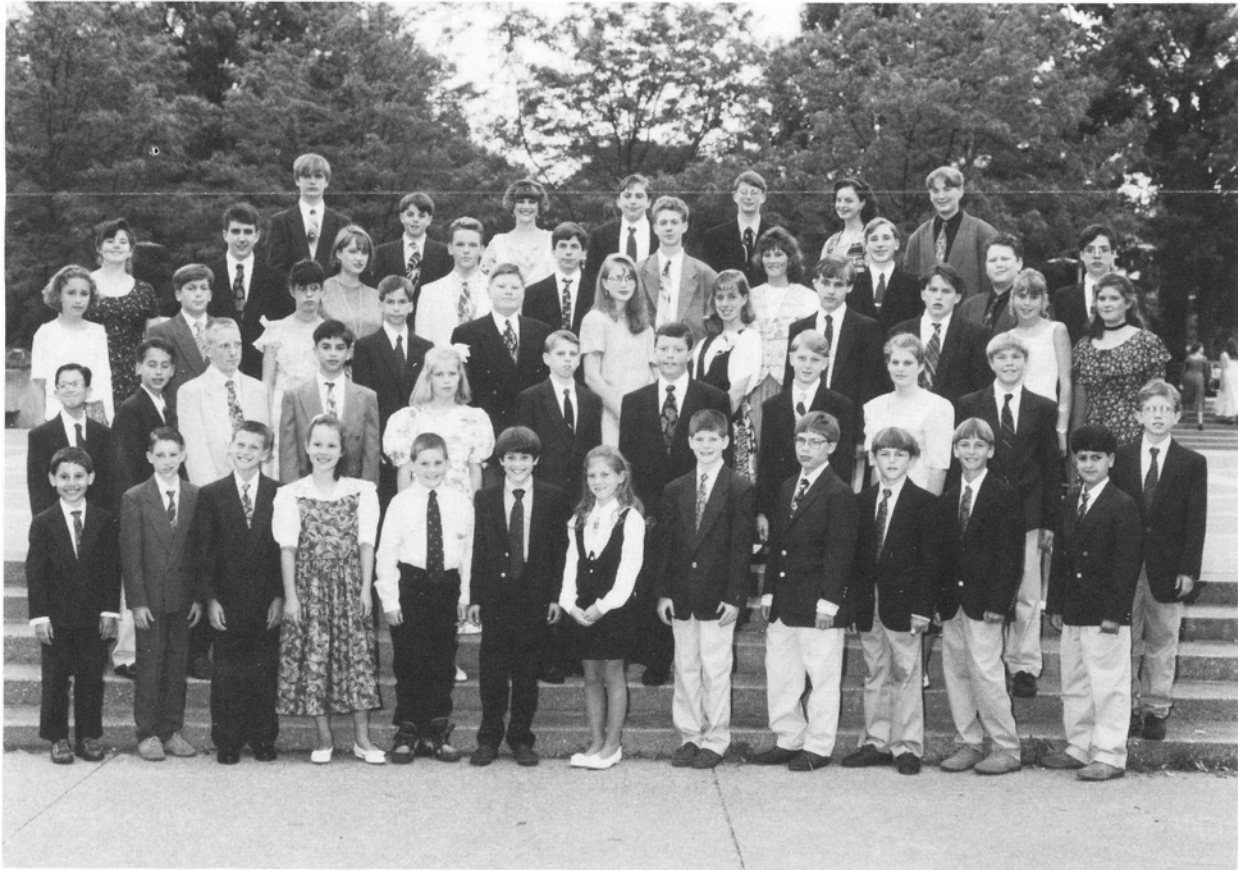




News & Views of The Springer School

Summer 1994

1994 Graduates



Scott Acheson
 Gus Albers
 Lauren Altman
 Jack Altekruise
 Harley Boniface
 Nicolle Carr
 Robby Coffaro
 Noah Cohen
 Kenzie Comisar
 Tim Conboy
 Matt Convery
 Paul Demmy
 Matt Disney
 Ross Dolan
 Blake Dowlin
 Brian Evarone
 Chris Flanigan
 Matt Gardner
 Heather Gee

Liberty Junior School
 Summit Country Day School
 Summit Country Day School
 St. Vivian
 St. Ursula Villa
 Mercer Elementary School
 Turpin High School
 The New School
 St. Ursula Villa
 Roger Bacon High School
 Guardian Angels
 St. Catherine
 Sycamore Junior High School
 Purcell Marian High School
 Indian Hill Elementary School
 Turpin Junior High School
 Colerain High School
 Turpin Junior High School
 McNicholas High School

Patrick Gilpin
 Phillip Glotfelty
 Kristy Gruenemeier
 Stephen Hall
 Jeremy Hassman
 Christina Lawrence
 Sarah Leonard
 Roger Long
 Elizabeth Looney
 Shawn Martin
 Katie McInnis
 Kevin McLay
 Jenni Meranda
 Dennis Meyer
 Stacey Middleton
 Greg Mumford
 Brandon Nimmo

Turpin High School
 Cincinnati Hills Christian Academy
 McNicholas High School
 Faulkner Academy,
 Grand Cayman BWI
 Turpin Junior High School
 Indian Hill Middle School
 Summit Country Day School
 Cardinal Pacelli
 Doherty School
 Summit Country Day School
 Mercer Elementary School
 Colerain High School
 Seton High School
 Turpin Junior High School
 Milford Junior High School
 Summit Country Day School
 Milford Junior High School

Robyn Nye
 Patrick Powers
 Amanda Priestle
 Nick Sedler
 Yousef Shtiewi
 Josh Shuller
 Aaron Solomon
 John Strickling
 Luke Summe
 Emily Thorman
 Betsy Von Holle
 Andrew Webb
 Jonah Weiss
 George Wells
 Jordan Werwa
 Mike Wilhide
 Chad Wylie

Princeton Junior High School
 McNicholas High School
 Seton High School
 Our Lady of Victory
 Greene Intermediate School
 Indian Hill Elementary School
 Sycamore Junior High School
 Indian Hill High School
 St. Agnes School (KY)
 Madeira Junior High School
 St. Margaret Cortona
 New Richmond Junior High
 Summit Country Day School
 Sycamore Junior High School
 Maineville Elementary School
 Purcell Marian High School
 Hilltop School (Reading)



Executive Director's Message

Norita Aplin, Ed.D.

This summer saw the beginning of a new service for students who do not attend Springer's day school program. That new service is a summer school. It is one of several indirect services designed to meet the needs of children with learning problems who, for a variety of reasons, do not enroll at Springer.

The program design was developed after a survey of existing programs in the community and successful programs offered by other Mid-western LD day schools. The program was centered around two hours of multisensory reading and writing instruction in classes of three students. Complementing this core were customized instruction in either math or computers, a language development experience and a physical challenge activity promoting problem solving, self esteem and cooperation.

Twenty children from 15 community schools attended class for four hours a day, five days a week during the month of July. A staff of nine highly trained teachers, one administrator, a student teacher and three volunteers planned carefully so that the \$800 tuition provided an intense, highly individualized experience for a cost of only \$10 an hour, much less than the cost of a summer tutor. The program was enthusiastically received by both students and parents. As one parent said, "This is the first time my son is eager to return to school so he can share what he has learned."

Springer plans to offer a summer program again next year.



Welcome!

Eleven professional educators joined the Springer faculty this year. Please join us in welcoming them to our school.

Ann Marie Brubaker is a Primary Department homeroom teacher. She received her BA in Elementary and Special Education from the College of Mt. St. Joseph. Previous work experience includes serving as a LD tutor at Winton Forest Elementary School. **Jodi Beal's** classroom is in the Intermediate Department. Her degree is in Elementary Education and Moderate Special Needs. In addition to teaching in Atlanta, Mrs. Beal also taught for a year in Israel. **Christi Utz**, Upper School Science, has a degree in Elementary and Early Childhood Education. She has additional credits in LD and in Science. She has taught for 15 years, three of which were in a one-room school she operated in her home for children with special needs. **Anne Campbell**, Upper School Reading, has a Masters Degree in LD from the University of Detroit. She has 11 years teaching experience. **Barbara Purdy**, Art teacher, has a Bachelor's Degree in Art Education with a certificate in LD. Mrs. Purdy has also taught at the middle school and preschool levels.

An important element of Springer's highly individualized program is the presence of a teacher's assistant in the classroom during the instruction of reading, math and language. New assistants this year are: **Lori Freudenberg**, Upper School, volunteered at Springer last year. She's currently working on a degree at NKU. **Mary Louise Long** has a BS degree and a wide range of teaching experiences. Mary Louise assists in the Intermediate classroom. **Mary Ann Murphy** is also an Intermediate assistant. She is working toward a degree in Special Education at U.C. and has worked with adults and children in special ed settings for almost 10 years. **Joyce Muthing** assists in the Primary Department. She has a degree in Special Ed from Edgecliff College and has taught in a MRDD program as well as a preschool. **Susanne Reichard**, Primary Department, is also the mother of a Springer grad. She has more than 10 years experience working in preschool and elementary school programs. **Mary Ellen Villalobos** has done post-graduate work in Special Ed and has taught remedial reading. She is a classroom assistant in the Intermediate Department.

We Couldn't Do It Without You!



Margaret Josten Mitchell, a retired reporter for The Cincinnati Enquirer, wrote the copy for a pamphlet used in marketing the school.



This issue of "News & Views" is brought to you by generosity of **Lill and Clarence "Dink" Wetzels**. This retired couple label and sort all of Springer's bulk mailings.

Would you like to volunteer at Springer? There's a wide range of opportunities. Please call the Development Office at 871-6080.

Parent Involvement Key to One Family's Success



This June, **Kenzie Comisar**, daughter of **Marc and Paula Comisar**, graduated from Springer. Kenzie is not a high school senior but a nine-year-old getting ready to enter the fourth grade at St. Ursula Villa. She is leaving Springer to return to mainstream education just as her older brother Alex did a year ago.

Kenzie's mom, Paula, is also leaving Springer after serving two of her

four years here consistently volunteering. Through her efforts as 1993 co-chair of "Magnolia Time," the annual dinner/auction, and president of Springer's Parent Association, Paula has helped Springer increase its scholarship funds and community awareness of learning disabilities.

The driving force behind Paula's involvement has been a desire to "make people aware that there shouldn't be a stigma attached to going to Springer." She looks at this generation of kids as the first to really have different options in dealing with learning disabilities.

When the Comisars first realized that they had to make a decision about their children's needs they were relieved to find a place whose sole focus was learning disabilities. Although some parents initially have trouble making this transition, Paula says that for them it was a relief to know that some of their questions would be answered. This adjustment was also made easier by having both children at the same school.

The short time that kids stay at Springer can be difficult for parents. Since the average enrollment period is three years, getting to know other students and parents can be a challenge. For Paula, getting involved with the parent association made this easier. Then there is graduation to think about. "You just realize that there will be decisions to be made about where your kids will be placed after Springer," she adds.

"Now," Paula admits, "It is time to move on and move forward." With this move she feels that her children are going to other schools feeling better equipped and with stronger self-esteem and confidence. "They now know that they have special learning needs and that they have the tools to deal with them." As a parent, Paula has gained something too, "I learned that every child has individual needs and that we all learn differently."

Kenzie enjoyed Springer and the friends she has made but is excited about joining old friends at St. Ursula Villa. Coming to this school made her feel more comfortable with her learning disability and she would like others to feel the same. She explains, "Springer helps you through a lot of things and has very nice teachers and kids."

New Administrative Positions Announced

Springer's executive director, Norita Aplin, announced a new administrative structure for the school in July as she also announced two lead program positions for the school.

Gail Conti, M.Ed., has returned to Springer as Education Director and **Terri Moorhead, M.Ed.**, the Upper School reading teacher for the past five years, has assumed the position of Upper School Head, a half-time position. Mrs. Moorhead will also serve part-time as Graduate Placement Director. As Education Director, Mrs. Conti will be responsible for the overall leadership of the school's educational program as well as the direct administration of the Primary, Intermediate and Unified Arts Departments.

Mrs. Conti's work experience includes teaching in Springer's Upper School from 1985-88. Since then, she established a high school LD tutorial program at McNicholas High School. She stayed in contact with Springer during that time by coordinating two different parenting programs that the school sponsors.

Mrs. Moorhead has 15 years experience in the field of learning disabilities. She taught at Springer from 1979-84 when the school was much smaller and located in Roselawn. During the time she was tending her young family, she continued to work with local schools developing and implementing support services for LD students. She returned to Springer in 1989.

Springer is very fortunate to have these fine educators involved in the leadership and future of the school.



Terri Moorhead (left) and Gail Conti share administrative responsibility for Springer's educational program.

Wish List

The Development Office is in need of a second computer to use for news releases, flyers, proposals, etc.

We are looking for a used machine in good condition, compatible with IBM model 486.

If you can help, please call Jeanne Rolfes at 871-6080.

Officers and Trustees Elected

The school recently elected its 1994 Board of Trustees. The officers: **Stephen Allen** of Amberley Village, president; **Jerome C. Randolph**, Pleasant Ridge, vice-president; and **Anthony W. Hobson**, of Mt. Lookout, Treasurer. Both Mr. Allen and Mr. Randolph are alumni parents; Lauren Allen graduated in 1987 and Ben and Michael Randolph graduated in 1988 and 1990 respectively.

The following were re-elected to the board: **Sharry Addison**, Anderson Township, **Sug Clauder** and **Rob Portman**, both of Hyde Park; and **Barbara G. Lewis**, of Mt. Lookout. Mrs. Clauder is an alumni parent.

Newly elected members include: **Janice C. Cook** of Wyoming, community volunteer and alumni parent; **Scott N. Degerberg** of Mariemont, vice president and trust officer of Fifth Third Bank; **Peter D. Gomsak, Jr.** of Indian Hill, CPA and audit partner at Coopers & Lybrand; **Seth Miller** of Anderson Township, finance officer at LensCrafters; and **William K. Schubert**, M.D. of Clifton, president and CEO of Children's Hospital Medial Center.



Scholarships are Focus of Annual Campaign

The Springer Board of Trustees has a goal: to raise enough money in the Annual Fund Drive so that every child who needs the program can enroll at the school.

The school awarded more than \$220,000 in financial aid to 49 families this year. However, nine families had to make other plans for their children because of insufficient funds.

The Springer program is built upon the belief that a learning disability does not have to mean that a student will never achieve success in school. Small classes, teachers highly trained in the diagnostic/prescriptive method of teaching and individual learning plans for each child may drive up the cost of Springer's program, but graduate follow-up shows the program definitely works. 92% of Springer's grads complete high school; more than 60% of those go on to some kind of post-secondary education. By comparison, nationally only 50% of students with learning disabilities ever graduate.

Springer board vice president **Jerry Randolph** has enlisted two fellow trustees to join him in leading this year's Annual Fund Drive. **Rick Blum** is chairing the community campaign and **Eileen Barrett** is spearheading a leadership gift solicitation. They have recruited a team of 40 corporate and community friends who will solicit support for the school.

Springer Parent Association — A Closer Look

Parent volunteerism is the energy behind many of the activities that happen at Springer. Most of these fall under the big umbrella of the **Springer Parent Association (SPA)**, an organization created to increase parental awareness and involvement.

SPA activities can range from programs for student enrichment to special events that provide either fundraising opportunities or a chance for parent interaction. Events that are more enrichment driven comprise over half of what SPA does each year and feature educational opportunities and social occasions.

The **Girl's Club**, led by **Donna Trindle**, offers a girl-to-girl connection two afternoons a month for primary and intermediate ages. **Everybody Counts** is a program geared for all ages. **Donna Mayerson** will chair this November activity designed for increasing sensitivity to various handicaps. Also coordinated by SPA is the sale of **Spirit Wear** garments. **Lucy Maish** is leading this event. Other SPA sponsored activities include a **Book Fair**, **Used Book Exchange** and **Holiday Secret Shop**. The **Room Parent program**, **Staff Appreciation Luncheon**, **Pizza Day**, and a support group called "**Parents Helping Parents**" are also SPA generated.

Leadership and dates have been set for SPA's 1994-95 fundraising event schedule. We look for parent as well as alumni and community support in many of these events! Below are the activities that provide most of the funding for SPA programs. Profits allowed the group to make an \$8,000 donation to the school last year and pay for new landscaping on the school grounds. Please call the Development Office if you are interested in being a part of any SPA function!

Oktoberfest (September 17 and 18) **Carol and Tom McTernan** return for their tenth year as co-chairs. Volunteers sell 7-Up products and ice to other vendors.

Bike Hike and Family Picnic (September 30) **Jane Keating** and **Joyce Rich** co-chair this event for parents, alumni and staff. Students collect pledges for biking/walking around the 5.7 mile course at Lunken Airport. Hotdogs, drinks and snacks are provided in the Spirit of '76 picnic area.

Candy Sale (February 15-27) Springer's league and intramural sports programs are funded through this effort led by **Carolyn Williams**.

Spring Plant Sale Place your orders in March for plants delivered by Mother's Day! **Vicky Knisely** chairs this great chance to save money while helping Springer.



Kate Lawrence (center) accepted the invitation from Norita Aplin (right) and Jeanne Rolfes to serve as President of the Springer Parent Association. She will guide a wide range of activities during the year.

Nobody Succeeds Like a Springer Grad!

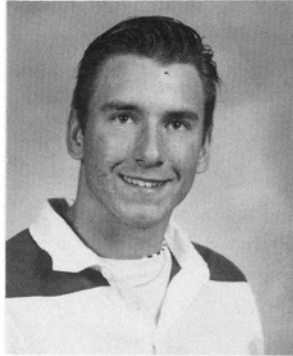
As the new school year begins, it's fairly typical to find students spending some time setting goals for the year. Often, students with LD feel they are lucky just to "make it through school" and never dream of receiving honors. However, we have found that it is not at all unusual for our grads to aspire to, and achieve, great success in school, sports, jobs, and life in general.

Each issue of *News and Views* will highlight several such success stories. If you'd like to share yours, please complete the form below and send it to us.

Remember, success is what you make it! It's **not limited** to the classroom — selling a painting, performing on stage, starting a business, landing that dream job, they all require determination and hard work.

TOM WINKLER - graduated from Springer in 1988 and from Turpin High School in 1994. Tom achieved Eagle Scout last spring. A member of Troop 281, Tom's service project was to clear brush, reinforce some steps along a trail and rebuild a bridge at California Nature Preserve. He was also assistant Scoutmaster, assistant Senior Patrol Leader and Troop Guide. A four year letterman in football and wrestling, Tom has enrolled at the College of Mt. St. Joseph.

JOHN SCHRAMM - graduated from Springer in 1992. John was voted Student of the Year by the faculty of Dixie Heights High School in Kenton County, Kentucky. He received the award because he is an "all around good student, a good athlete and is liked and respected by students and faculty." It was the first time a sophomore won this award. John also placed third in the Kentucky Regional Tournament in shot-put and discus.



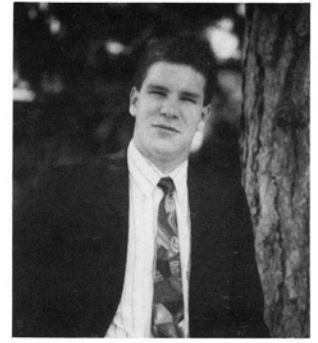
SUZANNE LIPS - Springer grad, 1989. This 1993 St. Ursula Academy grad is now a sophomore at the University of Vermont planning a major in Environmental Sciences. Her career goal is to work in the field of nature conservancy. Suzanne is very active in campus environmental and political groups. Her plans this year include creating and producing a TV show to be broadcast on the university's channel as well as by the local cable company. The show will feature debates on environmental issues. Staying organized and avoiding procrastination help her stay on course with all of her activities.



environmental issues. Staying organized and avoiding procrastination help her stay on course with all of her activities.

JEFF REICHARD - Springer grad, 1987. Jeff will enter The Ohio State University this fall with plans to major in either architecture or engineering. His interest in architecture stems from his working for his father who owns a construction company. He was initially

discouraged from this track by his counselor because his grades weren't great, but Jeff is really determined. He took an engineering/architectural mechanical drawing class and then did an independent study course in Auto CAD (computer assisted drawing). He worked all year drawing his dream house. He also was involved in a mentorship program available in the Forest Hills School District in which he spend about 18 hours working with a firm that specializes in the design of schools. Setting goals for even the simplest task has helped Jeff stay motivated to work hard and consistently. "When you achieve a goal, you feel so good that it gives you a lot of encouragement to keep going."



Springer Grads!

We want to know more about YOU! Please keep us posted.

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

School/Employer: _____

Year/Major or Job _____

Married? _____ Children? _____

Hobbies: _____

Would you be interested in sharing your successes (and challenges with current Springer students? Yes _____ No _____

Save This Date!!

Friday, November 25

6:30 p.m.

Springer Alumni Reunion

Watch your mail for more information!

For Sale

Entertainment '95 Books

Coupon book offers 50% savings on restaurants, sporting and cultural events, hotels, car rentals, movies and **MORE!**

Price: \$35
(Springer keeps \$7)

"HALF IT ALL"
and help Springer's scholarship fund!

To purchase a book, please call the
Development Office at 871-6080

Thanks!

Did You Know???

Once children are grown or a mortgage is paid off, life insurance policies can provide an excellent way to make a tax deductible gift to The Springer School without incurring any out-of-pocket expenses. If the policy is paid up, you can take a charitable deduction for the replacement cost. But even if it's not, you will still be able to deduct its cash surrender value. All that's required is a change in the ownership of the policy and the beneficiary designation. For more information, please call the Development Office, 871-6080.

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