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Becca's Closet finds new home in Fairview

Area prom needs at reduced or no cost now offered at First Baptist

Nancy Stephens • The Fairview Observer •
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Getting ready for the prom involved a lot from prom tickets, limousine rental and boutonniere to hair, nails and makeup. Of course, for most girls, it's all about the dress, and for most parents it's all about the money.

Thanks to the recent partnership formed between the Franklin Chapter of Becca's Closet and the First Baptist Church in Fairview, parents can breathe a little easier as the May 1 prom night approaches. After four years of operating Becca's Closet from their home in Franklin, Mariel D'Andrea and her mom Jo Ann connected with Jamie Gillette, of Fairview, who agreed to move the operation to First Baptist Church.

Gillette, who set up a prom dress giveaway last year at the church, was quickly joined by a host of volunteers to share the workload in relocating and operating Becca's Closet in Fairview.

"We look forward to helping each girl find the perfect dress," said Gillette, who added they gladly accept donations of semi-formal and formal dresses, shoes, handbags and accessories year round. All donations are tax deductible.

Becca's Closet was created as a legacy to Rebecca Kirtman and the project she started. Becca's Closet provides formal attire to high school students who otherwise would not be able to attend their prom due to a financial reason or the current economy.

Their mission is to continue Becca's vision and dream of helping others.

The concept is simple - girls donate dresses they no longer want and other girls, who can't afford a prom dress, get an opportunity to select from the large assortment of almost-new dresses. There has also been support from businesses, such as J.C. Penney in Cool Springs, The Consignment Shop in Franklin and The Bride Room in Green Hills, which donated dresses to the Closet.

Dress appointments will be offered in Fairview at First Baptist Church on Saturdays until May 1, but you must schedule an appointment by sending an email.

Girls are also encouraged to make donations when they come for their appointment.

For more information on how you can donate or to schedule an appointment, you can email gownsforgirls@comcast.net.

If you need a dress, include your phone number and approximate dress size in the email. A Becca's Closet volunteer will call you to set up a Saturday appointment between now and May 1.

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