



THE PAW PRINT

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March 26th— General Meeting with Lunch

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Our next general meeting is
Thursday, March 26 at 11:30 at
Creekwood United Methodist Church
Join us as Dr. Susan Istre presents
"Practical Discipline for Preschoolers ."

Dr. Istre has a PhD in Family Relations and
Child Development from Oklahoma State University.
She is a Licensed Professional Counselor (LPC)
and is Board Certified in Professional Counseling.

Dr. Istre is the Director of the Center for Social Success in Dallas and Plano
and has over 30 years of experience working with children and families.

Lunch will be provided.

Rock 'n' Rodeo, 3rd Annual Denim and Diamonds Gala & Auction

Gala Date: May 2, 2009

Event Time: 6pm – 11pm

Location: Plano Centre

Dinner, Live Band, Cocktails, Live and Silent Auctions

Throw on your denim, add a little sparkle and get ready for the third annual Denim and Diamonds Gala to benefit the Foundation for Lovejoy Schools. The Foundation's goal is to raise and distribute funds to the district that will enrich the learning experiences for all district students. You can show your support and commitment for Lovejoy schools by being a sponsor, donating auction items, participating in the online auction, and attending the gala on May 2, 2009.

Visit www.foundationforlovejoyschools.org for more information.

LPA UPCOMING EVENTS

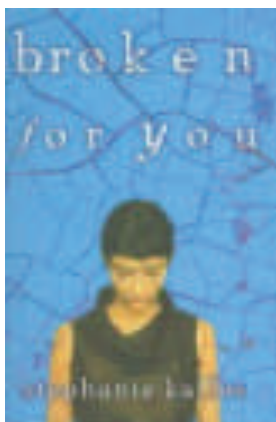
Mar. 6 th	11:45 a.m.	Lunch Bunch (Palio's)
Mar. 8 th	8:00 p.m.	Book Club (Carla Post's home)
Mar. 16-20 th		Spring Break
Mar. 26 th	11:30 a.m.	General Meeting (Creekwood UMC)
April 2 nd	6-8 p.m.	Kindergarten Roundup (all Lovejoy ISD elementary schools)
April 4 th		Children's Spring Party (TBD)
April 16 th	9:30 a.m.	General Meeting (Creekwood UMC)
April 19 th	8:00 p.m.	Book Club (TBD)

FEBRUARY'S GENERAL MEETING— PROTECTING OUR CHILDREN

February's meeting was very informative and eye-opening. Anne from the Dallas Children's Advocacy Center spoke to us about how to protect our children from sexual predators. The statistics show that 1 in 4 girls and 1 in 6 boys are sexually abused before the age of 18! There are many things we as parents can do to be proactive. **GOOD COMMUNICATION** is one of the best ways to protect our children from sexual abuse. Many of us tell our kids about stranger danger, but unfortunately more than 90% of perpetrators who sexually abuse children are someone that the child knows and trusts. It is so important that our children know that no one should touch them in the places where their swimsuits cover them. They should know the difference between welcome touch (hugs and kisses from mom and dad that make them feel loved and comfortable) and unwelcome touch (could still just be a hug from someone they know, but makes them feel uncomfortable and triggers an "uh-oh" feeling). We should start talking to our children about this as soon as they are old enough to understand (around three-years-old or so depending on the child), and continue that dialogue instead of making it a "one-time discussion." Encouraging our kids to talk to us about any touch that makes them feel uncomfortable is so important. Parents should also make sure that thorough background checks are conducted on all those who spend time with our children (at school, church, daycare, etc.), and that policies are enforced that prohibit situations where an adult can be alone with a child. Being present at soccer or piano practice and making unexpected visits to school or daycare will also help to decrease a child's vulnerability to sexual abuse. We don't need to live in fear, but we DO need to be aware and involved. For more information, go to www.dcac.org.



The LPA Book Club had a fun February meeting hosted by Sheri Fanous. We discussed *Testimony* while sipping wine and snacking on delicious treats.



Please join us for the LPA 'Sunday' Book Club's March discussion of *Broken for You* by Stephanie Kallos. The meeting will be held on Sunday, March 8th from 8:00pm - 10:00pm at Carla Post's home, 19 Lago Vista East, Wylie, TX 75098. Funny, heartbreaking, and alive with a potpourri of eccentric and irresistible characters, *Broken for You* is a testament to the saving graces of surrogate families, and shows how far the tiniest repair jobs can go in righting the world's wrongs.

Synopsis: A buoyant debut novel about two women in self-imposed exile whose worlds are transformed when their paths intersect, and a glorious homage to the beauty of broken things.

LPA's "My Favorite Food" Cookbook Coming Soon!

This special cookbook will include recipes from our very own Lovejoy ISD Superintendent, Ted Moore; Fairview Mayor, Sim Israeloff; and other local V.I.P.s.

Wrapping a cookbook with ribbon and a cute kitchen gadget will make a great Mother's Day and "end of the school year" teacher gift!

Cookbooks will be available for purchase beginning Saturday, April 4th at the Children's Spring Party!!