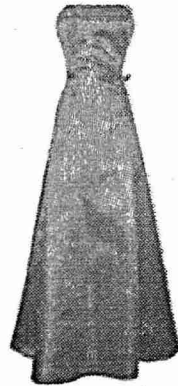


Belle of the Ball still needs more dresses for its prom dress collection

For a high school girl with a father who drifts in and out of her life and a mother who abuses drugs, senior prom seems like an impossible dream. Yet, Belle of the Ball is the magic of dancing and laughing and enjoying a prom she never thought she'd attend. It's also the magic of two excited teen mothers bringing their new dresses to school for an impromptu fashion show for their classmates. And it's the magic of people coming together with one purpose, to let a young girl know that she is special, and that someone does care that she have the opportunity to be a part of one of the most memorable nights of her life.



a young lady whom she has referred, "With the majority of her family living in Haiti, she has lost family members and friends in the earthquake. The little amount of money earned by her family in Boston is sent to her family in Haiti to help rebuild the homes they lost. There isn't any room for other luxuries. Belle of the Ball is the only way she will be able to attend her prom."

This year, many companies and organizations, such as Mary Lou Andre's Dressing Well, Jordan's Furniture, KISS-108 & JAM'N-94.5, FOX25-TV, Philip Ciampa Salon & Day Spas, Shaw's Supermarkets, Dance Studio of Braintree, Simmons College, and many others, have stepped up to make sure these girls have the chance to attend their proms.

Anton's Cleaners' sixth annual Belle of the Ball prom dress collection will be coming to a close on April 1, and there are still so many young girls out there who are hoping they find the perfect dress so they can attend this special night.

But as we get closer to the event, Belle of the Ball is appealing to residents, companies and organizations throughout eastern Massachusetts and southern New Hampshire to open their hearts and open their closets and donate a gently-worn dress, no more than three years old. All dresses can be dropped off at any Anton's Cleaners or Jordan's furniture location, where Anton's Cleaners will clean it at no charge. Anyone looking to also donate prom-related gift certificates, shoes, purses and other accessories, should contact Danielle DiGiovanni at 1-800-659-0069 x26 or danielle@grahamcomm.com.

Referred by guidance counselors and social agencies, these deserving girls will attend a boutique at Simmons College in mid-April, where they will "shop" for a dress. Each girl will have the assistance of a volunteer personal shopper to help her find the right dress. But even more dresses are needed to make sure there's enough for the nearly 400 girls who will be attending the boutique, who would not otherwise have the financial means to afford a prom dress.

As one high school guidance counselor described

