



Guide Dogs Trains Poster Child's Buddy

Guide Dogs for the Handicapped, a non-profit organization at 16081 Montgomery Rd., in Harlem Township recently completed training a special dog for a special child.

Sam Maxwell, trainer for the organization explains she has just completed work on Buddy, a golden retriever, for the 1987 Easter Seals Poster Child.

Susie Wilcox, from Connecticut, is the third Easter Seals poster child Sam has supplied with a trained dog. Sam explains that usually she takes the dog to the child, but this year, through donated money and services, Susie came to Sam.

While in the area, Susie, Sam and Buddy visited the Columbus

Zoo to meet Jack Hanna, COSI, the Ohio Historical Society and even had an opportunity to meet with Governor Richard Celeste.

Sam says Buddy is the eighth dog Guide Dogs has placed in 1986. She adds the organization is growing with an increase on the Board of Directors. Members of her board are with the Office of Disability Services at OSU, Grady and Riverside Hospitals, the Life Center for Independent Living in Illinois, as well as Hickory Knolls here in the county.

As with other dogs Sam has placed, Buddy is trained to retrieve dropped items, and through some adapted technology, can even answer the telephone.

Sam says Guide Dogs for the Handicapped has worked with the Humane Society of Delaware county, and with Delaware veterinarian, Stephen Kaser, who donates his services. Sam adds that Kal Kan donates food for the dogs she trains and has donated a lifetime supply of food for Buddy.