

# *Terry J. Springmeyer*

Terry Robertson graduated from Herculaneum High School in 1969, salutatorian of her class and a high school cheerleader. She graduated from the University of Missouri, Columbia in 1973 with a Bachelor's degree and a major in Vocational Home Economics. She earned her Master of Arts degree in Secondary Education from Washington University in 1983 and was certified in health education in 1992. Through college, she became TJ, and with marriage in the 1980's, Miss Robertson became Mrs. Springmeyer.

TJ began teaching at Herculaneum High School in 1973, and taught high school and middle school in the FACS department for thirty-one years. Upon retirement in 2004, she taught part-time until 2009. TJ has stayed on with the Dunklin district to work with extracurricular activities including Student Council and Prom Committee.

Throughout her teaching career, Mrs. Springmeyer remained open to learning and implementing new teaching strategies. She created elective courses in the FACS department and wrote curriculum for each. When creating a semester class in drug education, she enrolled herself in two college semester classes to acquire background knowledge and make contacts to enrich the course.

TJ always made time to work on little projects around school. She has created slide shows for the cross country seasons before the days of videotape. She has always been willing to lend her sewing skills for dance decorations, garments for Prom servers and Mr. HHS, sewing baseball and football jerseys, and window treatments around the district. She has contributed in writing: bios for Hall of Fame inductees, dance court candidates, and athletes; poems for various occasions such as football seasons, graduation, and a 9/11 remembrance; and even the dedication below the Victory Bell.

TJ has donated her time to helping with football. She has made and delivered the sandwiches for the post-game meal for the players, organized parents for all the help they give, helped with the end-of-the-season banquet, and most importantly, coordinated the ad sales and publishing of the football program, the main fund-raiser for football.

She enjoys working with the high school dance themes and creating décor to make each dance memorable. She has lots of help, but she also spends countless hours on attention to every detail of dance decorations. And like so many teachers, she has donated her own money—giving for scholarships, charter buses for athletic teams, donating for food, and helping students afford various school events.

For forty-one years and counting, Mrs. Springmeyer has been not only working for the Dunklin R-5 District, but donating her time and skills as well. Whether teaching etiquette or personal finance, or working on homecoming decorations, her goal has always been to encourage the student to be a better citizen in his or her world. She has been surrounded by helpful teachers, administrators, and loving parents who just want the best for their children. But, most of all, she simply enjoys working and helping and being involved with those terrific HHS students. TJ Springmeyer lives every day proud to be a Blackcat.