



Chance of rain, high of 46°
Weather, 6B

THURSDAY

January 10, 2008

50 Cents
single copy

Vol 1 No 54

GAZETTE NEWS-CURRENT

Big Picture, Local Focus.

BABY BOOT CAMP?: REBOOT YOUR BODY AT BOOT CAMP — Page 7A



WHAT'S IN THE STARS?

CHECK OUT POOR WILL'S ALMANACK

— Page 4A



BEAVERS WIN BIG
BEAVERCREEK CRUSHES WAYNE

— Page 1B

APPLAUSE



Stephanie Leon

Stephanie Leon, now a junior at DePaul University in Chicago, remains on the Dean's List. Stephanie is a 2005 graduate of Xenia High School. Her parents are Xenia residents, Alberto and Karen Leon.

To suggest an Applause candidate, email editor@xeniagazette.com or editor@fair-

AT A GLANCE

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Beavercreek: Greenbucbs membership drive tops goal.

Opinion.....5A
ODOT is right to put road maintenance repair ahead of construction.

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What happened today in history?

TOMORROW



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DEATHS

- Maud Elaine Babb, Xenia
- Janet L. Stanley, 52, Spring Valley
- Elaine M. Rogers Nared, 70, Hopkinsville, Ky.

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TOP 3 LOWEST GAS PRICES
in GREENE COUNTY

Price	Station	Time
\$2.93	Clark 1020 Kauffman Fairborn	1/9 @ 3:07 p.m.
\$2.94	Clark 1010 N. Broad Fairborn	1/9 @ 3:07 p.m.
\$3.02	Speedway Colonel Glenn Fairborn	1/9 @ 4:49 p.m.

*Gas prices provided by DaytonGasPrices.com

XENIA ■ BEAVERCREEK ■ JAMESTOWN ■ CEDARVILLE ■ YELLOW SPRINGS ■ SPRING VALLEY ■ BELLBROOK ■ WILBERFORCE

Former Wilmington College athlete pleads guilty to importuning

By **AARON KEITH HARRIS**
Staff Writer
aharris@xeniagazette.com

XENIA — A former Wilmington College soccer player was sentenced Wednesday for coming to Xenia in hopes of meeting a fictive 14-year-old girl for sex more than a year ago.

Greene County Common Pleas Court, Judge Timothy Campbell put Jonathan W. Wightman, 20, of Clayton, on probation for five years.

Wightman was also classified a sex offender, which means for 15 years he must register each change of name, address, employment or student status with law enforcement.



Wightman

Xenia police arrested Wightman on Aug. 20, 2006 when he drove from Wilmington College after chatting with detectives who pretended to be a 14-year-old girl.

Wightman pleaded guilty to importuning, on Sept. 10, 2007, Wightman pleaded guilty to a fifth-degree felony count of importuning, for which he could have been sentenced to 12 months in prison or fined \$2,500.

Wightman was a regional first-team soccer player at Northmont High School in Clayton before going to Wilmington College.

Shakro enters no contest plea in death of her son

By **MARY BETH LEHMAN**
Staff Writer
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XENIA — A Fairborn woman surprised many in Greene County Wednesday when she entered a plea of no contest to an involuntary manslaughter charge nearly eight years after the suspicious death of her seven-month-old son in 2000.

Det. Lee Cyr of the Fairborn Police Department said police responded to a call in 2000 that brought them to an unresponsive baby who was not breathing. Jannell Dear-Shakro's son was then taken to Children's Medical Center, where he was pronounced dead.

Six years, later prosecutors officially charged his mother with causing his death.

Cyr said the coroner's report came back that seven-month-old Dillon Hilbun died of asphyxiation. He said the woman explained the child's death as a result of a plastic bag she found near him under a daybed after leaving him alone to smoke a cigarette.

Based on her own account, Cyr said Hilbun died as a result of his mother's actions.



Greene County Dailies file photo
Jannell Dear-Shakro appears in Greene County Common Pleas Court in July 2006 charged with the death of her infant son.

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Charles Caperton/Greene County Dailies

Bill Hagenbuch helped make rope for more than 40 years with the Hooven & Allison Company in Xenia. Now he's the subject of "Ropewalk," a documentary about the role of rope in the history of Xenia and the world.

Take a 'Ropewalk' through history

By **AARON KEITH HARRIS**
Staff Writer
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BEAVERCREEK — The site of Xenia's Hooven & Allison Company was destroyed by fire in 2005, a year after the rope-making company closed.

But the company's former chief engineer and president, Beavercreek resident Bill Hagenbuch, is still telling the story of Xenia's historic role in America's rope industry and the effect of rope on human history.

Hagenbuch, 89, is the subject

and narrator of a soon-to-be-released documentary film called "Ropewalk," a nonprofit production of the Engineers Club of Dayton Foundation, the Cordage Institute, and Ohio filmmaker Steve Fetsch.

The idea for a film started with a talk Hagenbuch gave to the Engineers Club, which developed into a lecture and slide show given at area historical societies and community groups.

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Get Walking, Greene County

By **AARON KEITH HARRIS**
Staff Writer
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Greene County Park District is continuing to offer, Get Walking, Greene County, a program designed to help Greene countians get moving with a series of free healthy hikes.

"We're trying to give folks the opportunity to be more active, to get out on the wonderful trails we have in Greene County," said Laurie Fox, marketing & public relations specialist for the district. "And we want to help people get in better shape, fit and, most importantly, healthier."

Walking is a great start for a fitness and weight loss program, Fox said. Other benefits of walking include stress relief, socializing with others, relief for sufferers of arthritis or other joint and muscle conditions.

With four different series of hikes, all of which are led by a parks employee and are not longer than six miles, everyone should be able to find something they might like, Fox said.

Paws to Lose Pounds participants can bring their dogs along on non-retractable leashes, Stroller Striders are invited to bring their babies and small children in strollers, and the Have Coffee, Will Travel hikes meet at a coffee shop before setting out with a strong cup of joe.

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The Cleft student center issues a challenge to community

By **TIFFANY FERRELL**

If you've been keeping up with the first part of this series regarding The Cleft, the community's new student center geared toward the personal and academic growth of our youth,

The Cleft. The only question left now is what can you do to help make this dream a reality?

The Cleft is currently engaged in its community-wide campaign to obtain the money needed to secure and renovate its building located at 113 S. Detroit Street in downtown Xenia, as well as provide the necessary funds for its first year of operation, and initiate an endowment fund for future operation. All-in-all, this amounts to about



extensive list of activities the center will offer. You may even have taken the initiative to check out the center's website: www.thecleft.org, where you can discover the alarming statistics regarding our youth that gave rise to the vision of

See Center, Page 2A

Police search for bodies of 4 children

Police say father threw them off Ala. bridge

By **GARRY MITCHELL**
Associated Press Writer

BAYOU LA BATRE, Ala. (AP) — A man angered after a dispute with his wife confessed to tossing his four young children off a bridge, authorities said Wednesday as they searched murky waters for the bodies.

Lam Luong, 37, who is charged with four counts of capital murder, told authorities Tuesday night that he drove to the Dauphin Island bridge and dropped the children from a span that reaches 80 feet in places, said Detective Scott Rivera.

Luong came to coastal Alabama from Vietnam in 1984 and worked in the commercial fishing industry as a shrimper, Police Chief John Joyner and a relative said. He had argued with his wife, Ngoc Phan, before taking the children, he said.

Missing and presumed dead were 4-month-old Danny Luong; 1-year-old Lindsey Luong; 2-year-old Hannah Luong; and 3-year-old Ryan Phan. Phan is not the man's biological child, but

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