



## Take a Closer Look at...the Unified Arts Program

Winter 2001

While academic success is primary to Springer students, Springer's commitment to the whole child is enhanced with opportunities in art, music, physical education and extracurricular activities that build social and leadership skills.

Eric Schmuelling, an upper school student who will attend Purcell Marian High School next year, enjoys the physical education program at Springer because it has helped him learn teamwork and to get to know people before making a judgement.



Eric Schmuelling enjoys tossing a football in the gym.

Physical Education is one of four programs in the Unified Arts department at Springer that includes art, music and motor therapy. Mark Phelps, Springer's physical education teacher, works closely with motor therapists Amy Ford and Dafna Bahir to enhance and strengthen students' gross and fine motor skills.

Throughout the school year, students participate in a variety of traditional

games and sports that improve fitness, flexibility, endurance, listening skills and problem solving while learning to be part of a team in a safe, fun environment.

Music instructor Judy McMahon introduces students to rhythmic activities, creative expression, listening, singing and playing various instruments. The featured composer for this year in the upper school and intermediate classes is Ludwig Van Beethoven. Primary students are working on a percussion unit focusing on drumming, and studying the national anthem. All classes will be exposed to hand chimes and the techniques in ringing due to a grant from the American Guild of English Handbell Ringers, Inc.



Prairie Orchid entertains students with a variety of musical instruments.

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A select group of music students performed at Springer's 30th Anniversary Gala, and a Choral Group, which practices after school, has given performances for parents, staff and for the residents of Dupree House.

### *A select group of music students performed at Springer's 30th Anniversary Gala*

This year Lisa Hill and Sarah Goslee-Reed of Prairie Orchid were the Norita Aplin Musicians in Residence who enhanced the All School Quest theme of Literature. They worked with a core group of intermediate students and had contact sessions with students

*continued on pg. 3*



## Executive Director's Column

Shelly Weisbacher  
Executive Director



Imagine being in fourth grade again, and further imagine that you are a struggling reader. Every day during reading, the teacher calls on children to read a paragraph aloud. You have a queasy feeling throughout the reading period because you know you won't be able to read like the other children in the class – you can hear them laughing at you or sighing in frustration. No matter how hard you concentrate or try, you stumble over the words. Your silent reading is no better and while others fly through assignments, you often lose recess time because you haven't finished your work. In short, your school day is both frustrating and humiliating.

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*...we continually evolve  
our reading program  
based on research  
in the fields...*

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For 38 percent of the population, learning to read is an elusive skill. Recent research confirms that four out of ten fourth graders cannot read at a basic level; that is they cannot read and understand a short paragraph of the type found in a simple children's book. Yet, by fourth grade the emphasis has switched from learning to read to reading to learn. Therefore, many children who reach fourth grade with poor reading skills will remain deficient read-

ers throughout their lives and will not acquire new information and develop their vocabulary because they cannot read grade level texts.

The development of reading skills is the foundation for all school-based learning. Because it is key to academic success, early struggles with reading often destroy the excitement for learning that most children have when they begin school. Low self-esteem, high school drop out, and underemployment are but some of the by-products of untreated reading difficulties.

On January 8, 2002, President Bush signed into law the No Child Left Behind Act of 2001. The NCLB Act, which reauthorized the Elementary and Secondary Education Act, incorporates four basic principles: increased accountability; greater choice for parents and students, particularly those attending low performing schools; more flexibility for states and local educational agencies in the use of federal education dollars; and a stronger emphasis on reading, especially for our youngest children. Specifically the bill requires that reading programs be established for kindergarten through grade three that result from scientifically based reading research, and that teachers receive training so that they have the tools to effectively help their students learn to read.

At Springer School and Center, we have long recognized the need for systematic reading instruction that addresses decoding, vocabulary development, and text comprehension. And, we

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*For comments or questions, please call Sue Small at 513/871-6080 ext. 232 or e-mail at [ssmall@springer.hccanet.com](mailto:ssmall@springer.hccanet.com)*

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*Executive Director's Column... continued from pg. 2*  
continually evolve our reading program based on research in the fields of reading and learning disabilities. We know from firsthand experience which strategies are effective for struggling readers and that with appropriate instruction most children can learn to read.

This summer, we will offer *A Multisensory Approach to Reading Success*. This week long course is designed to share with area teachers and professional tutors the tools and strategies we have found to be effective in addressing reading difficulties. If you would like more information about the course, please contact Barbara Hunter, Center Director at 513/871-9174.

## Springer Center Addresses Reading Difficulties

Teachers in mainstream classes have aspirations of making a difference in the lives of the children they teach. But occasionally they become frustrated by their inability to reach some children. This summer Springer Center is offering two classes that will help area teachers reach children struggling to learn. Participants will learn how some children receive, process and express information differently than the typical student.

*Steps to Success*, June 17– June 21, provides teachers with current research about learning disabilities and how it can be applied in the classroom to contribute to increased learning for students who are struggling.

*A Multisensory Approach to Reading Success*, July 15 – July 19, gives teachers and professional tutors instruction in providing a multisensory reading program in the regular education program.

The classes are \$500 each and participants will receive three PDU's or may choose to earn two graduate semester hour credits through Ashland University for an additional cost.

If you would like more information about these classes, contact Barbara Hunter, Springer Center Director at 513/871-9174.

*Take a Closer Look at... continued from pg. 1*

in the remaining departments. The core group wrote poetry that was put to music, chose their favorite melody lines and played a number of instruments to accompany the vocals of the musicians who also put children's literature to music. The core group performed for students, parents and staff on February 22 in a kickoff assembly for the All School Quest that culminates on March 26 at 7:00 pm.

Art classes taught by Corrinne Thaler are based on the elements and principles of design. Students are introduced to various mediums including watercolor and tempera paints, pencil drawing, clay, pastels, paper, fibers and paper mache. Each student is given the opportunity to explore and create their own artwork utilizing these materials. Student's work with both two-dimensional and three-dimensional art forms. Some of

the artists highlighted this year are Henri Matisse, Jacob Lawrence, and Anna Mary Robertson Moses (Grandma Moses).

*Each student is given the opportunity to explore and create their own artwork utilizing these materials.*

In October Tom Bacher, the Maureen Wenker Artist in Residence, worked with upper school students to create luminous paintings that were on exhibit at Springer's 30th Anniversary Gala. Every fall, students from Mrs. Thaler's classes participate in the Hyde Park Art Show and a card designed by students was used to send holiday greetings to Springer donors this past December.

*Springer Alumni Update...continued from pg. 6*

**Rebecca Steffen** '91 attends University of Cincinnati majoring in communications and enjoys volunteering at Norwood City Schools and Beech Acres. She is a 1998 Ursuline Academy graduate.

**Mitch Weisberger** '88 has traveled in the Middle East since he graduated from Sycamore High School in 1992. After attending Columbus State Community College and the University of Cincinnati he now works at Weisberger Electrics. Mitch got married in July 2001 and enjoys softball, golf and his salt-water aquarium.

**Michael Wright** '96 was named "Outstanding Freshman Lineman- 2000" while at Ashland University. Mike currently attends the University of Cincinnati majoring in business/marketing and plays on the football squad there. He is a 2000 Purcell Marian High School graduate.



# Springer Celebrates 30 Years of Success

On February 9, Springer School and Center celebrated its 30th anniversary as an organization dedicated to individuals affected by learning disabilities. The evening included dinner, a silent auction, and musical entertainment by Springer students and students from the School for Creative and Performing Arts, featuring Springer graduate Emily Eldridge.

The Spirit of Springer award was presented to Tom Bacher, a local artist who is recognized internationally for his luminous painting technique. The Spirit of Springer award recognizes an individual who has excelled in their profession, has made significant contributions on behalf of children whether through their work or philanthropy, and who has a learning disability.



*Melody Sawyer Richardson and Shelly Weisbacher congratulate Tom Bacher on his Spirit of Springer award.*

"We wanted to create an evening that would be a fun celebration, expand community awareness and raise funds; we accomplished all of this with the support and commitment of hundreds of volunteers, donors and staff," says Shelly Weisbacher, Springer's executive director.

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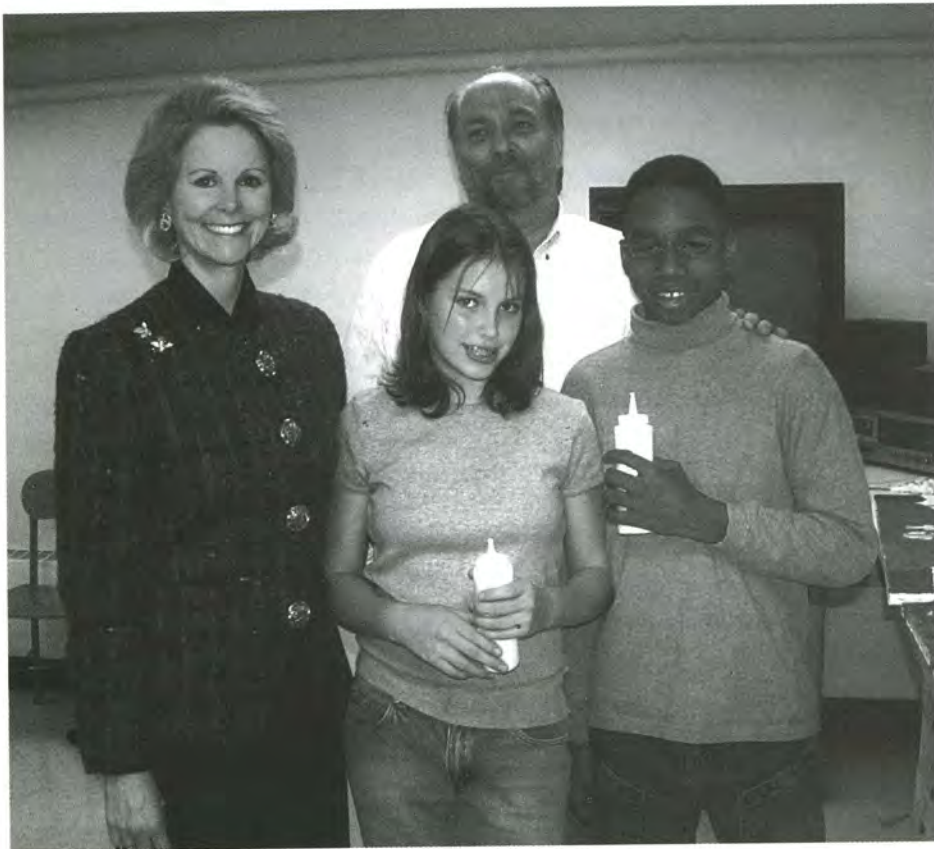
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# Springer Alumni Update

Call the Alumni Office at 513/871-6080 ext. 232 or send e-mail to alumni@springer.hccanet.org with news of Springer alums.

**Gus Albers '94** graduated from Purcell Marian High School this past spring and attends SD Golf Academy in Myrtle Beach, South Carolina.



**Dana Baldwin '88** is a 1996 graduate of Summit Country Day School. She currently is enrolled at the Cincinnati Academy of Design in graphic design. Dana graduated from Roanoke College in Salem, Virginia in 2000 majoring in art and education. She also designs and sells figurative wire sculptures in Cincinnati.



**Michael Bernardino '87** graduated from Wilmington College in 1996 and was assistant coach of Lacrosse at Wilmington High School. He currently is the department head of the front desk at Dave & Buster's in Cincinnati.

**Jon Blum '89** is a graphic designer for Downing Displays, in Cincinnati. He graduated from the Blue Ridge School in 1993 and from West Virginia Wesleyan College in 1998.

**Peter Cholak '74** a 1980 graduate of Seven Hills School, earned his Ph.D. in math and now teaches at the University of Notre Dame. Peter enjoys hiking, camping and spending time with his family.

**Raymond Clark '78** and his wife Laurie enjoy spending time with their four-and-half-year-old son Justin.



**Mimi Cooper '91** is a 1995 graduate of Indian Hills High School and a 1999 graduate of Butler University majoring in elementary education. She teaches pre-school and is a resource teacher in Indianapolis. Mimi is also pursuing a master's degree in school counseling at Butler University and coaches a girl's soccer team.



**Jonathan Dwight '89** is pictured with his mother at his recent graduation ceremony from Cornell University School of Hotel Management. He now manages D.B. Bristo, a French restaurant in New York City. Jonathan is a 1997 Graduate of Seven Hills School.



**Jessica Earley '93** is a 2000 graduate of Seven Hills School and is currently in her second year at Savannah College of Art and Design working on a double major of architecture and historic preservation. Jessica was named to the fall quarter dean's list.



**Arthur Atherton Hellebusch III '97** enjoys working on his '67 Plymouth Barracuda. He graduated from Dunbar High

School in Lexington, Kentucky and received an award for his work in the diesel mechanic program at Eastside Technical School in 2001. Atherton currently attends Kentucky Technical College in diesel mechanics and works at Ron's Auto Body.

**Michael Kohls '95** is a 1999 graduate of Purcell Marian High School. After earning his certificate in backcountry horsemanship from Hocking College, Mike moved to Wyoming where he is a wrangler doing trail rides and driving wagons in Yellowstone National Park.

**Mitchell Morris '00** a sophomore at Purcell Marian High School was the starting right guard for the varsity football team. Mitchell also traveled to Hawaii over the December break for a wrestling tournament.



**Chip Pratt '96** returned to Springer recently to talk with primary students about fire safety. Chip is a volunteer with the Anderson Township Fire Department and attends Cincinnati State Technical and Community College.

**Jeff Reichard '87**, a project manager/designer for Holt & Reichard, is a 1994 graduate of Anderson High School. He earned a bachelors degree in engineering management from Miami University. Jeff is married to Megan Baldwin and enjoys golfing, biking and working on their house.

**Eric Shafer '85** graduated from Anderson High School in 1989 and holds a bachelors degree in rehabilitation counseling from Wright State University and a masters degree from University of Dayton. He currently is the manager of the Start Right program in Dayton. Eric is married with a 3 year old son and enjoys spending time with his family, biking, running, fishing and the outdoors.

*continued on pg. 3*



# Bachrach's Birthday Celebrates Springer

Nathan Bachrach, alum parent, knows how to throw a party and do good deeds at the same time. Nathan celebrated his 50th birthday at the Cincinnati Museum Center, where he was "roasted" by friends and associates. To make the occasion meaningful and get his friends involved in supporting Springer, Nathan asked his guests to make donations to Springer, in lieu of giving him gifts. Forty-three guests responded with a total of \$2,164. Nathan hopes his unique idea encourages others to follow suit.

We would like to thank the following individuals and couples for responding

to Nathan's request with generosity and enthusiasm: Don and Debby Bailey, Alan and Gayl Berger, Shelley Kirk and Joe Bowman, Anita and Murray Dock, Stefanie Ebbers, Radell and Bud Friedman, Bud and Jane Friedman, Mert and Rick Friedman, Mr. and Mrs. Michael Ganson, Ed and Cindy Getty, Meg and Richard Green, Patti and Fred Heldman, Sandy and Rafi Hirsch, Phyllis, Jake and Allanah Jackson, Susan and John Juriga, Nancy and Bill Kahn, Lois Kaufman, James and Amy Keller, Nora and Gary Kirsh, Robert and Marcy Klein, J. Louis Kurtzer, Vicki and John Nixon, Steve

and Julie Pentelnik, Amy and Scot Perlman, Sandy and Chuck Rabe, Mark Reckman, Glynnis and Glen Reinhart, Joy and Marc Rothenberg, Marian and Bob Rubin, Susan and Victor Schmelzer & Family, Abby and David Schwartz, Tova and Lenny Singer, Diane and Randy Slovin, Walter and Sharon Spiegel, Debra and Michael Steinbuch, Richard Weiland, Joe Westerkamp, Scott and Natalie Wolf, Barry, Laurel, Chana and Rachel Wolfson, Gloria Wolfson, Micky Wolfson, Rita Wolfson, Howard and Diane Yasgur.

## Memorial & Tribute Gifts

Thank you to the following friends of Springer School and Center who made Memorial or Tribute gifts from October 2001 to February 2002.

### Memorials

- In memory of Alice Allen  
*Dr. Regine Moulton*
- In memory of Barbara Black  
*Bob and Carol Connors*
- In memory of Michael Burke  
*Bob and Carol Connors*
- In memory of Edith Duty  
*Bruce H. Allen, M.D.*
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In memory of Romelida Huening  
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*Marjorie Bender*

In memory of Margaret Mahin  
*Sue and Paul Belanger, Mr. and Mrs. Thomas E. Dye and Family, Anne Durkin, Marty Thaler and Don Helcher, Marjorie Thaler, and Staff of Springer School and Center*

In memory of Anne and David McConnell  
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In memory of William Minturn  
*Bob and Carol Connors*

In memory of Rose Newburgh  
*Bill and Sue Friedlander, and friends of her family*

In memory of Sue Pratt  
*Sue and Paul Belanger, Staff of Springer School and Center*

In memory of William Purtel  
*Bob and Carol Connors*

In memory of Neil Schwartz  
*Bruce H. Allen, M.D.*

In memory of Virginia Schlipf/Bernabe  
*KnowledgeWorks Foundation*

In memory of John C. Slack  
*Mildred Slack*

In memory of Barbara Sykes  
*Marty and Ernie Lewis*

In memory of Mrs. Frankie Wayman  
*Mr. and Mrs. Ed Kamphake*

### Tributes

In honor of Trace Abraham, Norita Aplin and Springer's 30th Anniversary  
*Rick and DeeDee Abraham*

In honor of Sug Clauder as a 2001 Woman of the Year  
*Bob and Carol Connors*

In honor of Ralph and Sallie Payne's 60th Anniversary  
*Donna J. McLay*

In honor of Michael and Ann Welch  
*Ruth and John Sawyer*

To learn more about Springer School and Center's Memorial and Tribute Gifts Program, please call the Development Office at 513/871-6080 ext. 213.



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Rick Sowash entertains primary students with *Ripsnorting Whoppers!*

## All School Quest

Adventures in Literature

As part of the All School Quest Adventures in Literature, the Springer Parent Association sponsored visiting author Rick Sowash, who read from his books, *Heroes of Ohio* and *Ripsnorting Whoppers! Humor from America's Heartland*. Rick, who lives in Cincinnati, gathers up Ohio history, geography and folklore, which he shapes into stories, books and musical compositions. A veteran storyteller and an accomplished musician, Rick has logged thousands of performances across the country and around the world.

The All School Quest was held March 26 and gave Springer students the opportunity to show their written pieces, art work and displays that illustrated their study of literature.