

# State Happenings for 2008-2009

## Heartspring Prom 2009 ~ Springtime Wonderland

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**What a day! What a tremendous, wonderful, fabulous day!**



I knew I had the decorations, balloons & the help...so why did I worry? There was no need...Thanks to the 10 ESA members and Kendra's kiddos and the 5 Valley Center National Honor Society students the gym was transformed in no time to a



beautiful place. It came together so quickly and looked fabulous. We left to grab a bite and I was thrilled how it all came together. Little did I know the emotions that would overcome me when the students, parents and Heartspring staff arrived for the party. WOW!

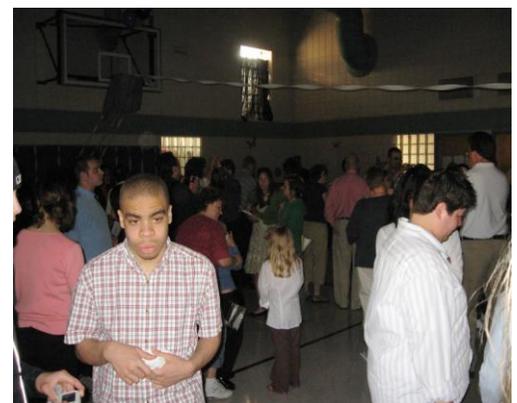


The girls were beautiful – pretty dresses, special hairdos, smiles; and the boys so handsome – shirt & tie, suits, smiles. The parents beamed with delight. The staff was thrilled to see the kids have such a great time. DJ Larry Perlman from At Your Request DJ played tunes again this year at Prom. We greatly appreciate Larry donating his services for the night.

The kids LOVE the music. Brandon danced (or jumped) all night. One beautiful teen-age girl arrived with her pretty pink dress & fancy headband and danced & danced but then she disappeared. As I wondered why she left, she came back in the door in "comfy clothes" capris & a shirt and she danced until the music stopped.



The refreshment table is always a hit at any of the dances. (Thanks to all who baked and brought cookies.) One father came in with his daughter, reminding her she could have 1 cookie, well that first one went into her



mouth so quickly that she had a 2nd cookie in her hand before we knew it. I believe they had made several trips by the refreshment table. These are just a few of the stories from the evening. I encourage everyone to take the time and attend Prom or Day of Love. It is so worth it!

I had the opportunity to visit with several of the parents and staff. I cannot tell you how many times they thanked me for what ESA does at Heartspring - Day of Love, Adopt A Child, our Annual Project, Residential Shower and Prom.... I tried to say hello to all of the parents and stopped to visit with one family tucked in the corner. Their student has been at Heartspring since July 2008. This was his first prom and in attendance with him were his parents, two aunts and his

Grandmother (they came from Minnesota, Illinois & Indiana.) They were having a wonderful time and were so impressed with Heartspring and appreciative of ESA.



We are all busy...we just came off of a long & wonderful ESA convention weekend...but there is nothing like attending Prom at Heartspring. My heart is overflowing with what we were able to give the kids.



Sometimes it's not all monetary – ESA created for the students

and their parents a memory that I am sure they won't soon forget. Thanks to all who contributed to this magnificent event.



**Rockin the night away – Heartspring Prom 2009**