

READING FOR FUN—Carolyn Hunt, wife of Governor Jim Hunt, was among the celebrities taking time out to read to students at Morrisville Year-Round Elementary School last week.

School invites famous readers to share books, help raise funds

Morrisville Year-Round Elementary School has a reputation for innovative programs and that goes for fund raisers. A Celebrity Read-A-Thon is taking place at the school on Morrisville Parkway these days with students benefiting from the reading experience and the school from the funds being raised.

Students from all four tracks at the school will take part in the program, which has individuals from outside the school and teachers and staff members from inside making special visits to classes to read to youngsters in grades kindergarten to fifth.

Co-chairmen for the program are two mothers, Jane Davis of Cary and Cathy Dillon of Preston, who say the object of the program is to make every student a reader. "Reading is a top priority and while we've always had fund raisers," Mrs. Dillon explained, "this year we thought since everyone is a reader a fund-raiser tied to reading would benefit everyone."

Letters were sent out to about 50 well-known individuals—politicians, school board members, television personalities, pediatricians—those who had some

sort of a connection with Morrisville Year-Round School, and the response was excellent, Mrs. Dillon explained. When the list of participants was completed, each was given a date and time to come to the school and read for about 15 minutes to the classes.

The program started last week with Bill McNeil, associate superintendent of Wake County Public Schools. Others who have read to date include Morrisville Mayor Margaret Broadwell; Bill Leslie of WRAL; Judy Hoffman, chairman of the board of education; Mrs. James Hunt, wife of the Governor of North Carolina; Pediatrician Marjorie Carr; Margaret Isenberg, from the Wake County Partnership; and Raymond Massey Jr., associate superintendent of Wake County Public Schools.

The program continues Feb. 29 through March 22 when Dr. Rene Johnson, a Morrisville parent, will read, as will Dr. Jim Merrill, associate superintendent of Wake County Schools; Mike Maze, WRAL meteorologist; Lucia Safran, director of the Literacy Council; Mike O'Caïn, head football coach at North Carolina State; Ann Hooker, associate superinten-

dent of Wake County Schools; Margaret Isenberg, Wake Education Partnership; Morrisville DARE Officer Felicia Sykes; Sue King, associate superintendent, Wake County Schools; and Cary Mayor Koka Booth.

Students have been getting sponsors to donate every time the student reads or is read to during the dates of Celebrity Read-A-Thon. Parents, local businesses, and other groups have joined in the list of sponsors taking part. Volunteers Jewel Kichak and Beth Gonzalez helped set up the programs.

As a highlight at the close of the program, Acting Principal Freda Cole will do a special reading for the children, Mrs. Davis and Mrs. Dillon said. She will read bedtime stories in a special setting on both March 7 and March 28.

What's Going On?
Read us and find out!

USAir pilot lands safely on one wheel

After losing a wheel shortly after takeoff, a USAir jet circled Raleigh-Durham International Airport for 20 minutes before flying to Charlotte and landing safely at Douglas International Airport.


The plane, a Fokker 100 used by USAir since 1990, took off from Raleigh-Durham at 8:43 a.m. on Feb. 22, but 10 minutes later, the pilot announced to passengers that he was returning to Raleigh-Durham to check out a problem with the landing gear.

A passenger on a Midway flight headed to New York reportedly saw one of the USAir plane's left wheels drop off, and notified the Midway pilot. The pilot alerted the airport control tower, which contacted the USAir crew.

"The airplane is designed to land with a wheel missing, and it did,"

said Paul Turk, a spokesperson for USAir. "Losing the wheel is a serious matter, but it doesn't compromise the ability of the plane to

land normally." The flight, which landed in Charlotte shortly after 10 a.m., was about 45 minutes late.



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