Treasurer James W. Schmidt, newly-elected president of the County Treasurer's Association of Ohio, and his staff: (left to right) Kimberly Geis, Christy Combs, Dan Mercer, Denise Wilmoth, Schmidt, Yvetta Blomquist, Don Stephens and Karen Luttrell.

