Bolling Heights
Neighborhood on the Move
Neighbors Making a Difference

# THE LINK

ISSUE 38 January, 2011



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#### Quotable Quotes

The capacity for getting along with our neighbor depends to a large extent on the capacity for getting along with ourselves. The selfrespecting individual will try to be as tolerant of his neighbor's shortcomings as he is of his own." Eric Hoffer I am of the opinion that my life belongs to the whole community and as long as I live, it is my privilege to do for it whatever I can. I want to be thoroughly used up when I die, for the harder I work the more I live. George Bernard Shaw

Newsletter Ideas? Contact Chris Reeves 436-0250



### A Message from our President—January 2011 Julie Sherbo

January is here along with the snow and cold! Many think of January as a new beginning, a time to make changes in one's life. I hope every resident will consider making a new year's resolution to become more involved in the Bolling Heights Community Link. Our neighborhood community group is only as successful as those who participate. The board members of BHCL work hard to provide activities that have meaning for our residents.

I have another resolution I would like each resident to make. It is very important to keep our streets well lit at night to prevent crime. We recently had a break-in within our neighborhood between the hours of 6 pm and 10 pm. Fortunately, the owner was not home, but the feeling of insecurity is there. If everyone would turn on their outside lights it would help to detour criminals from attempting to break-in. Not even a thief wants to be seen committing a crime. If you don't have outdoor lights at your front and back doors, but would like to have them, please call me at 816-436-3070. If you would purchase the fixtures we have volunteers who are willing to install them for you. With the use of high energy bulbs the cost to light up your home at night is only pennies compared to what you may have to pay to replace stolen items. I believe this is an investment we all should make.

I hope each of you take time to look back to the past this month and more importantly, forward to the coming year. Take time to reflect on the changes you as a resident of Bolling Heights want (or need) to make and resolve to help us follow through on those changes. We can't fix problems we are not aware of and we need everyone's help to identify areas of improvement. I hope you start by attending our next community meeting. Happy New Year.

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). 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. Let's help out when we can!

## **Holiday Decorating Contest**

Thanks to all who participated in Bolling Heights 4th Annual Holiday Decorating Contest. It was a difficult decision to make with so many homes decorated so beautifully and so many Bolling Heights residents willing to go all out with their Holiday Spirit! After much consideration, we are pleased to announce the winners:

1102 NE 66th Terrace
1100 NE 66th Terrace
1202 NE 67th Place
3rd Place

Honorable Mention:
602 NE 67th Place
700 NE 67th Place
703 NE 66th Terrace







# Gift of Giving



Several of the Bolling Heights Community Link members gathered on December 17th to assemble 25 gift bags for the shut-ins and elderly in our neighborhood. Each bag contained an apple, pear, orange, banana, cinnamon roll, Christmas

tree shaped snack cake, candy cane, Twix bar, and a snowflake ornament attached to card with a poem about snowflakes. The bags were delivered that same day.

Those receiving the bags were very appreciative not only to be remembered by BHCL, but to have the opportunity to visit with someone. Many of our residents are not able to get out during the winter months and are confined to their homes. Perhaps each of us could take a few minutes now and then to visit with our neighbors during the cold months of winter and help alleviate the feeling of cabin fever. *Julie Sherbo* 

# Where the Deer & the Antelope Play???

At least the deer! Much to my surprise Sunday early last morning while gazing out my living room window, taking in all the snow, 4 deer appeared in my front yard on N. Campbell. They leisurely strolled across Campbell to my neighbor's front yard. I called her as quickly as possible, but they headed down the street and on to N. Charlotte. Luckily, she got to see a couple of them out her back door. It was the first time in all my years in Bolling Heights to see such a site! Chris Reeves

# **Bolling Heights Community Link Board**



Julie Sherbo, President Ginger Stone, Treasurer

#### Members

Joan Tierney Chris Reeves Mark Sherbo Sheryl Wagaman Marie Perry Karen Farris John Hulsey Jean Vinson

#### 436-3070

We always need help to support our community. Please contact Julie for more information.

### Mayor's Christmas Tree Fund

Bolling Heights Community Link proudly was able to donate \$50.00 to the 2010 Gladstone Mayor's Christmas Tree Fund. The beneficiaries of this fund were the Northland Christmas Store and Get Kids Connected, a youth scholarship fund that allows children to participate in the Gladstone's Parks and Recreation youth programs by assisting parents with registration fees. Once again, BHCL helps to make a difference within not only our neighborhood, but also our city.

## **Gladstone Neighborhood Community Group Gathering**

On Tuesday, February 8th the organized neighborhood groups within Gladstone will meet to learn more about the programs each neighborhood is involved with and how they are meeting their goals. This event is a wonderful opportunity to visit with other neighborhood group members and to learn from their experiences. Eric Youngberg from NeighborWorks America will be our guest speaker. NeighborWorks America creates opportunities for people to live in affordable homes, improve their lives and strengthen their communities. Please mark your calendars now so you can attend. The meeting begins at 7:00 pm at the Gladstone Community Center. Hope to see you there!

### It is Better to Give than to Receive



As you can see from this picture the residents of Bolling Heights agree with the idea of paying it forward. The picture shows the Christmas gifts that we were able to give to the family of six we adopted this year. Our family was chosen by the counselor at Oakwood Manor Elementary School and all gifts were delivered to the school on December 16th for the family to pick-up. The office staff at Oakwood Manor was very touched with the generosity of our neighborhood.

I would like to thank everyone who helped with this project. We had several residents who were not able to get out and shop, donate money, which was used to purchase gifts that were not received from others. Many of you took the time to shop for the items on their wish list and then dropped the gifts off for wrapping. If you were like me shopping for someone you didn't know, but knew your gift would make a difference to them was very rewarding and reminded me of the true meaning of Christmas. We had one resident who generously took the time to purchase a new winter coat for each of the five children. As I leave for work each morning this winter, I think what a difference those coats made in keeping those children warm. I am so proud to be a resident of Bolling Heights where neighbors really care about each other. Once again, thank you to all you helped to make this project such a success. – Julie Sherbo

## **Code Violations—Bolling Heights**



Darren Rodman, Gladstone Codes Enforcement, completed a codes sweep of our neighborhood and found the following:

Out of 402 homes, 16% had violations

The three most common violations were:

- Trash containers not stored correctly
- Unlicensed vehicles
- Rubbish

Gladstone City Codes reads as follows:

All trash containers shall be stored no closer to the public streets than the front building line. This means that trash containers need to be stored on the side of the house behind the front building line. For corner lots all containers shall be stored no closer to the public streets than the front and side building line of the main building.

No inoperative or unlicensed motor vehicles shall be parked, kept or stored on any premises and no vehicle shall at any time be in a state of major disassembly, disrepair, or in the process of being stripped or dismantled.

Painting of vehicles is prohibited unless conducted inside an approved spray booth. Exception A vehicle of any type is permitted to undergo major overhaul provided it is performed inside a structure or similarly enclosed area designed and approved for such a purpose.

All exterior property and premises and the interior of every structure shall be free from any accumulation of rubbish or garbage.

# Gladstone Parks and Recreation Park Master Plan Meetings

When: February 24th, 10 AM OR 7 PM

Where: Gladstone Community Center



The City of Gladstone's Parks and Recreation Department is working with Land3 Studio, park consultants, to update the Park Master Plan. The Park Master Plan is an important tool that staff and city leaders use to improve and enhance

our parks and services for our residents and patrons. Are our recreation programs and park amenities meeting the needs of you and your family? This is your chance to get in on the "ground floor" planning the next 10 years of Gladstone Parks and recreation programs and park improvements.

#### CRIME WATCH

There have been several burglaries reported in the Metro KC area by burglars driving through the neighborhood and



finding homes with nice HD TV's because they are easily visible from the street when blinds are lifted or curtains are open. We are all guilty of that I know, especially in these dreary winter months. We want to bring as much sunshine into our homes as possible. But, that comes with a risk that all who drive by can easily see into our homes and any valuables that are visible from the street. Always remember to call the police if you see suspicious cars cruising the neighborhood and watch out for your neighbors. The police department won't mind the call - It is always better to be safe than sorry!