

Needham residents organize Fifth Night Charitable Gift-Giving Celebration

By Staff reports

GateHouse News Service

Posted Dec 09, 2009 @ 06:02 AM

Needham —

All are invited to attend the inaugural 5th Night Celebration, hosted by [Temple Beth Avodah](#), 45 Puddingstone Lane, Newton, on Tuesday, Dec. 15, at 6:15 p.m. The event is organized by Needham residents Amy Finn and Robert Glazer.

The event will be a fun and simple way for children to participate in Tzedakah (akin to charity) by giving one night of Hanukkah gifts to a child in need. Coming together to celebrate and donate will help children learn how their giving will benefit and affect other children and their families, and make the holiday even more meaningful.

To help the little ones understand the impact of their gift, and to make the experience more fun and personal, parents are encouraged to allow each child to help select a gift for a recipient of a similar age. Gifts will be donated to [Room to Grow](#) and [Jewish Big Brothers and Big Sisters of Greater Boston](#), two organizations that are dedicated to enriching and improving the lives of children. They will accept gifts for children ranging from birth to 12 years of age.

After enjoying candle-lighting and a light dessert, the children will have a chance to personally donate their specially chosen presents. Representatives from the two organizations will speak briefly to the children, thank them for their gifts, and describe how their donations will affect the recipients and their families.

The event is open to all. Participants are asked to RSVP at thefifthnight.eventbrite.com.

Gift Giving Guidelines

- New, unopened and unwrapped gifts
- One gift per family or per child
- Gifts for children ranging from birth to 12 years of age
- If your child is old enough to understand, have him or her pick a gift for a child of the same age or gender.

Jewish Big Brother Big Sisters Suggested Gifts (Ages 5-12)

- Board games
- Books
- Hats, mittens, gloves
- Arts and crafts

Room to Grow Suggested Gifts (Ages 0-4)

- Winter footwear for toddler girls and boys, sizes 5-10
- Developmental toys for ages 12 months to 3 years, e.g. sorting toys, puzzles and instruments — wooden toys appreciated!
- African-American baby dolls