



## Needham Community Council Newsletter December, 2008

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### FROM SANDY ROBINSON NCC EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR:

Dear Friends & Neighbors,

I have had the privilege of being the Executive Director of the Needham Community Council for the past 6 1/2 years. In spite of being part of this great organization for all that time, I am still constantly thrilled by the generosity of the Needham community; the energy of our many volunteers and the commitment of our staff and Board of Directors to making the lives of all of our Needham neighbors a little bit better and easier...especially during the holiday season.

Our holiday programs run non-stop...we begin planning many months ahead to be sure that all will have a festive Thanksgiving Dinner, holiday gift bag, gifts for family members and/or a Christmas Dinner delivered to their home. We partner with many others to accomplish our goals - North Hill, Great Plain Squares, the Rotary and Exchange Clubs, Temples and Churches, Town employees, The Women's Club, public and private schools, Girl Scout and Boy Scout Troops, individual families and

### HAPPY HOLIDAYS TO YOU AND YOUR FAMILY!

Our Annual Fund Drive is still underway and the response from our current supporters has been great. However, there is no doubt...the current economic situation presents a personal challenge to each of us, but especially to those who need the Council's help and use Council programs. Remember...**there is no gift too small or too large**. If you have been waiting for the end of the tax year to donate, now is the time! More than ever, **WE NEED YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT!**

Our new online donation site makes it easy...click on the link "Donate Now" on the left side of this newsletter...and of course, we always appreciate a check sent to us at 51 Lincoln Street, Needham, MA 02492.

### COMPANIES WITH MATCHING GIFT PROGRAMS

#### Does your company have a matching program for charitable donations?

Hundreds of companies will increase employee charitable gifts through matching gift programs. Your employer may be one of them!

[Click here](#) for a list of companies that have a matching gift program....is your company there? If so, check with your HR department to see if this program is still in effect and how to participate. If it isn't, you still might be able to increase your support of NCC by checking with your HR department. *Note: This list is accurate at the time of posting; policies may change so please be sure to check with your company to verify that the program is still in place and the specifics of the match.*

### GIFT GIVING TO HELP OTHERS

Looking for an easy way to give thoughtful and helpful holiday gifts to family and friends who don't need another sweater, tie or scarf? or IPOD or GPS? Make a donation in their name to the Needham Community Council. Donate directly with us and we will send a gift card, or [click here](#) to go to our webpage at [changingthepresent.com](#) Use and share this website to benefit others when you are holiday, birthday or anniversary gift giving.

### DO YOU SHOP AND/OR SEARCH ONLINE?

We have registered the Needham Community Council with [igive.com](#) which is an online search and shopping site. When you create an account at their homepage, and choose the Needham Community Council as your "charity of choice" they will send us a donation each and every time you go online through their site...either to search or shop. At no additional cost to you, a share of your purchase at select



residents, etc. etc. There is no question that this is truly an example of "it takes a village".

The needs in our community will continue to grow, especially as the economy creates such a challenge for so many. The Needham Community Council will be here to help; just as we have for over 78 years.

Please remember us throughout the year with your support...we need your donations, both financial and material, we need your time and we need your energy.

Thank you,  
**Sandy**

### Officers and Board of Directors 2008-09

President:	Peg Coles
Vice President:	Barry Coffman
Secretary:	Peggy Powers
Treasurer:	William Mather
Asst. Treasurer:	Jack Currie
	Kate Robey
Past President:	Connie Barr
Ted Ballard	Rich Bernardo
Frank Bond	Sybil Bower
Lisa Cherbuliez	Colin Coleman
Louise Condon	Patricia Drake
Mark Fisher	Dan Fitzgerald
Shirely Holland	Larry Lodge
John Logan	Charles Mangine
Fran Moore	Linda Polach
Tom Roach	Lynne Salzman
Colleen Schaller	William Tilburg
Ed Timmerman	Beverly Young

websites will be donated to the Needham Community Council....how easy is that? Over 700 online sites are participating including Ebay, Amazon, Netflix, Dell, airline sites, and many, many more.

### CHRISTMAS DAY DINNER DELIVERY

Temple Beth Shalom and the Needham Community Council have partnered to provide and deliver Christmas dinners to Needham residents for over 20 years . Do you know anyone who would like to have a dinner delivered to their home on Christmas Day? Contact the Council at 781-444-2415 or [email us](#) no later than Monday, December 22nd.

The Synagogue Council of Massachusetts' Project Ezra encourages Jewish congregations to help their respective communities on Christmas Day each year. In Needham, Project Ezra is organized by Lois Sockol and the Temple Beth Shalom Social Action Committee whose mission is to provide their members with opportunities for *gemilut Hasidim*: performing acts of loving kindness. As the mission of the Needham Community Council is the same, together we support our commitment to the Needham community.



Temple Beth Shalom Project Ezra Volunteers

### WAYS YOU CAN HELP:

- Donate to our Annual Fund Drive
- [Click here](#) to see if your company has a matching gift program or
- Check with your company to see if they have a matching program
- Visit [changingthepresent.com](http://changingthepresent.com) for gift giving options
- Register and go online through [igive.com](http://igive.com)
- Visit our [website](#) or call us for more ideas

***The Needham Community Council is a private non-profit organization which supports people in Needham who have under-met health, educational or social needs and promotes volunteerism, community and a sense of shared responsibility.***

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