

# THE LINK

ISSUE 37    Holiday Issue 2010



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## Quotable Quotes

It's important to give without expecting anything in return, rather than keeping a tally of whom we've helped and who has helped us. Silence and service go hand in hand. Random acts of kindness, particularly those anonymously accomplished, reflect a healthy non-attachment to deed or outcome.  
*Chelle Thompson*

Great opportunities to help others seldom come, but small ones surround us everyday.— *Sally Koch*

## Newsletter Ideas?

Contact

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## *A Message from our President*

We are so fortunate to live in Missouri so we can experience the beauty of all the seasons. It is that time of year when the green of the tree leaves become hues of autumn the magnificent oranges, reds and golds. As I drive through Bolling Heights I enjoy the changing color of the trees that line our streets, but more importantly I feel blessed to live in a community that really cares about each other.

This issue of The Link is packed with opportunities to help our neighbors. You can be part of assembling and delivering treat bags for our elderly and homebound residents or experience the joy of helping make a family's Christmas possible by providing gifts. The opportunity to help is only limited by your imagination and doesn't need to only happen around the holidays. We had three men volunteer to assist a 94 year old resident recently. They cleared her yard of brush, debris and repaired her front door and porch light. We have residents who have taken it upon themselves to maintain the areas where our entrance signs are located and others who mow the yards of neighbors who are not able to do so. These random acts of kindness are what make Bolling Heights a great place to live. I urge you to reach out and help a neighbor and I assure you when you do you will receive far more than you give from the satisfaction of making a difference in someone's life.

We will once again have the holiday lighting contest and you can read more about it in the newsletter. I hope many of you will be able to decorate your homes with holiday themed decorations. Your efforts not only make your home festive, but help give a positive appearance for our entire neighborhood. Each of us can help make Bolling Heights appear as a welcoming beacon of light in the darkness of winter. The tradition of placing a candle in the window goes back to the Colonial times in the United States and back much further in time for other cultures. It is a tradition practiced throughout the year. It symbolizes the warmth and security of the family hearth and signals loyalty to family members and loved ones who are not present in the home. Bolling Heights would like to become known as the neighborhood with the candles in their windows. Our goal is to have the majority of the homes in Bolling Heights displaying candles to make our neighborhood community look welcoming at night.

May this season bring those you love most near and may your holidays be precious and bright. Happy Holidays – *Julie Sherbo*



## Entrance Sign Etiquette

As you know we installed “Welcome to Bolling Heights” entrance signs into our neighborhood earlier this year. The large sign is located at the entrance from North Oak at NE 67<sup>th</sup> Street and the smaller sign can be found at N. Harrison and N. Campbell. The idea behind the installation of these signs was to not only welcome visitors into our neighborhood, but to instill a sense of pride for our residents. It has come to our attention that the entrance signs are being used to post handmade garage sale signs, directional arrows, etc. The BHCL Board would appreciate your cooperation in refraining from using the entrance signs in this manner. Many residents generously gave to this project, others worked tirelessly on fundraisers, landscaping and the maintenance of the property that the signs sit on; so out of respect for the efforts of everyone involved, please do not hang any signs from the entrance signs. By keeping the signs free of clutter we will be able to help create a positive image of Bolling Heights.

**THANK YOU** to NNI (Northland Neighborhoods, Inc.) who prints our newsletter and is responsible for assisting neighborhoods, community leaders and businesses in the Northland. ([www.nni.org](http://www.nni.org)). One of the best ways to show our appreciation is through volunteering our time when NNI needs assistance at the many community events it sponsors throughout the year and through donations.



## Do You Have a New Neighbor?

Gone may be the days when the neighborhood housewives descended on a new neighbor with pies and cakes. However, that does not mean we cannot welcome a new neighbor into Bolling Heights. The BHCL has a welcome basket program to create a friendly feeling with the new people in our neighborhood community. Our gift bag has information on our neighborhood group, the Gladstone community and may include items donated by local businesses. If you have a new neighbor, please contact Jean Vinson at 816-436-8648 and she will deliver a welcome bag to them. *Julie Sherbo*

## Christmas Cheer to Elderly & Homebound Residents

This year we would like to brighten the Christmas of our elderly and homebound residents by providing a gift of Christmas treats. If you know of someone within Bolling Heights who would enjoy a bag of treats delivered to their door, please contact Julie Sherbo at 436-3070 by Friday, December 10<sup>th</sup>. If you would like to help with the treat bag assembly and delivery, please let Julie know. *Julie Sherbo*



## **Bolling Heights Holiday Decorating Contest**

**Let's Light up the Neighborhood!**



Get into the spirit of the holidays by decorating your homes for our 5th Annual Bolling Heights Community Link Holiday Decorating Contest. Participants must reside in Bolling Heights. Homes will be judged on their creativity, lighting, and overall “Holiday Spirit”.

### **Prizes to be awarded are:**

**1st Place-\$40.00 Visa gift card**  
**2nd Place-\$30.00 Visa gift card**  
**3rd Place-\$20.00 Visa gift card**

Judging will take place the week before Christmas. Winners will be recognized at the next Community Meeting and in “The Link”. Thanks to those who participate. Your hard work is appreciated!



## **Bolling Heights Adopt-A-Family Program**

Some sobering statistics... Based on 2008 figures, while the federal poverty level for a family of four was \$21,200, the MO Dept. of Economic Development reports that it takes between \$28,000 to \$39,000 for a family of four in Missouri to meet essential needs such as housing, food and health care.

Helping our fellow man is important throughout the year, but seems especially important during the holiday season. While you celebrate and give thanks for what you have in your own life, consider aiding those who are less fortunate.

For the second year, our community group hopes to make Christmas more joyful by adopting a family. This year we partnered with Oakwood Manor Elementary School to recommend a family who could use assistance. This program is designed to provide Christmas gifts and food certificates to a family who resides within Bolling Heights. The family we chose consists of a single mother and two children. Just as last year, the gifts will be given anonymously to the family. If you wish to participate by buying a gift from the family's wish list, please contact Julie Sherbo at 816-436-3070 (home) or 816-234-2291 (work).

# Bolling Heights Neighborhood Survey



How long have you lived in the neighborhood? \_\_\_\_\_

Do you own, or rent?      ( ) Own      ( ) Rent

How would you describe the “atmosphere” of our neighborhood?

( ) Well kept    ( ) Mediocre    ( ) Run down    ( ) Other \_\_\_\_\_

Do you feel like you’re part of the neighborhood?    ( ) Yes    ( ) No

Rate concerns you have for your neighborhood.

	Very Concerned	Somewhat Concerned	Not Concerned	Don't Know
Speeding				
Traffic				
Vandalism				
Unkept rental units				
Unkept yards				
Inoperable vehicles				
Roads				
Street lighting				

Other \_\_\_\_\_

How are public services in your neighborhood?

	Good	Fair	Poor
Police protection			
Fire protection			
Street repair/maintenance			
Codes Enforcement			

Is there a city service that our neighborhood needs that is not being provided?

( ) Yes    ( ) No- Identify service needed \_\_\_\_\_

Would neighbors cooperating to address common concerns be positive in our neighborhood?

( ) Yes    ( ) No

Do you know if there is a Neighborhood Watch in our neighborhood? ( ) Yes    ( ) No

If not, are you interested in organizing a Neighborhood Watch? ( ) Yes    ( ) No

**You may obtain an electronic survey on our website:**

**[www.neighborhoodlink.com/Bolling\\_Heights\\_Community\\_Link/pages](http://www.neighborhoodlink.com/Bolling_Heights_Community_Link/pages)** (Select Survey)

**Surveys may be e-mailed to CLReeves\_KC@hotmail.com or regular mail to Julie Sherbo, 6706 N Charlotte, Gladstone, MO 64118. If you would prefer to have it picked up call 436-3070. All surveys are due by December 1, 2010.**