



# News & Views<sup>of Springer School</sup>

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Autumn 1987

## Trustees Launch Capital Drive for Improvements

THE SPRINGER SCHOOL Board is engaged in a major capital fund drive, headed by JOHN T. LAWRENCE III and inspired by ambitious plans to renovate unused existing classroom space and expand the school's program. The goal is \$600,000, and to date the Schmidlapp Foundation has contributed \$100,000 and a further \$100,000 has been pledged.

Phase I of the plan was begun during the past summer, when two classrooms were added, the administrative offices were expanded, and new carpet was installed throughout the building. Phase II will include more renovation, as the capital drive progresses.



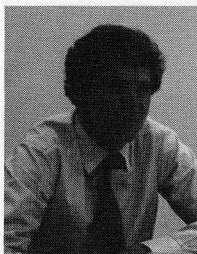
### Director's Corner

NO ORGANIZATION is static. There is either forward or backward movement, and we face a constant parade of options for change, some from without and some from within. The greatest challenge comes in selecting changes that will cause growth for Springer.

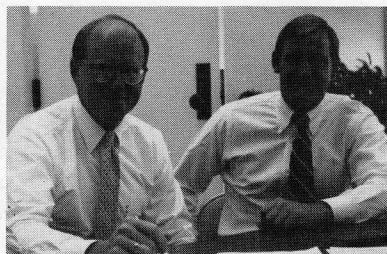
This issue of *News & Views* outlines several changes for 1987-88. Clearly the increased demand for enrollment has brought about the greatest externally created change here at Springer. We have added places for 29 more children. In consequence, we have done major remodeling, added to our staff, and increased fund raising needs.

This year we are seeing several internally generated changes. A new curriculum is in place for teaching written ex-

*continued on page 4*



Lawrence



McGraw



Allen

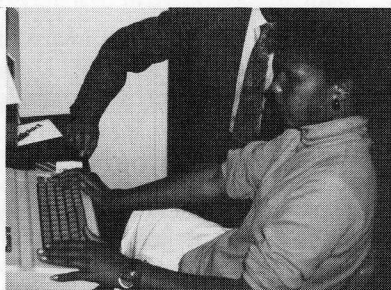
## Fundraising Team at Work

THE SPRINGER SCHOOL depends in large measure on the Annual Fund Drive, when a special group of friends and alumni go to work to raise the money needed to maintain the program's excellence. This year, their goal is \$72,500, and charged with raising it are general chairman MICHAEL S. MCGRAW, vice president of 5th/3rd Bank, and co-chairmen RICHARD E. GEIER of Reynolds, DeWitt Securities, and JOHN T. LAWRENCE III, of Prudential-Bache Securities.

This year's theme: "A rich history of service. . . a strong commitment to the future" was presented at the kick-off breakfast on October 8 donated by the

Bankers Club. New this year are special giving levels: \$100 to \$499, *century level*; \$500 to \$999, *leadership level*; and \$1,000 and over, *executive level*. Also new this year are increased attention to matching corporate gifts and the formation of a business committee. Alumni parent and board member STEPHEN ALLEN will head the committee, which will focus on small and medium donors from the business community.

A phonathon on October 19 was led by the present parents campaign chairman KEITH BALDWIN. GEORGIA and ALAN KIGHTLINGER are chairing the alumni campaign, which will conduct its phonathon November 16 and 17.



GUM BALL MACHINES, those familiar rotund dispensers of chewy treats, have dispensed a generous gift of \$1,000 for a Quietwriter printer for class-room use. (In photo) Bud Janszen, of the Cincinnati Kiwanis Club and student Megan DeWitte test the new printer. The Kiwanis Clubs, which place gumball machines on store and restaurant

## Support is Diverse

counters, use the proceeds for charitable uses.

CITICORP MORTGAGE Company has donated \$3,000 to The Springer School. The grant includes \$1,500 for to the Annual Fund Drive and another \$1,500 for a data base software system for the Development Office.

INCLUDED with the Fund Drive letter is the new brochure, designed and developed by Jan Kiefhaber, who donated her time to the school. The brochure will be used for general promotion and for prospective parents.

Belanger  
and Sweeney



Stevens



Weisbacher



Scott



Krug, Courtney and Rowley

## A Warm Springer Welcome

### Teaching Communication

MS. CAROLINE STEVENS is teaching oral communication to students in Intermediate I. Ms. Stevens, who did her undergraduate work at UC in speech pathology and audiology, spent a year at the University of Wisconsin before returning to UC, where she expects to complete an M.A. in communications disorders in December. She chose to work at Springer because she believes that Springer can "help children gain control over their lives and social relationships by helping them to develop competent communication skills." Ms. Stevens sings in a choir, is trained in Japanese martial arts and is interested in non-competitive conflict-resolution skills.

### An Education Director

MS. SHELLEY WEISBACHER joined the Springer School staff this year to fill a new position as director of education. A native Cincinnati, Ms. Weisbacher is a graduate of Northwestern University, where she earned a bachelor's degree in communication sciences and a master's in learning disabilities. She has been an LD teacher in Reading Middle School for the past five years, and previously taught learning disabled children in elementary and junior high schools in Indianapolis.

The director of education will act as a curriculum resource specialist for the staff and will develop curriculum for the Springer School program. She hopes to "explore the riches existing in the staff and help everyone to be aware of what's going on." She looks forward to this "special opportunity in a special environment of commitment."

### New Office Staff

MS. SUE BELANGER is the new school office secretary this year. Typist TRACEY SWEENEY has also joined the staff to help out part-time.

### New Master Teachers

THE SPRINGER SCHOOL welcomed four new master teachers this term. From left are RUTH KLUG, upper intermediate, KRIS COURTNEY, upper intermediate, and SANDRA ROWLEY, junior high. MARLENE BAER, primary teacher is not pictured.

Ms. Klug comes to Springer with experience as a resource room teacher at the Mt. Campus School and a learning disabilities tutor with Cincinnati Public Schools. A certified teacher of the learning disabled, she holds an MA in elementary education with emphasis on reading.

Ms. Courtney earned her bachelor's degree at Kent State University and is LD certified. She has taught junior high in Fostoria, Ohio, and was for five years an LD teacher at the elementary level in Findlay.

Ms. Rowley holds an MA in English from the University of Chicago and a Master's of Education in learning disabilities and behavioral disorders. Her past experience includes teaching high school English in a self-contained program for emotionally and behaviorally disturbed students in Kenton County, Ky.

Mrs. Baer, who teaches primary children, came to Springer from the LD classroom at St. Louis School in Owensville.

### Director's Corner.....from p. 1

pression. In addition, an educational director has been added to focus increased attention on curriculum and instruction, as well as to continue the effort to integrate classroom and non-classroom programs to meet student needs. We have also been able to add an art teacher and a second psychologist to our staff.

In opting to move forward, Springer will continue to face an array of choices. To select wisely from among the many options for change is an exciting challenge, and planning for change involves staff, parents, board members and students in the challenge. What an exciting year this is going to be!

NORITA APLIN

### Part-time Psychologist

Another welcome addition to the school is a part-time clinical psychologist CAROLINE McCABE, a child therapist in private practice now working half-time at Springer. Dr. McCabe is a graduate of Edgecliff College and the University of Detroit and interned at Rollman Psychiatric Institute. From 1980 to 1985, she taught at UC, and she has also worked at the Community Mental Health Clinic in Harrison. Dr. McCabe sees her work with Springer as an opportunity to work on a team, to see different perspectives, and through integrating other disciplines, to "put together the whole child."

## Parent's Association Off to Fast Start

SPRINGER PARENTS Association started off the year with a winner, as the Pepsi booth at **Oktoberfest** earned first place for decorations, as well as \$5,000 for the scholarship fund. Fifty parents and staff worked to make the event a success.

The annual **Bike Hike** on October 11 kept up the pace, with 96 students among the 207 participants, who pedalled 2,400 miles in cold, cloudy, windy weather.

KATHY CONNELLY is this year's SPA president, and LYNN SAUL is vice president. With two successes behind them, they are already involved in planning for **Santa's Secret Shop**, December 7 and 8, and the big **Flea Market** on March 12.



JENNY DIESEL, a Springer fifth grader won honorable mention in the Hyde Park Art Show on October 4 for her "hot air balloon" rendered in tissue paper. Jenny's was one of 10 Springe entries in the show.



Prize-winning schoolhouse at Oktoberfest

## Learning and Sharing

SPRINGER oral communications instructor JILL JOHNSON joined a panel discussing "Oral into Written Communication," presented jointly by the Southwestern Ohio Speech-Language and Hearing Association and Good Samaritan Hospital Speech Pathology and Audiology division on October 29 at the hospital. Richard Kretschmer, Ed.D. led the panel.

Ms. Johnson also addressed the Kentucky Speech and Hearing Association's Northern Kentucky Region on September 19, outlining the needs of middle school students and presenting specific instructional strategies.

## Emotional Support Extremely Important

by Mark Helmick, Ed.D.  
Springer Psychologist

THE CLASSROOM holds obvious obstacles for children who have learning problems. Faced with academic difficulties, many of these children develop emotional and behavioral problems that are evidenced in other areas of their lives.

The frustration, discouragement and confusion encountered in academic tasks can result in feelings of being "different" from other children. These children feel not understood or not accepted and will frequently evidence diminished self esteem. These reactions or "secondary" effects of learning disabilities are related to the child's view of self and basic personality and to the level of support and acceptance of family members. They become at least as important as the learning problems themselves.

Coping with these reactions demands from parents, siblings and teachers an incredibly high degree of patience, openness and commitment of time and energy. Specifically, the child must develop a realistic awareness of his

learning problems and be able to communicate them in his or her own words. An openness to discuss these concerns is needed in order to diminish the fears, misconceptions and at times, the shame children associate with learning problems.

Of equal importance to the child's understanding and acceptance of the learning disability, is help in developing a sense of perspective and positive identity. No one part of a person's life should become all important, and this is especially true with learning problems. These children will likely need help in identifying their strengths and reinforcing their successes. Support in setting appropriate, achievable educational and personal goals can enhance their feelings of success and importance.

Finally, children will often reflect characteristics of significant adults in their lives and are sensitive to their opinions of them. Therefore, parents and educators need to continue to model for these students the attributes we wish them to develop and to utilize processes for identifying and solving problems which we would like to see them imitate.

'TIS AUTUMN...but Magnolia Time will come again. The 1988 date is April 30. If you haven't been asked to help, you can volunteer by calling Jeanne Rolfes, development director, at 871-6080.

## Where Do We Go After Springer?

THE SPRINGER connection does not end when a student is ready for the next school placement. Through its liaison educator, NANCY IKE, Springer offers informed help in finding that important next school and, in addition, continues to monitor a student's progress during the transitional year after Springer.

The liaison educator provides a resource and support for staff, parents and students in finding school placement after Springer. Recommendations are based on a student's demonstrated needs for challenge, support, class size and program structure. Sometimes an appropriate place is not to be found locally, and Mrs. Ike seeks boarding schools outside the tri-state area where the students needs can be met. The liaison educator is also called upon when parents relocate because of a job change, and an effective network of LD professionals is available to provide careful educational placement in all parts of the United States and even overseas.

Graduates are followed closely for a year. Personal contact is maintained with the receiving school, and report cards are monitored. During this time, either parents or school may request further consultation after the initial meeting with the school in August or September. Consultation after this first post-Springer year is available at a special graduate fee.

Mrs. Ike is also available as a resource for summer academic programs, camps and tutors. Many graduates also seek guidance in special college placement. The Springer referral service offers consultation to non-Springer students and parents for both area placement and boarding schools.



**Have flute will travel.** SUE BELL is a concert flutist, as well as a master teacher in Springer's intermediate division. Mrs. Bell plays with the Cincinnati Ballet and the Pops Orchestra, and, having donated a two-hour performance as a premium at Magnolia Time, she played for a pig roast in rural Kentucky during Memorial Day weekend. It was different, Mrs. Bell says.



THE SPRINGER SCHOOL unveiled a new logo this autumn, evident now on attractive signs at the school, as well as on publications and stationery. Donated by Northich-Stolley advertising agency and designed by artist Sam Sheppard, the logo depicts a stylized apple-for-the-teacher and incorporates a double S for Springer School.

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