

# MAYOR & COUNCIL AGENDA COVER SHEET

**MEETING DATE:**

January 5, 2009

**CALL TO PODIUM:**

Maureen Herndon

**RESPONSIBLE STAFF:**

Maureen Herndon  
Program Manager  
Community Services

**AGENDA ITEM:**

(please check one)

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Presentation
	Proclamation/Certificate
	Appointment
	Public Hearing
	Historic District
	Consent Item
	Ordinance
	Resolution
	Policy Discussion
	Work Session Discussion Item
	Other:

**PUBLIC HEARING HISTORY:**

(Please complete this section if agenda item is a public hearing)

Introduced	
Advertised	
Hearing Date	
Record Held Open	
Policy Discussion	

<b>TITLE:</b>
Certificates of Appreciation to Partners in the 2008 City Holiday Giving Program

**SUPPORTING BACKGROUND:**

The City of Gaithersburg would like to extend our appreciation to our community partners who have donated hours of their time, talent and resources to making the 2008 Holiday Giving Program a success. Over **175** different organizations, civic groups, and congregations supported this effort and we thank them all for their generosity and caring.

The Thanksgiving Program had several facets to it this year enabling us to serve **538** City residents. **173** City families were sponsored by area congregations and businesses. **85** Seniors enjoyed a catered Thanksgiving dinner generously donated by the Flaming Pit Restaurant and the Brooklyn Deli and over **280** families were given donated gift cards to help towards their Thanksgiving shopping.

The December program numbers were record breaking serving **600** residents. **400** families attended the distribution receiving gift cards, stockings hand-made by local congregations and stuffed by volunteers, fruit baskets donated by Butlers Orchard, and books provided by Barnes and Noble. Children were also treated to a craft making activity at the distribution. Over **100** singles in the City were mailed gift cards for both holidays and over **100** families were sponsored directly by congregations, businesses and service groups. A very special thank you goes to the coordinating committee and distribution hosts for their countless hours of work beginning in August!

**We would like to acknowledge and thank:**

Program Assistants: Ralph and Paula Bunge and the volunteers of Good Shepherd Lutheran Church for over **10** years of service to the program. Steve Saunders and the volunteers of Derwood Bible Church Pastor Kate Murphy and the members of Grace United Methodist Church for their extremely generous donations and for hosting the December distribution. Gaithersburg Church of the Ascension for hosting the Thanksgiving Distribution and to **2** local businesses for their generous donation of catered meals—The Flaming Pit Restaurant and owner Armen Mardirossian and Guy Brandt, Brooklyn Deli owner. Lorraine Neff, Anne May and Carole Weikert, handmade stocking sewers and coordinators.

**DESIRED OUTCOME:**

**Presentation of certificates of recognition to:**

- 1)Ralph and Paula Bunge and Good Shepherd Church
- 2) Steve Saunders and Derwood Bible Church
- 3)Pastor Kate Murphy and Grace United Methodist Church
- 4)Eileen Shea, Episcopal Church of the Ascension and G-SHARP
- 5)Armen Mardirossian, owner Flaming Pit Restaurant
- 6) Guy Brandt , owner , Brooklyn Deli
- 7) Lorraine Neff, Anne May and Carole Weikert, Handmade Stocking Coordinators