

## Springer Champions Honored at A Springer Celebration!

On April 30, Springer School and Center honored Kate Lawrence and Lee Carter as the 2008 Springer Champions. The ceremony took place during Springer's annual fundraiser, *A Springer Celebration!*, held at the Hilton Cincinnati Netherland Plaza. The Springer Champion Award recognizes individuals who demonstrate passion and commitment to children through their work or philanthropy. "Kate and Lee's efforts on behalf of the many children in need of Springer's programs were truly inspiring," said Shelly Weisbacher, Springer's executive director. "Their leadership of our capital campaign secured additional financial aid for students and brought to life exciting renovations to our campus. Most importantly, the legacy of their work with the capital campaign ensures that Springer will continue as a vital resource to our community."

Springer has many reasons for recognizing Kate Lawrence. As chairman of *Imagine the Possibilities*, Kate's passion for Springer's cause galvanized community partners and donors into action, raising record dollars for the campaign. For nine years, Kate served on Springer's Board of Trustees. While a Springer parent (daughters Christina and Lee), she volunteered

in school activities and co-chaired Springer's annual fundraising event. Her support for the community goes even further through her participation on the board of trustees of Living Arrangements for the Developmentally Disabled (LADD), where she served as president and chairman, and on the board of the Association of Volunteers of Children's Convalescent Hospital. Kate has and will continue to be an inspiration.

No stranger to community involvement, Lee Carter is known for his commitment to children and to the causes that support them. Springer is deeply indebted to Lee for his dedication to Springer's mission. He was a key advocate for *Imagine the Possibilities*, introducing, educating, and informing community donors about the importance of Springer's campaign goals. Lee was chairman of the Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center Board for 11 years, and has been a trustee since 1979. He has chaired and served on numerous other boards including the American Institute for Public Service, Cincinnati Parks Foundation, Cincinnati Institute of Fine Arts, Urban Design Review Board, Cincinnati Art Museum, and the Greater Cincinnati Community Foundation to name but a few of the worthy causes he has supported.



## Celebrating Our Success

### THE POSSIBILITIES HAVE BECOME REALITY

*A Springer Celebration!* on April 30th was the perfect venue for celebrating the wonderful news. On behalf of Springer School and Center, Kate Lawrence announced that Springer had reached \$5.1 million in donations for the capital campaign!

Kate said, "After eighteen years of involvement with the Springer community, chairing the capital campaign was the best way for me to say 'thank you' for everything Springer did for my daughters and my family. I would like to thank each and every member of the staff, Board of Trustees and parent community for all of their hard work.

It is through the efforts of these dedicated people that we were able to exceed our goal!"

For almost 40 years, Springer School and Center has proven its critical role in meeting the needs of children, parents, and professionals affected by learning disabilities and as a result of Springer's \$5.1 million campaign, Springer will remain a vital resource for years to come. Thanks to *Imagine the Possibilities*, more children will have access to scholarship funding. Campus renovations have infused a new energy and excitement around learning. The campaign has made real all the possibilities we had hoped for!



## Executive Director's Column

SHELLY WEISBACHER, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

One might think that our general knowledge of learning disabilities and their subsequent impact on children and adults would be better understood today. After all, significant research has been conducted in the past few decades and recent advancements in our ability to study brain activity have confirmed the reality of learning disabilities. Yet, misunderstandings and oversimplifications persist, and many continue to think that individuals with learning disabilities could do whatever was asked if they just tried 'harder'.

Learning disabilities are complex and difficult to understand. For those of us who have never struggled to read, write down our thoughts or complete a math calculation, it is almost impossible to imagine that tasks we readily accomplish could be so challenging for someone else. The problem is further compounded because learning disabilities have an almost invisible quality.

Each of us who are affected personally, as a parent, grandparent, teacher or friend can and need to play a role in furthering the understanding of learning disabilities. But to do this, we have to have at the ready our explanation.

On Springer's website, the following definition appears: A learning disability is a neurological condition that interferes with the ability to acquire, process, store, or produce information. It creates a significant discrepancy between an individual's intellectual potential and his/her success with any of the following:

listening, speaking, reading, writing, reasoning, and mathematics. Throughout the individual's life, the condition may also affect emotional well-being, interpersonal relationships, daily living activities, and vocational performance. Learning disabilities cannot be attributed to other difficulties such as physical disabilities, mental retardation, emotional or behavioral disorders, or environmental factors. This definition is consistent with the definition for 'specific learning disability' in the federal Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA 2004).

However, to further general awareness and understanding user-friendly language is needed while still incorporating the key elements of the definition. It is important to convey that scientists have proven that learning disabilities are real by studying the brain; that people with learning disabilities have average to superior ability but their minds process information differently; and that if a learning disability is not addressed it can seriously interfere with a person's success in school and in life. Indeed, one of the most important understandings is that learning disabilities are a lifespan issue; many people still think that learning disabilities only impact school-aged individuals.

We all have our reasons to promote a better understanding of learning disabilities. Our stories are personal, but they are also universal. By seizing each opportunity to inform others, we can and will make a difference.

## Springer Appoints Principal

Springer School and Center is excited to announce that Mr. Jamie Williamson has been appointed to be the next Principal. Most recently, Jamie was a School Psychologist at Bridgetown Middle School in the Oak Hills School District. He brings a diverse background, having worked with kindergarteners through high school age students. Jamie holds a Masters of Science and an Education Specialist post-masters degree, both in School Psychology from Miami University. He has also completed the Licensure Program in Educational Administration at Xavier University. He is the President Elect of the Southwest Ohio School Psychology Association.

Jamie, his wife Krista, and their three-year old son, reside in College Hill. In sharing his enthusiasm for his upcoming role, Jamie said, "Since accepting the appointment of Principal at Springer, I have been unbelievably impressed by the commitment of families, the knowledge and expertise of the staff, and the personal growth that our students experience here. I am honored to have the opportunity to serve in such a passionate school community, and I look forward to working together with the students, families, and staff." Jamie's first official day is July 21st. Welcome Jamie and family!



## A Springer Celebration! 2008

On April 30, more than 320 friends and supporters gathered at the Hilton Cincinnati Netherland Plaza Hotel for Springer School and Center's annual fundraiser, *A Springer Celebration!*. This year's successful event raised more than \$120,000 for financial aid and center programs for educators, parents and children.

Guest speaker, Anne Ford, delivered an insightful message about her own experiences as the parent of a child with learning disabilities. Mrs. Ford, daughter of Henry Ford II and former Chairman of the Board of the National Center for Learning Disabilities, made herself available to attendees throughout the evening to discuss learning disability issues and to sign her new book, *On Their Own*.

Emcee for the evening was WKRC Local 12 News Anchor, Bob Herzog. Herzog, who has

achieved regional popularity for his "Dance Party Friday" traffic report, impressed the audience with one of his signature dance moves. Auctioneer Maggie Beckmeyer provided a rousing live auction that connected unique items with happy bidders.

Other highlights of the evening included the recognition of Kate Lawrence and Lee Carter as this year's Springer Champions and the exciting announcement that Springer had surpassed its \$5 million capital campaign goal.

Event Co-Chairs for the 2008 *A Springer Celebration!* were Nick & Linda Spadaccini and Andy & Jackie Wilson. Auction Co-Chairs were Caryn Franke and Cindy Stephens. Volunteer Chair Lisa Gamblin coordinated volunteer efforts.

A big THANK YOU to all who helped make the evening a huge success!



## Piraino Assumes New Leadership Role

When the Director of Curriculum position recently became available, Springer Principal Gail Piraino recognized an opportunity to reconnect with one of her earlier education passions – curriculum development. As difficult as it was for her to make the decision to leave the leadership role she had embraced for 14 years – she was ready to take on a new challenge. Beginning in the '08-'09 school year, Ms. Piraino will become Springer's new Director of Curriculum. Utilizing her experiences as both teacher and principal, the new role will allow

her to more fully explore the possibilities for enhancing and continuously improving Springer's curriculum. In announcing Gail's appointment, Executive Director Shelly Weisbacher said, "Springer has been tremendously fortunate to have the benefit of her leadership. Gail is the consummate coach, mentor and problem solver. What's best for the children is always at the heart of her decisions. Curriculum development has long been a love of Gail's and we are thrilled that she will be continuing on at Springer in this role." Congratulations Gail!



Above, from left, Bobby and Kate Lawrence and Lee Carter; below, Emcee Bob Herzog; middle photo, Christina and Lee Lawrence



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## Springer Students Travel to D.C. for Inaugural Oliver Gale Washington Academy

During May 28-30, 2008, Springer School and Center Upper School students traveled to Washington, D.C. to participate in the first Oliver Gale Washington Academy. The Oliver Gale Washington Academy was established this year by the William M. Gale Family Foundation in memory of Mr. Oliver Gale. The Academy special fund will underwrite the costs of this new learning opportunity for Springer School and Center Upper School students every other year.

Mr. Oliver Gale was deeply involved in many Cincinnati organizations, including Springer, from the 1960s until his death in 2006. His career at Procter & Gamble spanned several decades and ultimately led to his being named head of public relations. Mr. Gale was appointed special assistant to the Secretary of Defense during the Eisenhower Administration.

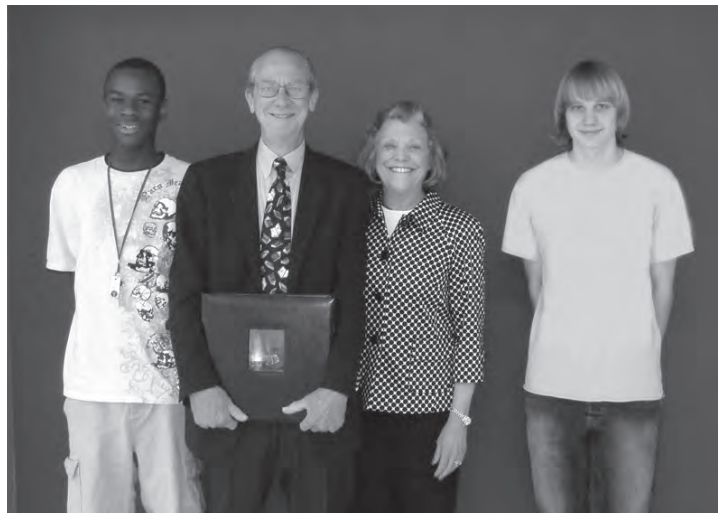
Throughout the 1970s and into the early 1980s, Mr. Gale continued his involvement with Springer serving on the Advisory Board and offering his expertise in business, public relations, and fundraising.

During a recent recognition assembly at Springer, Oliver Gale's son and daughter-in-law, Bill and Margy Gale were honored for the creation of this lasting legacy to Mr. Gale's passion for history, travel and particular interest in Washington, D.C. "My father played a very influential role in the founding of the modern Springer School and often said that his years of Washington service were among the happiest of his life," said Bill Gale. "This program strikes me and my family as a fitting tribute to both a fine man and an exceptional school."

# Students Travel to D.C.

*"The students were very appreciative of this opportunity and all had feelings about the experience that they wanted to share. Being in D.C. helped to put a "physical face" on things they were studying and could only imagine. Some of the Springer students who traveled to D.C. had never been out of our tri-state area. This was such a learning opportunity for them in more ways than one. They gained many life experiences – from how to pack their bags to how to handle their money. These experiences were made even more real because they were making decisions independent of their parents. The students returned more confident. Thanks to the Gales, our kids grew up on this trip."*

Terri Moorhead – D.C. Chaperone, Upper School Teacher and Placement Director



*Bill and Margy Gale, center, celebrate the first of the Oliver Gale Washington Academy in Washington, D. C., with Springer students, Martez Copeland and Spencer Dorn*

## Springer's Annual Dinner

On May 13, 2008, Springer staff and Trustees gathered to remember and celebrate the 2007-08 school year. New Trustees and Board Officers were announced and introduced (see page 6) while goodbyes were said to two retiring Trustees – Kate Lawrence and Rick Kimbler. Kate, active on Springer's board since 1999, had varied roles during her tenure. Her most recent contribution to Springer's growth was as Campaign Chair during the \$5 million capital campaign, *Imagine the Possibilities*. Her leadership of the campaign was instrumental to its success. Rick Kimbler, also on Springer's board since 1999, was active on the Development Committee and served as Annual Fund Chair. But Rick's work on the Resource Committee allowed him to address his particular passions for Springer – the buildings and campus. As Russ Wilson, 2007-08 President, said in his recognition of Rick, "Anything we did or thought about doing with the facility was Rick's baby, and he put literally hundreds of hours into the work leading up to the renovations."

Josh Deckard, Springer alumnus and former White House Press Secretary, attended the annual dinner along with his wife Ali, his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Lon Deckard, and in-laws, Mr. and Mrs. Mark Tullis. During a short presentation, Josh shared his own personal story about coping with learning disabilities – from his days at Springer throughout the journey into adulthood. Earlier in the day, Josh had generously met with Springer students to talk about his life experiences after Springer.

Outgoing SPA President Caroline Cox

provided perspective on SPA activities and successes for 2007-08. Caroline was recognized for her two-year tenure as SPA President and her dedication to Springer families.

During the evening, several staff members were honored for significant service milestones. Sandy Kohn and Shelly Pyles were recognized for five years of service; Kathy McMillin for ten years; Jan Annett, Anthony J. Barone, Mike Desmier, and Carol Shumrick for 15 years; Robbie Dimling, Mark Phelps, and Mary Lou Linley for 20 years and Terri Moorhead for 25 years.

Terri was given a special tribute, as she is only the 4th staff member in Springer's history to celebrate 25 years. Terri has had varied roles at Springer – classroom teacher, Placement Director, Upper School Head, and alumni parent. Terri has helped shape the lives of hundreds of children and her love for what she does is always evident. High school placement is Terri's specialty and as the school world becomes more complex, she represents students' needs to the school, and she brings the profile of the child to life so that they are well served after leaving Springer.

During the close of the evening, Shelly Weisbacher celebrated outgoing President Russ Wilson's many contributions during his three years as President of the Springer Board of Trustees. She shared that under Russ's strong leadership, the Board had numerous accomplishments – the capital campaign, facilities renovation, and alumni initiatives to name a few. Russ will remain on the Springer board until the end of the 2008-09 school year.



*Retiring Trustee, Kate Lawrence with 2007-08 President, Russ Wilson.*

*Terri Moorhead was celebrated for her 25 years at Springer.*

*2007-08 President Russ Wilson with 2008-09 President Tom Leugers and Retiring Trustee, Rick Kimbler.*





## Springer Announces Board Officers & New Trustees for 2008-09

Springer School and Center is pleased to welcome the following Trustees to its Board:

**Cheri Derrick** (top) is a graduate of Miami University where she earned a BA in Organizational Communications. Her long-standing career with Bank of America began in 1985 in Human Resources. Currently, Cheri is a Senior Vice President, Marketing Research Manager. Her responsibilities include conducting marketing research studies for business segments within the commercial side of the bank. Cheri is an active volunteer in the Beechwood Schools (Ft. Mitchell, Kentucky), where her son, Ben, a Springer graduate, is enrolled.



**Nancy Kogmeier** (middle) has an MBA from Harvard University. For 14 years, she worked in Brand Management for P&G and Sara Lee. For the past five years, she has been self-employed as a marketing consultant, and has been involved in numerous volunteer projects. She and her husband Allan have three children. The youngest, George, attended Springer for three years and is currently enrolled at Cincinnati Country Day School.



**Catherine Mathile Laden** (not pictured) began her marketing career serving as a Research Associate for the Iams Company and Hayes-Hill,

Inc. She held the position of Marketing Specialist with Mead Data Central before returning to the Iams Company as the Contributions Manager. Cate has been active for many years in professional and community service. Currently, Cate is on the CISE Board of Advisors and the Summit Country Day School Marketing Committee. She is a member of the Mathile Family Foundation Board of Directors and serves as the Foundation's Vice President. She and her husband Donald are the parents of four children, two daughters and two sons.

**Margaret Louise Tondow** (bottom) graduated from Georgetown University where she earned BSN and RN degrees. She received her Masters Degree in Nursing from the University of Pittsburgh. Margie has been an active volunteer for many years. She has had a long commitment to the American Heart Association, with a particular interest in bringing awareness of heart disease to women. She served as the Association's Board President in 1998-2000. Margie is married to Dr. David Tondow, Jr.; they are the parents of three daughters, one who is a Springer graduate. They have four grandchildren, two girls and two boys.

## The 2008 Spirit Award Winners!

Each year, teachers are asked to choose one student in their homeroom to receive the Springer Spirit Award. Recipients of this award demonstrate a spirit of cooperation with adults and peers on a consistent basis, act as a good

role model for other students, both socially and academically, and show pride in themselves both as learners and as individuals. Congratulations to this year's award winners!

Brian Bohl

Jake Fehrenbach

Alicia Riley

Brian Smith

Nora Bray

Brendan Hogan

David Robertson

Alex Thurner

Jeffrey Clippinger

Maria Leeman

Karly Schafer

Marissa Vando

Adam Dock

Erin Nordhill

Ioana Shea

# Students

## Springer Families Enjoy Bike Hike and Family Picnic...in Spite of the Weather!

It was a little rainy, a little overcast, but that didn't keep Springer students and their families from having a great time at the annual Bike Hike and Family Picnic held at Sharon Woods on April 13. Lots of bikes were visible, dads were flipping burgers on the grills, and when the rain and the chill got to be too much, everyone headed into the lodge to sit by the fire. There was even a surprise magician on hand who kept everyone entertained! Hosted by the Springer Parent Association, the annual Bike Hike brings families together in the great outdoors while raising money for student enrichment programs. This year's event was co-chaired by Elizabeth Rogers and Kim Schenk with Andy Wilson assisting with volunteer coordination. Fresh Market, in a repeat from last year, again stepped up to generously sponsor most of the picnic food. The Springer Parent Association would like to thank all the students, their parents, and all the volunteers for another successful fundraiser and community gathering.



## Springer Students Soar with Music and Art Enrichment Programs

Each year Springer students are able to enhance their music and art experiences through hands-on workshops made possible through the Maureen Wenker Artist in Residence Program and the Norita Aplin Musician in Residence Program. These special programs are intended to let Springer students further explore their own music and art talents while exposing them to new ideas and creativity.

### Artist in Residence – Deborah Brod

Upper School students worked with local artist, Deborah Brod, this year's Maureen Wenker Artist in Residence. Deborah is the recipient of numerous Ohio Arts Council Individual Artist Fellowships, and has been involved with the Arts in Education Artist in Residence Program since 1995. Her work is autobiographical, and sometimes made of precious or fragile materials. For this year's project with Ms. Brod, Springer students worked with a variety

of "found" materials and sculptural creations. These individual pieces of art were then combined into amazing, colorful wall hangings that now reside in the Springer library.

### Musician in Residence – Jim McCutcheon

Jim McCutchen, widely known music educator and performer, also known as "The Guitar Man," was this year's Norita Aplin Musician in Residence. Jim's professional background is extensive and diverse, with over three decades of performing experience in the U. S. and abroad. Jim has the distinction of being on the Ohio Arts Council Touring Roster for many years. At Springer, he spent a week teaching guitar and other instruments to children from each department while educating the students about music from around the world. A select group of Intermediate students worked closely with him, and showcased their work in an exuberant all-school performance on May 16th.



# Soar



## From The Center

### C4C: SPRINGER AND THE UNIVERSITY OF CINCINNATI JOIN FORCES

*“Give a man a fish, and you feed him for a day. Teach a man to fish, and you feed him for a lifetime. Encourage him to collaborate, and you feed generations.”*

These words headlined the Spring/Summer 2005 issue of Connect, the newsletter of The Greater Cincinnati Foundation. In that issue, a visionary grant was unveiled. The Harriette R. Williams Downey Fund of the Greater Cincinnati Foundation was created by Buck and Patti Neihoff to memorialize Patti’s mother and father in a truly lasting way. This fund granted more than \$2.1 million dollars to leading non-profit organizations in the four focus areas of education, health care, culture, and the arts. One caveat to receiving the grant: partner in an innovative way with the University of Cincinnati so as to “use the power of collaboration to create a brighter future for our children – and our children’s children.”

Springer School and Center was one of nine non-profit organizations in Cincinnati to receive the Niehoff’s challenge. Congruent with the Springer mission, “Empowering students with learning disabilities to lead successful lives,” Springer crafted a collaboration project with UC’s department of Education, Criminal Justice and Human Services (CECH).

Collaborating 4 Collaboration, or C4C as it is now referenced, has taken shape over the past three years from an initial day-long professional development training of UC professors, to a comprehensive three-day workshop that provided collaboration opportunities for teams working within two school districts. The teams consisted of UC pre-service teacher candidates in English and Special Education and their assigned mentor teachers. Other administrative personnel also attended the workshops and

provided a valuable contribution to the process and direction of the initiative.

C4C promotes collaboration and communication between general educators, special educators and pre-service teachers primarily in two ways:

1) It ensures that pre-service teachers develop an understanding of the foundations of HOW students learn through the study of four main learning constructs: Attention, Memory, Language and the Ordering Systems (temporal-sequential and spatial ordering).

2) The project provides instruction for pre-service teachers and their mentors in how to build a collaborative teaching partnership within their schools that brings together the regular education teacher, intervention specialists and other critical school personnel to better meet the diverse learning needs of all students.

Dr. Chet Laine, UC team member, said of the C4C project with Springer, “Our collaboration with Springer School and Center has been a very valuable professional experience. The expertise that Barbara Hunter and her colleagues bring to the UC faculty, local school-based mentor teachers and both special education and regular education student teachers greatly expands our view of teaching all children.”

In May, the Springer/UC coordinating team showcased C4C at the International Reading Association’s convention in Atlanta, Georgia.

Future plans include expanding the number of participating schools and delivering the Springer three-day course multiple times throughout the school year.

# Collaborati



## Record Participation for Springer’s Track Team

What a great track season! Springer had 75 track participants this year - a record number. Despite rain at many of the Friday and Saturday meets, the students worked hard and had fun. At the CYO Championships, on May 16th and 17th, several Springer student placed including: Erin Nordhill – 1st place in the discus throw, Spencer Dorn – 5th place in the discus throw and 6th place in the long jump, Martez

Copeland – 4th place in the long jump, Brennan Kirkpatrick – 6th place in the discus throw, and several relay teams in the 4x100m and 2x100m races. Many thanks to all the students for their participation and parents for their support! A special thanks is given to Springer’s wonderful track coaches – Mark Phelps, Debbie Phelps, Mike Kennedy, and Meg Bloss. Congratulations team, for another great season!





## Class of 2008

Springer School and Center presents its transitioning class of 2008. The all-school Commencement celebration took place in Springer's beautifully renovated gymnasium on June 10th. Good luck, graduates!

Elena Boaz Adkins  
 Allysa Babb  
 Kayla Bankhead  
 Bryan Bohl  
 Nora Delaney Bray  
 Diamond Joi Caulton  
 Trevor Cohen  
 Michelle Conroy  
 Martez T. Copeland  
 Connor Devlin  
 David Spencer Dorn  
 Patrick Dowling  
 Jacob Fehrenbach  
 Evan Joseph Fishback  
 Mitchell R. Frazier  
 Albert Friend  
 Greyson Patrick Fuller  
 John Wood Gardner

Anna Michelle Gayle  
 David Daniel Gerner  
 Kelly Grannen  
 Jamee Alene Groneck  
 Joshua Grout  
 Sarah Grout  
 Lilly Hanna  
 Joshua Harness  
 Anna Harty  
 Taylor Hurst  
 Matthew Thomas Johnson  
 Austin Joseph Kemper  
 Sophia A. Lubic  
 Henry Colton MacKay  
 Alex Masson  
 Mike Naber  
 Erin Nicole Nordhill  
 Evan Phillips

Margaret Piker  
 Jeffrey Pilger  
 David Nathaniel Robertson  
 John Rogers-Fightmaster  
 Cody Mitchell Rose  
 Patrick Ryall  
 Karly Elizabeth Schafer  
 Katelyn Schmidt  
 Benjamin Self  
 Regan Kathryn Stacey  
 Benjamin Steigerwald  
 Mac Sudbrack  
 Bennett Szames  
 Alexandra Rusty Thomas  
 Michael Austin Ward  
 Taylor Christine Welling  
 Emily Ann Morgan Willis  
 Daniel A. Wones

tion

## Bolan Scholarship Award Winners

**CONGRATULATIONS TO NORA AND ERIN, AND THEIR FAMILIES!**

Intermediate Green Department student, Nora Bray, and Upper School student, Erin Nordhill, were named the 2008 Bolan Scholarship Award recipients at this year's commencement ceremony. This award recognizes graduating students who demonstrate an understanding of their learning disability, apply the strategies learned at Springer, display a positive attitude,

demonstrate leadership, and show concern for others. The award provides each graduate with a scholarship to offset future educational costs. The scholarship is available through a fund established in 1988 in memory of Mr. Peter Bolan, a Springer alumni parent and great supporter of the school. This year's award was presented by Mrs. Jeannie Bolan Shurmer.



# In Memoriam

## MARTHA (MARTI) LEWIS

We were saddened to learn that Springer's first Development Director, Marti Lewis, passed away on May 3, 2008. Marti's involvement with Springer began in the early 1970s when her son, Rob, was a student at the Roselawn Center location. She initially was a volunteer coordinator, responsible for as many as 70+ volunteers. She and her husband, Ernest Lewis, a previous long-term Springer Trustee, literally helped move Springer from the Mt. Adams campus to Roselawn Center. Marti was a classically trained pianist and was always interested in finding ways to enhance the musical experience for Springer students. Former Executive Director, Norita Aplin said of Marti, "She was always cheerful,

always laughing and had a sunny personality. She was a modest, accomplished person." Her husband Ernie said, "Springer helped our child. Springer was there when we were feeling pretty desperate. We were paying back only what was given to us. Marti and I were a very dedicated team. I was a board member and she was the "make it happen" person. We tried to do the things that helped the school the most."

On behalf of Springer staff, Trustees, families and supporters, thank you Marti for your caring, commitment and vision for Springer students and for the future of Springer School and Center. You will be remembered and missed.

## Memorials & Tributes

### TRIBUTES

*In honor of Patty Hericks*

Mr. and Mrs. Lawrence W. Grote

*In honor of Mr. and Mrs.*

James Katsanis

Mr. and Mrs. Jim J. Demetrian

*In honor of Chip Pratt*

Mr. and Mrs. Carl E. Pratt

*In honor of Sue Wenderoth's birthday*

Mr. and Mrs. Gregory E. Walsh

### MEMORIALS

*In memory of May Belle Finn Barrett*

Mr. and Mrs. Carl E. Pratt

*In memory of Eleanor Blowe*

Mr. and Mrs. Mitchell Habib

Organization Development Team -

The Neilson Company

Ms. Paula Solomon

Mr. Joe Wilke

*In memory of Kenzie Comisar*

Miss Vallie Geier

*In memory of Robert Feist*

Ms. Donna J. McLay

*In memory of Dorothy Lerner*

Mr. and Mrs. David Millett

*In memory of Michael Levenson*

Mr. and Mrs. David Millett

*In memory of Charles T. Lovett*

Mr. and Mrs. Richard Kaesemeyer

*In memory of Chester Pickering*

Mr. and Mrs. Edward A. Kamphake, Jr.

*In memory of James S. Wachs*

Mr. and Mrs. W. Russell Wilson

*In memory of Virgil Watson*

Ms. Donna J. McLay

*In memory of Martha Lewis*

Mrs. Norita Aplin

Mr. and Mrs. W. Keith Baldwin

Ms. Ruth Borman

Mr. and Mrs. Robert M. Bratton

Mr. and Mrs. Philip L. Breen, Jr.

Ms. Ann V. Bullock

Mr. and Mrs. Lawrence W. Farrell

Mr. and Mrs. Jack W. Gottschalk

Ms. Alice Anne Griffiths

Ms. Jane E. Hagen

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Ms. Joan Zaradich



## Alumni Connections

**Nathaniel Adams '02** competed in the Ohio State Age Group Swimming Championships during his 2008 spring break. Swimming for the Cincinnati Aquatic Club (CAC), Nathaniel's 13-14 Boys 200-meter freestyle relay placed 3rd in the state with a new CAC record of 1:33.60. Nathaniel also qualified in the 50-meter and 100-meter Freestyles as well as the 100-meter Breaststroke. CAC is a year-round swim team based at CCDS.

**Libby Bentz '00** is a senior majoring in industrial design at Columbus College of Art & Design. She achieved President's List (GPA 3.4 or better) for fall semester 2007. Her plans are to specialize in toy design.

**Erin Knecht '98** graduated from the College of Mount Saint Joseph in May 2007 with a Bachelor of Arts degree. She currently works for Starfire Council of Greater Cincinnati Inc. as an Assistant Activity Coordinator for the Adult Out and About Day Program. Starfire enables individuals with disabilities to become active and vital members of the community. She is also a volunteer for the Hyde Park Community Methodist Church Youth Fellowship program.

**Joshua Cohen-Kolesa '89** graduated from Brown Mackie College in December 2007 with an Associate's Degree in accounting. He now works as an Estimator at Specialty Envelope in Cincinnati, Ohio.

**Andrew Farnham '96** recently graduated Magna Cum Laude with a Bachelor of Science degree in Marine Transportation Operations from Maine Maritime Academy in Castine, Maine. He is qualified as a Third Mate with a PIC certification in oil and hazardous cargo. He will be working for Overseas Shipholding Group (OSG) as a training mate on the east coast and Gulf of Mexico. During college he also volunteered for the Castine Fire Department and qualified for the ship's Emergency Squad during their summer cruises. In addition to his college courses, he spent two summers on the

school's ship and saw numerous ports in the Mediterranean Sea and the Caribbean, and had a summer cadet shipping experience with a commercial company moving oil from Alaska down the west coast of the United States.

**Ross Freshwater '82** is currently a PhD student in Education Leadership and Policy Analysis at the University of Wisconsin in Madison. Prior to this he worked for five years as a social studies teacher at Nicholas Senn High School, a Chicago Public School catering to 70 nationalities. He received his M.Ed. in teaching and curriculum from Harvard in 2000 and his B.A. from Ohio State in political science in 1994. He is married to Melissa Gibson, a fellow educator and native of Chicago.

**Brad Langford '04** recently participated in the Southwest Ohio High School and Diving Classic competition, the largest high school invitational in the country. Out of 245 swimmers, Brad was the top qualifier for finals in the 200-meter freestyle swim. In a come from behind swim, he became the 2008 200-meter Freestyle Classic Champion! As described by his mother, "Brad's journey has been a long and challenging one filled with some highs and some unbelievable lows. To watch him touch the wall first and act with such class and dignity as he hugged and shook the hands of each of his competitors before he was willing to talk with the press or anyone else was truly a magic moment." Brad also finished 3rd in the 100-meter Butterfly and was a Classic runner-up in the 100-meter Freestyle.

**Justin Tasset '01** graduated from Moeller High School in May 2008. He has signed a letter of intent to play lacrosse at the College of Mount Saint Joseph. Justin played lacrosse for four years at Moeller, and is also a member of the Cincy Lax Dogs All Star travel team. Outside of lacrosse, he is involved in Christmas on Campus, the Food Drive, and attended a 5-week exchange student program in Australia.



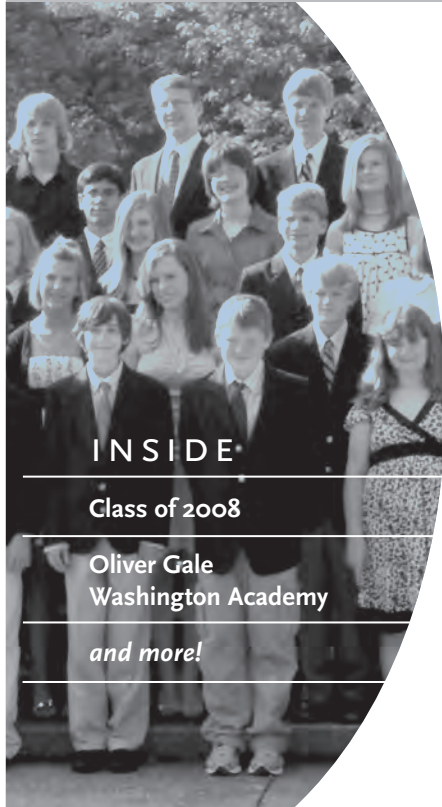
Above, Andrew Farnham  
Below, Ross Freshwater



Above, Brad Langford  
Below, Justin Tasset



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## INSIDE

Class of 2008

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Washington Academy

and more!

## Anne Ford Brings Personal Message to A Springer Celebration!

During the April 30th *A Springer Celebration!*, guest speaker Anne Ford delivered a powerful message that struck a chord with many Springer parents and supporters. As the mother of an adult child with learning disabilities and national learning disabilities advocate and author, Mrs. Ford talked about the realities a parent faces when a child is diagnosed with learning disabilities.

Read more about *A Springer Celebration!* on page 3!



## All School Quest

WHERE LITERATURE CAN TAKE US

During the evening of April 10, 2008, Springer families and staff came together to delight in the culmination of this year's central learning theme – Where Literature Can Take Us. Undoubtedly one of the year's most popular gatherings, parents and their children explored art, writing, sculpture, and displays from each of the different classrooms. The literature theme provided rich material for creativity, ingenuity, and fun all while further enhancing an appreciation for reading and imagination among Springer students. Springer students and staff demonstrated that literature can take us everywhere!

