

News & Views

FROM THE SPRINGER SCHOOL

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SUMMER 1987



Intermediate division

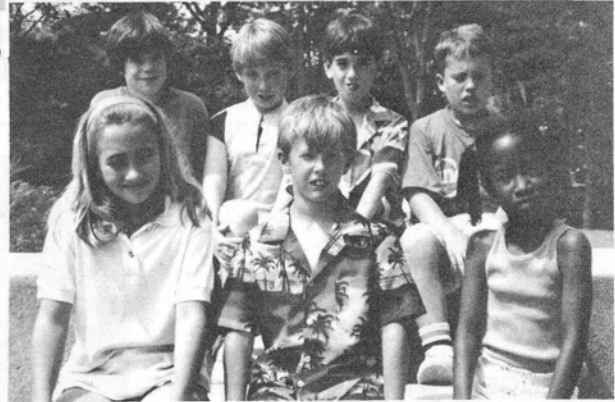


Junior High

Congratulations! Class of 1987

COMMENCEMENT is special at the Springer School, recognizing the achievements of young people who have met the challenge of specific learning deficits and attained the proficiency needed to function in mainstream classrooms. This year, thirty-two graduates received their diplomas at ceremonies on June 9.

Continued on next page



Primary division

Magnolia Time Success Boosts Scholarship Fund

Event Raises \$41,000

FOR Lynn and Tom Saul, Jacquie and Don Cosgrove, and their committee of 40, more than six months of planning, gift gathering, and designing and constructing decorations reached its elegant conclusion April 11, as some 350 guests gathered for the annual "Magnolia Time" dinner. This year's "Magnolia Time" provided a gala kick-off for Springer' 100th anniversary celebration, as well as netting \$41,000 for the scholarship fund.

In keeping with the occasion, Maureen Alexander, artist and Springer parent, developed a nineteenth century theme. As guests arrived, many dressed in old-fashioned attire, they were treated to a display of antique automobiles on the schools piazza. Inside the building, vintage clothing and furniture displays evoked the Gibson girl era, and guests could record the occasion with a souvenir photograph from an "olde tyme photo parlor." Two hundred items were displayed for bidding in the silent auction.

Following the dinner of beef

tenderloin, prepared and served by The Chafer, auctioneer Bill Wilson worked his magic on the crowd, which bid eagerly for 43 special gifts, trips, and experiences. One highlight was the lively bidding for a 100-bottle wine cellar which was donated to commemorate Springer's 100-year history. Three especially lucky guests were the raffle winners. Bob Bicknaver, who won the grand prize trip for two to New Orleans, Sara Geier, who won gold and diamond earrings, and Eva Ogletree, whose name was drawn for a custom designed gold and diamond pendant.

The 1987 graduates

Lauren Allen
 Michael Bernardino
 Chris Bowling
 Corey Buck
 Robbie Carey
 Janos Clark
 Arthur Clauder
 Josh Deutsch
 Jim Duggan
 Lindsey Egbert
 David Elma
 Malanie Fields
 Drew Fox
 Darren Gilbert
 Stephen Goldschmidt
 Mark Gordon
 Scott Harris
 Jamie Hayward
 Steve Houk
 Nick Insco
 Adam Johnson
 Aaron Korb
 Paige Mezibov
 Mike Peracchio
 Brad Rees
 Max Rehling
 Jeff Reichard
 Jim Rieder
 Steven Schneider
 Ronnie Secrist
 Shannon Treuheit
 Heather Weber



Former Springer students and their parents discuss expectations and realities of moving on to mainstream schools. From left: Mrs. Chris Malette and Christine; Chris Secrist and his father, Joe Plattner and his mother, and Jason Adams and Mrs. Adams.

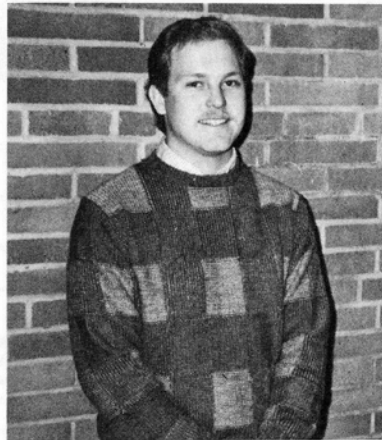
What After Springer?

EARLY EACH spring, Springer School offers current students and their parents a program presented by Springer graduates who share their experiences in the transition to their mainstream schools. The discussions provide information about expectations, work load, and peer pressure which help allay the fears that many students ex-

perience as they prepare to leave the Springer environment. This year, two panels were presented: one for students planning to enter grades 7 through 9 and one for parents and children seeking information about entering sixth grade and below.

The junior high panel included Amanda Arent, Springer '86, this year a seventh grader at Summ Girls School; Rob Hall '80, who was a sixth grader at Bishop Howard School after leaving Springer; Scott Harvey '86, ninth grader at Highlands High School, Ft. Thomas; Aaron Kent '86, ninth grader at Purcell Marian High School, and Shannon Reynolds '81, who moved from Springer to Mt. St. Joseph Campus School in seventh grade and is now a freshman at Northern Kentucky University.

Elementary level students and their parents heard from Jason Adams '84, who transferred to Wayandotte after second grade; Chris Malette '86, this year a sixth grader at Greene Middle school, Ani Martin '86, a Lotspeich sixth grader; Joey Plattner '86, Summit Boys School fourth grader, and Chris Secrist '85, who made the transition to fifth grade at the School for Creative and Performing Arts.



Welcome

DAVID ROMICK joined the Springer faculty in late February, when he was hired to replace junior high teacher Mrs. Gail Conti, who took leave to await the birth of her third child. Mr. Romick is a graduate of the College of Wooster and is certified to teach English in grades 7 through 12. Most recently he was an LD resource room teacher in College Hill.

Future Plans

COMMENCEMENT for Springer graduates means finding the right school placement. Their choices for the coming school year include: Anderson Junior High, Aurora Elementary, Bethany School, Christchurch School (Virginia), Cincinnati Country Day, Elder High School, The Gow School (New York), Green Hills Middle School, LaSalle High, Lotspeich, Loveland Miami School, Maple Dale (Sycamore), Mariemont Elementary, Marinett (Wisconsin), Milford South, Ohio State School for the Blind, Purcell Marian High, School for Creative and Performing Arts (2), Roger Bacon High, St. Bartholomew, St. Ursula Villa (2), Summit Boys Middle School (3), Summit Girls Middle School, Taylor Mill (Kentucky) (2), Wyoming High School

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 2121 Madison Road,
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 Jeanne Rolfes, editor
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Springer Celebrates National Volunteer Week

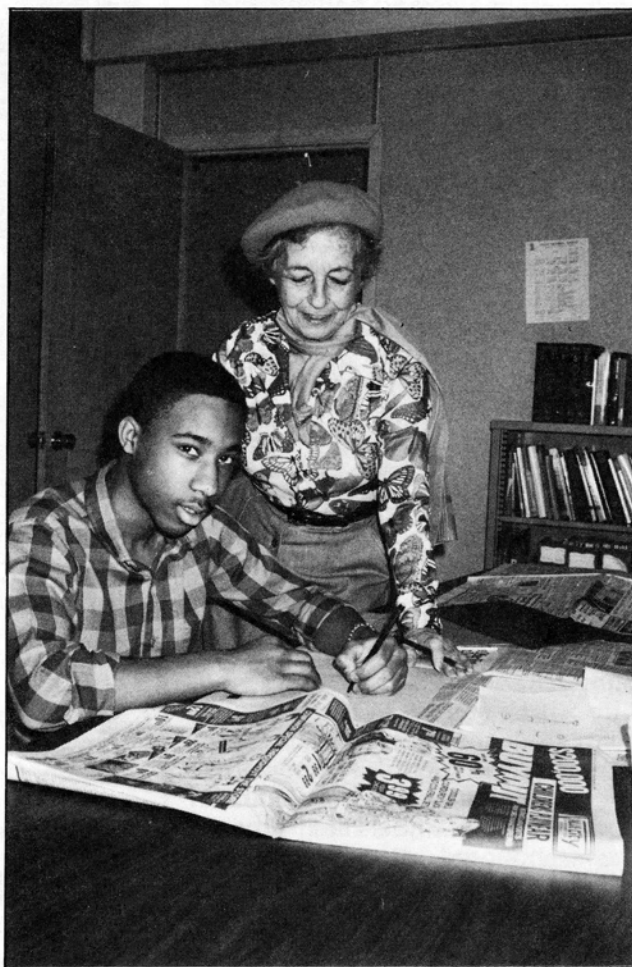
"VOLUNTEERS, the Community Connection" was the theme of National Volunteer Week 1987, April 26 - May 2, when Springer honored the more than 150 men and women who strengthen the school community through the gift of their time and talents.

The riches that volunteers bestow on Springer School are as varied as their donors. The 27 men and women who serve on the *Board of Trustees* share their talents for organizing and governing. *Annual fund drive* volunteers share the Springer story with other corporate and community leaders, so that city-wide support for scholarships enables more families to provide special education for their children. Without *Springer Parents' Association*,

there would be no Springer Pepsi booth at *Oktoberfest* or fulfilled *Bike Hike* or *Santa's Secret Shop*, where students can shop on their own. Nor would there be the gigantic *Rummage Sale* or *Pizza Days*, not to mention *Staff Appreciation Day* and all the other acts of hospitality.

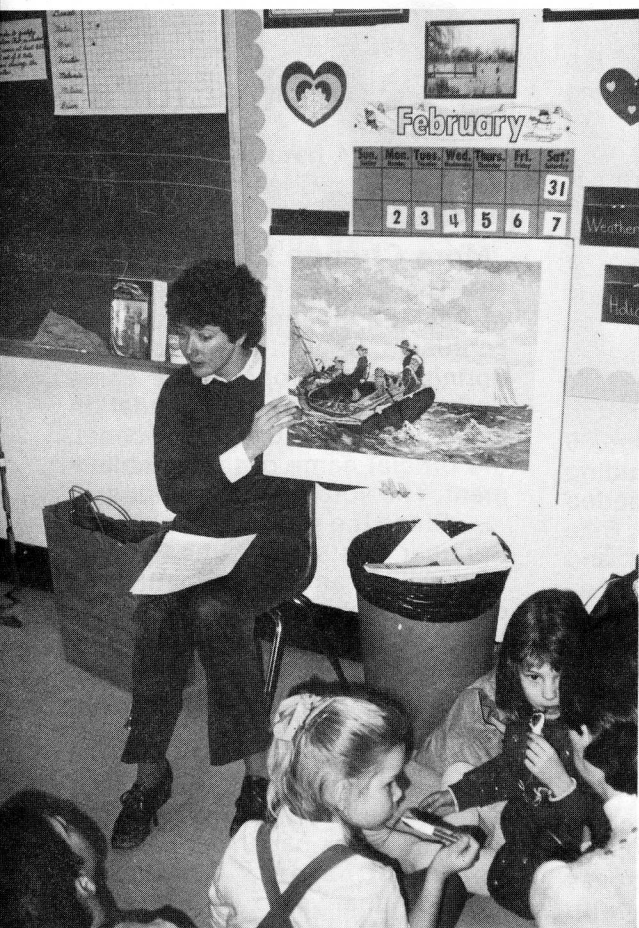
Without volunteers, *Magnolia Time* would not blossom each Spring (see page 1) This newsletter would be a plain typed bulletin, and the *development office* would be inundated with donor records and acknowledgments. The school's *psychology department* would not be able to offer individual psychological testing. Alumni records would be as scattered as the former students themselves.

Artist RUTHE PEARLMAN comes to Springer School every week to help Darren Gilbert refine his talent for drawing.



Across the nation, an estimated \$110 billion worth of time was contributed by volunteers in 1985. One tenth of that amount, \$11 billion, was contributed to educational organizations. The purpose of National Volunteer Week is to promote public awareness of voluntarism and to recognize the contributions of volunteers to the community.

Not least, Springer's academic program, too, has been greatly enriched by volunteers whose gifts of time and talent ranged from friendly encouragement with difficult assignments, specialized tutoring, and private art classes to the Picture Lady program sponsored by the Cincinnati Art Museum.



Picture Lady LAURIE BARRETT explains the story behind a fine art print to a class of Primary students.



JAN WETZEL, a nurse at the Christ Hospital, gives up a day off each week to provide clerical support to the Development Office. Here she enters donor information into the computer.

KURTZIE GONZALEZ finds reading to the children one of her favorite library activities. Mrs. Gonzalez set up the school's library 8 years ago.



A friend says goodbye—

Volunteer KURTZIE GONZALEZ has announced that she will "retire" from her work with the school library at the end of the school year. Mrs. Gonzalez began volunteering in the library when her daughter, Chris, was a student at the school on Summit Road in Roselawn.

While the school has always had books that the children were encouraged to take home to read, it was Mrs. Gonzalez who organized and catalogued the books into a real library. When the school moved to its present location, the library grew to need two rooms and is now open two days a week and is staffed by four more volunteers.

In recognition of her long and valuable service to the school, Mrs. Gonzalez was chosen as Springer's nominee for Volunteer of the Year at the City's Volunteer Recognition celebration April 30. The nominees were honored during a cruise of the Ohio on one of the BB Riverboats.

Fund Raising Efforts Rewarded

Annual Drive Tops Goal

THANKS to outstanding efforts by Annual Fund Drive chairman Richard E. Geier and his committee of 40 members, The Springer School has added almost \$70,000 to its scholarship/financial aid fund. Almost 98% of the \$63,500 goal had been reached when the drive officially ended on January 31, so there was good cause to celebrate a successful campaign, when the groups gathered for a victory party in early February. However, the funds kept coming in. By the end of the first week of May, \$69,736 had been received from the following sources: corporations and businesses, \$17,860; individuals, \$27,830; alumni parents, \$8,730; present parents, \$10,774; direct mail solicitation, \$2,907, and physicians, \$1,660.

In addition to the members of the fund drive committee who wrote personal letters or called on prospective donors, a first-ever solicitation of families of current Springer students was undertaken under the direction of Keith Baldwin. Georgia and Alan Kightlinger chaired the alumni

campaign, and Tom Saul sent letters of request to fellow physicians of the Cincinnati Academy of Medicine.

Other friends of Springer School have been generous with their time and money during the past year in support of the school. The CHARITY BALL, with proceeds divided between Springer and St. Joseph Infant Home, contributed \$16,500. The SPRINGER PARENT ASSOCIATION (SPA) presented the school with a check for \$11,000 raised from activities including Oktoberfest Pepsi Booth (headed by Tom and Carol McTernan), Bike Hike (Norma and Jim Rieder and Brenda and Dick Harris), Flea Market (Bev Olthaus), Secret Santa (Debbie Blum), and Book Fair (Pam Mackey).

Unrestricted donations from local FOUNDATIONS AND TRUSTS amounted to more than \$15,000, while various CLUBS AND ORGANIZATIONS throughout the city donated more than \$3,000, and the school has seen an increase the number of friends who remember loved ones and honor special occasions with contributions to Springer.

Lazarus, Federated Fund Visual Arts

LAZARUS Department Store and its parent company, Federated Department Stores, will contribute \$25,000 over the next two years to develop a visual arts education program at The Springer School. The grant will fund development of a visual arts curriculum specifically for learning disabled elementary school children. A professionally trained artist with teaching experience and knowledge of the communication difficulties of learning disabled children will be added to the Springer faculty in July.

"For the first time, Springer will have a professionally developed art program," says Norita Aplin, executive director, noting that "recent research indicated that the visual arts have a broader and deeper impact on developing communication skills for learning disabled students that was once

believed. It is good to be able to add this much-needed component to Springer's over-all remediation program." The program has two objectives: to develop a visual arts curriculum specifically for the LD child and to increase communication skills using visual arts during regular school hours throughout the year.

Former Springer Parent Elected to Board

Stephen Allen, whose daughter, Lauren, attended Springer School for seven years, was elected to serve on the school's Board of Trustees at its May meeting. Mr. Allen, President of Cincinnati Tag and Supply Manufacturing Company, has worked on the school's Annual Fund Drive for the past three years.



Director's Corner

More Change for Springer

The Board of Trustees voted at its May meeting to end some confusion about who and what Springer is by dropping the name Springer Educational Foundation and making The Springer School, the official name of the establishment. The vote was unanimous.

Since the school is the reason Springer exists, the name Foundation, well meant and indicating the organization's interest in educational development, caused some confusion, especially in the press, about Springer's mission and purpose.

When it was established 100 years ago with a gift from local philanthropist Ruben Springer, the school was the parish school of St. Peter-in-Chains Cathedral. Through the years, it has been known either as Springer School or Springer Institute as it served many of the special education needs of Cincinnati's children.

During the 1960s, educators began developing special programs for children who, despite average or above average intelligence, did not learn in a traditional school setting. Springer began at that time to focus its efforts on these special children. In 1970, the school ended its relationship with the Archdiocese of Cincinnati and was incorporated as a private, non-profit, non-affiliated school with programs devoted entirely to the learning disabled child. At that time, Springer Educational Foundation was selected as the school's name, to emphasize the foundation for future learning a child would receive from the program. However, as the school became more involved in outside fund raising, questions arose about whether funding was being sought for the school or for an endowed foundation that financed the school's programs. This confusion has prompted the decision to simplify the name—once again, The Springer School. —Norita Aplin

Be a Picture Lady

Would you like to help the students at Springer to understand the fine arts by conducting an hour-long in-class art activity once a month? The school has a good collection of fine art prints that serve as the basis for the classes. Don't worry—you don't need experience or any special talent in art. All Picture Ladies receive training at the Cincinnati Art Museum. This year's volunteers had a lot of fun with the projects, and watching the children enjoy learning about art and artists, drawing, color, and the stories the pictures represent was truly rewarding. Call Pamela Mackey at 871-8425 to learn more about being a Picture Lady. She'd be glad to talk to any prospective Picture Gentlemen as well.

Alumni News

GRADUATION is an important time, especially for former Springer students who have moved on and found success in mainstream schools. This year, one Springer alumnus received a college diploma, and more than 20 Springer graduates are among those honored at high school commencement exercises.

Xavier University awarded a bachelor's degree this year to John Jennewein. Other graduates include the following students.

Purcell-Marian High School—

Alice Clark, Kelly Babb, Amy Wagner, Scott Knoche, Ray, Serger, David Clark, Dever Schwein, and Larry Haubner;

La Salle High School—

Kevin Leonard;

Anderson High—Jay Detzel;

Oak Hills High School—

Devin Dower;

Moeller High School—John Baele,

Sean Reynolds, Scott Nelson;

Mariemont High School—

Dan Normile;

Roger Bacon High School—

Kelly Bollmer;

Harrison High School—

Randy Loechel;

Holy Cross High (N. Ky.)

Rob Durik, Marty Nienaber;

The Putney School (Vt.)—

Rafe Brown;

Inland Waterways Program of

Cincinnati Public Schools—

Doug Harris; and

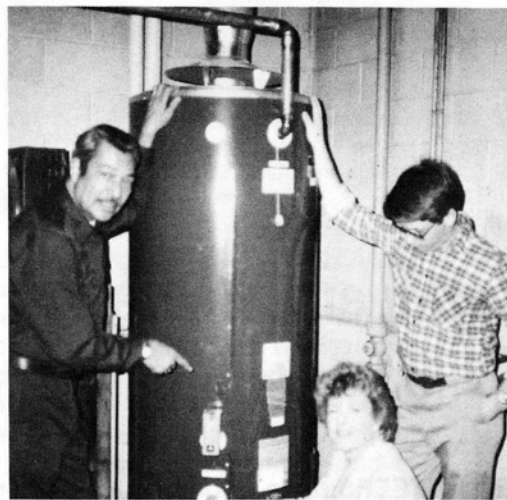
Indian Hill High School—

Ted Fry.



Mrs. Carol Shumrick and her geography class enjoy learning locations of the states with a room-size map of the U.S.

Springer Scene



Keeping a school running smoothly involves more than good classroom programs. Custodians Dave Colin (left) and Randy Abner explain the operations of a new water heater to Business Manager Jan Kessinger.

THE SPRINGER SCHOOL
2121 MADISON ROAD
CINCINNATI, OHIO 45208

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