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Donating prom dress could let a girl realize her dream

By **Laura Revolinski** Xtreme Correspondent

Tuesday, February 03, 2009

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For most girls, high school prom is a chance to dress up and spend a fun evening having with friends.

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Yet prom remains just a dream for girls who cannot afford a formal dress.

There is help available through Becca's Closet (beccascloset.org). It's named for Rebecca Kirtman from Davie, Fla., who as a freshman began collecting used prom dresses to donate to girls who could not afford a new one. After Rebecca's death at age 16 in a car wreck in 2003, her friends and family continued her annual act of charity.

As her senior project, Evans High School student Erica Wright is organizing a Becca's Closet drive to collect dresses to send to McEachern High School in Powder Springs, Ga.

The drive will be from noon to 6 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 21, in the commons of Evans High School, 4550 Cox Road, Evans.

"Girls can donate their old dresses that are just taking up room in their closet," Erica says.

McEachern sets up a boutique to distribute the dresses to girls in need.

"The biggest reaction we get is relief," says Emily Petway, a teacher at McEachern and head of its chapter of Becca's Closet. "Typical secondhand shopping has very limited choices, but the school is provided with about 2,000 dresses through Becca's Closet, so that almost every girl finds one."

Evans senior Heather Hammock, is supporting the drive. "I'm never going to wear them again, and it wouldn't take that much but it helps girls that can't go (because they don't have a dress)."

Laura Revolinski is a senior at Evans High School who wrote this article as part of her senior project.

GET INVOLVED

WHAT: Prom dress donation drive

WHEN: Noon to 6 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 21

WHERE: Commons of Evans High School, 4550 Cox Road, Evans.

WHAT'S NEEDED: Stylish formal dresses, especially plus sizes

WHAT YOU GET: Donations are tax deductible, and donors receive discount coupons to sponsoring businesses

LEARN MORE: See www.beccascloset.org;

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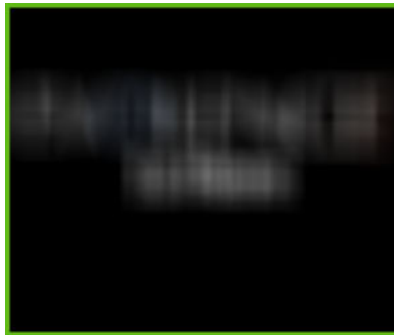
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