

# Bowie News Flash

**March 2017**

## **News**

### **“Tales of Belair and Bowie”**

In case you missed it in the fall, documentary film maker Jeff Krulik will back in Bowie to screen his film about the early days of Levitt Bowie. “Tales of Belair and Bowie” was very well received by a standing room only crowd at an earlier showing in October. Screenings will be on March 5 at 3 p.m. and 7 p.m. at the Bowie Center for the Performing Arts and each will be followed by a short panel discussion.

### **Upcoming Development Project Meetings**

#### **Melford Village**

On February 6, 2017, the City Council voted (6-1) to support the Preliminary Plan of Subdivision for 1,793 dwelling units, including 293 townhouse units, 1,000 multi-family units, 500 senior age-restricted multi-family units and 528,500 square feet of commercial and office uses. Following the City vote, the County Planning Board is scheduled to hear the Preliminary Plan of Subdivision today.

This project is nearing the end of the development review process. Detailed Site Plans must be approved for each parcel in the development, prior to the issuance of building permits. Public hearings will be scheduled by the City and County as each Detailed Site Plan is filed for this project. Learn more about this project at [www.cityofbowie.org/melford](http://www.cityofbowie.org/melford).

#### **Amber Ridge Conceptual Site Plan**

The owner of the Amber Ridge property, located on the west side of southbound US Route 301, has filed a Conceptual Site Plan for the site. In September 2014, the Prince George’s District Council approved a Zoning Map Amendment to change the property’s zoning from C-S-C (Commercial Shopping Center) to M-X-T (Mixed Use – Transportation Oriented). The proposal calls for 150 - 200 dwelling units and approximately 20,000 square feet of commercial/retail use on the 19-acre site. Learn more about the project at [www.cityofbowie.org/amberridge](http://www.cityofbowie.org/amberridge).

- *City Public Hearing – Monday, March 6, 2017, 8 p.m. at City Hall*
- *County Planning Board Hearing – Thursday, March 23, 2017, 10 a.m. at the County Administration Building, Upper Marlboro*

### **“Let’s Celebrate” at the City Hall Art Gallery**

The new art exhibit at City Hall is all about celebrations. It runs through April 21, 2017 and is free and open to the public (during City Hall hours). For more information, contact Matt Corley at 301-809-3078 or [mcorley@cityofbowie.org](mailto:mcorley@cityofbowie.org).

### **Arts and Education Scholarships Deadlines are March 13**

Did you know the City offers an Arts Scholarship to graduating high school seniors who will be furthering their studies in the arts? The scholarship application can be found at [www.cityofbowie.org/cityforms](http://www.cityofbowie.org/cityforms). Scholarship information for the Excellence in Education Scholarship is available in the Guidance Offices at area high schools. The deadline for both applications is March 13, 2017. For more information, contact Matt Corley at 301-809-3078 or [mcorley@cityofbowie.org](mailto:mcorley@cityofbowie.org).

### **National Anthem and “Voice of Bowie” Auditions – March 4**

There will open auditions for individuals or groups to perform the National Anthem at City special events and for those interested in being the stage announcer at the Memorial Day Parade, Bowiefest, the Fourth of July and the International Festival. Auditions will be held in the Council Chambers at City Hall (15901 Excalibur Road) on Saturday, March 4 beginning at 9 a.m. for the National Anthem. Participants must be prepared to perform the National Anthem a cappella for a judging panel. Auditions for the “Voice of Bowie” will begin at approximately 11:30 a.m. Candidates will be asked to read from a prepared script for a judging panel. The chosen performer(s) will be invited to perform at various City-sponsored special events. For information or to schedule an audition, contact Special Events Coordinator Matt Corley at 301-809-3078 or [mcorley@cityofbowie.org](mailto:mcorley@cityofbowie.org).

### **Solar Co-op Information Meeting – March 4 and Solar Co-op Mixer – March 16**

Thinking about solar? Please join us at an information session to learn more about joining a MD SUN Solar Co-op. Neighbors in Bowie and surrounding Prince George’s County can join the co-op to get assistance with going solar and to save money. The solar co-op is based on the same principle as buying in bulk, and joining is not a commitment to install panels.

Once the group is large enough, the nonprofit MD SUN will help the co-op solicit competitive bids from area solar installers. Co-op members will select a single company to complete all of the installations, and each member will then have the option to purchase or lease panels individually based on the installer’s group rate. By going solar as a group and choosing a single installer, each participant generally saves up to 20% off the cost of their system. To register for the information session on March 4, from 10 - 11:30 a.m. at City Hall, visit [www.mdsun.org/bowie](http://www.mdsun.org/bowie).

Can’t make the information session on March 4? Consider joining past and current Bowie Solar Co-op members for an informal mixer Thursday, March 16, from 6 - 7:30 p.m. at Old Bowie Town Grille (8604 Chestnut Avenue). Connect with other homeowners interested in solar, learn from the experiences of co-op members, and ask questions about solar. For more information about both programs, contact Kristin Larson at 301-809-3044 or [klarson@cityofbowie.org](mailto:klarson@cityofbowie.org).

### **Accepting Nominations for Bowie's Hall of Honor**

Bowie's Hall of Honor recognizes those citizens of Bowie who have made "major and lasting contributions" to the City. The first inductees were honored in 1994. A nominee to the Hall of Honor must: be deceased for at least one year as of the nomination deadline; have made both a major and lasting contribution to the City of Bowie; and have been a resident of the City of Bowie either during the time of their contribution or at the time of their death. Nomination forms are available at [www.cityofbowie.org/cityforms](http://www.cityofbowie.org/cityforms). The deadline to submit nominations for the 2017 Hall of Honor is Monday, March 6, 2017 at 5 p.m. at City Hall, 15901 Excalibur Road, Bowie, MD 20716. For more information, contact Matt Corley, Special Events Coordinator, at 301-809-3078 or [mcorley@cityofbowie.org](mailto:mcorley@cityofbowie.org).

### **Bowie Police Department RAD (Rape Aggression Defense) Training for Women**

The Police Department will host RAD training classes on Monday and Wednesday evenings beginning March 13 and March 15, 2017, respectively. The course is a series of six weekly classes, Monday or Wednesday evenings from 6:30 - 9:30 p.m. RAD is a program of realistic self-defense tactics and techniques for women. Nationally certified RAD instructors teach the courses. For more information and to register, contact the Bowie Police Department at 240-544-5777.

### **Check Out What's Happening at the Bowie Ice Arena**

The Ice Arena is open for public skating daily. Monthly calendars are online at [www.cityofbowie.org/icearena](http://www.cityofbowie.org/icearena) or calling 301-809-3090 for information about open sessions. Registration for summer camps begins March 15. Half-day and full-day camps are available in July and August for children ages 3 - 15. Beginner through advanced camps, including specialty figure skating and hockey camps (with multi-week discounts), are available. April Learn-to-Skate classes will consist of a four-week mini-series of lessons for ages 18 months through adults – at all skill levels. Stop by the rink to register or call for details.

### **100 Games for Going Green**

Recycling can be fun! At this Centennial event on Saturday, March 18, 1 - 5 p.m. at the Bowie City Gym., youth can bring specified recyclable materials and turn them into different kinds of game balls. The balls then will be used to play 100 games offered during the day. Games are designed for ages 3 - 12. The requested materials to participate include yarn, socks, 5 - 7-inch squares of fabric, 5 - 7-inch lengths of narrow fabric, 5 - 7-inch lengths of soft rope, old newspapers, and plastic grocery bags. Volunteers are also needed to guide children through the activities. If interested (student community service hours provided) contact Mr. John Dutrow at 301-262-5252 or [john.dutrow@verizon.net](mailto:john.dutrow@verizon.net) or Donna Hooper at 301-809-2383 or [dhooper@cityofbowie.org](mailto:dhooper@cityofbowie.org). The Community Recreation Committee, the Green Team, and the Environmental Advisory Committee are hosting this event. Register at [www.cityofbowie.org/100GreenGames](http://www.cityofbowie.org/100GreenGames).

### **Learn How to Prevent Mosquitoes and the Illnesses They May Carry**

The City and the Maryland Department of Agriculture will host a Mosquito Awareness and Disease Prevention Workshop on Thursday, March 23, from 7 - 8:30 p.m. at Kenhill Center. Obtain information about mosquitoes and mosquito-borne disease and get your questions

answered. Space is limited, so please RSVP to Jeannine Dorothy at [jeannine.dorothy@maryland.gov](mailto:jeannine.dorothy@maryland.gov) or 301-422-5080 by March 17, 2017.

### **Accepting Nominations for the Malcolm “Skip” Popp Award**

The Community Outreach Committee is accepting nominations for the Malcolm “Skip” Popp Award. This award recognizes Scouts and/or Scout Leaders who have rendered “extraordinary and distinguished” community service within Scout organizations in the City of Bowie during calendar year 2016. Past recipients have demonstrated leadership in Scouting and have made a positive impact on their community and the City. Please see nomination form for details regarding eligibility criteria and information required. This year’s deadline is Friday, March 24, 2017. Nomination forms may be obtained at City Hall or at [www.cityofbowie.org/cityforms](http://www.cityofbowie.org/cityforms) and at City Hall. For more information, contact Popp Award Program Chairperson Sharon Hunt at [shunt1@verizon.net](mailto:shunt1@verizon.net) or 301-802-0714, or Sally Hein at [shein@cityofbowie.org](mailto:shein@cityofbowie.org) or 301-809-3014.

### **Weed Warrior Work Day – March 25**

The Bowie Green Team is in need of volunteers to help remove English ivy from Major Lansdale Park. As an invasive, non-native plant, English ivy spreads quickly and easily, and is very destructive to native ecosystems. This is an outdoor activity that requires cutting the ivy vines at eye-level and foot-level, then pulling them back about two feet from the base of the tree to bag them. Work takes place on Saturday, March 25 from 9 a.m. - 12 p.m. at Major Lansdale Park (4301 Collington Road). To participate, please register by contacting Kristin Larson ([klarson@cityofbowie.org](mailto:klarson@cityofbowie.org) or 301-809-3044).

This is a great Student Service Learning opportunity. Children age 14 and younger must be under the direct supervision of a parent/guardian or troop leader at all times, and no volunteers under age 16 can use tools, but they may participate by pulling and bagging vines. For more information, visit [www.cityofbowie.org/weedwarriors](http://www.cityofbowie.org/weedwarriors).

### **Annual Drinking Water Quality Report**

The City and the Maryland Department of the Environment routinely monitor drinking water to detect contaminants, according to Federal and State laws. Each year, the City issues a Water Quality Report for those areas that are served by the City of Bowie Water Plant. The Report is designed to inform customers of water quality standards for the previous calendar year. The 2016 City of Bowie Water Quality Report is available. View the report at [www.cityofbowie.org/wqr](http://www.cityofbowie.org/wqr) and learn more about the source and quality of your City of Bowie drinking water. If you would like a paper copy mailed to you, please call 301-809-3060.

### **Join the Memorial Day Parade**

The City’s Memorial Day Parade Committee is planning this year’s parade, which will take place Saturday, May 27 beginning at 11 a.m. There is still time to register your organization to participate in this fun and patriotic event. For information, go to [www.cityofbowie.org/parade](http://www.cityofbowie.org/parade) or contact Matt Corley at [mcorley@cityofbowie.org](mailto:mcorley@cityofbowie.org) or 301-809-3078.

## Jobs

The City of Bowie is seeking candidates for the following positions:

- Code Compliance Supervisor (closes 3/6/2017)
- Entry Level Police Officer (open)
- Lateral Police Officer (open)
- Park Attendant (3/17/2017)
- Park Aide (3/17/2017)
- Temporary Laborer – Parks and Grounds (3/17/2017)
- Assistant Director – Public Works (3/24/2017)

For more information or to apply, visit [www.cityofbowie.org/jobs](http://www.cityofbowie.org/jobs).

### Temporary Intersection Closure in Northridge

The City of Bowie has contracted with Priority Construction Corporation to rebuild the brick paver intersection at Quill Point and Quarterhorse Drives in the Northridge neighborhood. The work will begin on March 20, 2017 and will require the intersection to be closed during construction, which is expected to take no more than 60 days.

We regret the inconvenience to the community; however a public street route will be available to all properties during the construction period and residents will have continual access to their driveways. Work will take place Monday thru Friday, between 7 a.m. and 5 p.m. The City will have an inspector assigned to this project to observe the daily work and the contractor will have a superintendent on site during construction.

The City appreciates your patience during this temporary disruption in the Northridge neighborhood. Please contact Jackie Tayman at 301-809-2332 or [jtayman@cityofbowie.org](mailto:jtayman@cityofbowie.org) if you have questions or concerns about this project.

### \$20 Compost Bins Available at Bowie City Hall

To encourage backyard composting, the City is selling compost bins to residents at a discounted price of \$20. Residents who live within the municipal limits of Bowie can purchase up to two bins per household. Payment is accepted by cash or check at the Finance window during regular business hours (Monday - Friday, 8:30 a.m. - 5 p.m.). On weekday evenings (Monday - Thursday until 10 p.m.) and Saturday mornings (8:30 a.m. - noon) payment can be accepted only by check at the reception desk at City Hall. More information is available at [www.cityofbowie.org/compost](http://www.cityofbowie.org/compost).

### Group Begins for Children Experiencing Anxiety

Bowie Youth & Family Services offers a group called “Calm, Confident Kids” for 7 - 11 year-olds who are experiencing anxiety. Starting March 22, the group will meet weekly for five weeks from 7 - 8:30 p.m. Call Bowie Youth & Family Services at 301-809-3033 for more information or to register.

### **Keeping Up With the City Council**

The Bowie City Council generally meets on the first and third Monday of the month. The public is invited and encouraged to attend these sessions which take place in the Council Chambers at City Hall at 8 p.m. City Council Meeting agendas are advertised in the *Bowie Blade-News* and are posted to the City website on the Friday before a scheduled meeting. The online agenda contains links to staff reports for all items being voted upon by the Council. Member of the public may address Council during the Citizen Participation section of the meeting and during Public Hearings. Meetings can be viewed live on the City website or on the Bowie Government Channel (Verizon 10/Comcast 71). They are rebroadcast on the Government Channel on Wednesday and Saturday evenings and may be viewed any time from the City website as videos on demand by going to [www.cityofbowie.org/viewmeetings](http://www.cityofbowie.org/viewmeetings).

### **Prescription Drug Take Back Day**

Twice a year the Bowie Police Department partners with the US Drug Enforcement Administration to collect prescription drugs and over-the-counter medications that are expired or are no longer needed. The next Take Back Day is scheduled for Saturday, April 29, 2017. Look for more details in next month's News Flash.

## **Events**

**3/4 – National Anthem and “Voice of Bowie” Auditions at City Hall.** National Anthem auditions begin at 9 a.m. and “Voice of Bowie” auditions will start at approximately 11:30 a.m. Contact Matt Corley at [mcorley@cityofbowie.org](mailto:mcorley@cityofbowie.org) or 301-809-3078 for more information.

**3/4 – Solar Co-op Information Session 10 - 11:30 a.m. at City Hall.** Learn the facts about joining a solar co-op to get a better price on going solar. Contact Kristin Larson at [klarson@cityofbowie.org](mailto:klarson@cityofbowie.org) or 301-809-3044 for information.

**3/4 – Performing Arts Showcase 7 - 9 p.m. at the Bowie Center for the Performing Arts.** The Bowie Arts Committee is sponsoring a Showcase of Performing Artists from Bowie and the surrounding area. The program will include short segments from a variety of different types of performing arts. Among those performing will be Aimee Raechel – Bowie resident and harpist, Panquility – a steel drum band, The National Ballet, Magic of Speed, and Robert Fiester – longtime Bowie resident, singing and playing solo guitar.

**3/5 – “Tales From Belair at Bowie”** 3 and 7 p.m. at the Bowie Center for the Performing Arts. Free. There will be two screenings of this film by Jeff Krulik. Each will be followed by a 30-minute panel discussion. For more information, please contact 301-809-3089 or [museumevents@cityofbowie.org](mailto:museumevents@cityofbowie.org).

**3/6 – Regular City Council Meeting** 8 p.m. at City Hall.

**3/10 - 3/26 – “Nightwatch” at Bowie Playhouse** Produced by Bowie Community Theatre. Performances are at 8 p.m. on Fridays and Saturdays and matinees are at 2 p.m. on Sundays. For tickets, visit [www.bctheatre.com](http://www.bctheatre.com) or call 301-805-0219.

**3/11 – Amelia Earhart Visits Belair** 2 p.m. at Belair Mansion. Free. For more information, please contact 301-809-3089 or [museumevents@cityofbowie.org](mailto:museumevents@cityofbowie.org).

**3/14 – Belair and Racing – Second Tuesday Lecture** 7:30 p.m. at Belair Mansion. Free. For more information, please contact 301-809-3089 or [museumevents@cityofbowie.org](mailto:museumevents@cityofbowie.org).

**3/15 – Armchair Tour - Iceland** 12:30 p.m. at the Senior Center. For more information, please contact the Center at 301-809-2300.

**3/15 – Bowie Ice Arena Summer Camp Registration Begins.** Camps fill up fast. Sign up for figure skating and hockey summer camp sessions at the Ice Arena. Call 301-809-3090 for more information.

**3/16 – Bowie Solar Mixer** 6 - 7:30 p.m. at Old Bowie Town Grille, located at 8604 Chestnut Avenue. For more information, contact Kristin Larson at 301-809-3044 or [klarson@cityofbowie.org](mailto:klarson@cityofbowie.org).

**3/17 – St. Patrick’s Day Party** 12:30 p.m. at the Senior Center. DJ music and light refreshments. \$4 (residents)/\$5 (non-residents). For more information, please contact the Center at 301-809-2300.

**3/18 – 100 Games for Going Green** 1 - 5 p.m. at the City Gym. For more information, contact Mr. John Dutrow at 301-262-5252 or [john.dutrow@verizon.net](mailto:john.dutrow@verizon.net) or Donna Hooper at 301-809-2383 or [dhooper@cityofbowie.org](mailto:dhooper@cityofbowie.org). Visit [www.cityofbowie.org/100GreenGames](http://www.cityofbowie.org/100GreenGames) to register for this event. It is hosted by the Community Recreation Committee, the Green Team, and the Environmental Advisory Committee.

**3/18 – 18<sup>th</sup> Century Ladies’ Day** 9:30 a.m. - 4 p.m. at Belair Mansion. \$30. For reservations and more information, please contact 301-809-3089 or [museumevents@cityofbowie.org](mailto:museumevents@cityofbowie.org).

**3/20 – The Ladies of Belair – Brown Bag Lunch** 12 - 1 p.m. at Belair Mansion. Bring your lunch. Free. For more information, please call 301-809-3089 or email [museumevents@cityofbowie.org](mailto:museumevents@cityofbowie.org).

**3/20 – Spring Variety Show** 12:30 p.m. at the Senior Center. South County Senior Center Show Stoppers present song, dance and more! For more information, please contact the Center at 301-809-2300.

**3/21 – Kids Kaboose** 10:30 a.m. at Bowie Railroad Museum. Railroad stories and fun for children ages 1 - 10. Free. For more information, please contact 301-809-3089 or [museumevents@cityofbowie.org](mailto:museumevents@cityofbowie.org).

**3/20 – Regular City Council Meeting** 8 p.m. at City Hall.

**3/22 – FY 2018 Annual Action Plan Public Hearing** 7 p.m. at City Hall. The City hosts a hearing each year on its Annual Action Plan for Community Development Block Grant funds from the US Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD).

The Annual Action Plan outlines the City’s planned programs and resource allocations for the implementation of objectives outlined in the Five Year Strategy Plan, which is included in the Consolidated Plan for Community Development. The Five Year Strategy Plan identifies community needs and proposed solutions in the areas of housing, special needs, economic development, and non-housing community development. The City’s Senior Citizen “Green” Housing Rehabilitation Program is funded by the CDBG program.

**3/23 – County Planning Board Hearing on Amber Ridge Conceptual Site Plan** 10 a.m. at the County Administration Building, Upper Marlboro.

**3/23 – Mosquito Awareness Workshop** 7 - 8:30 p.m. at Kenhill Center. Hosted by the City and the Maryland Department of Agriculture. Space limited. RSVP by March 17 to Jeannine Dorothy at [jeannine.dorothy@maryland.gov](mailto:jeannine.dorothy@maryland.gov) or 301-422-5080.

**3/25 – Youth Employment Fair** 9 a.m. - 12 p.m. at the City Gym. For teens and young adults up to age 24. Hosted by Bowie Youth and Family Services and the City Gym. For more information, contact Donna Hooper at 301-809-2383 or [dhooper@cityofbowie.org](mailto:dhooper@cityofbowie.org). Register by 3/20 at [www.cityofbowie.org/jobfair](http://www.cityofbowie.org/jobfair).

**3/25 – Chesapeake Family Camp Fair** 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. at the City Gym. Information on summer camps and activities in the area. Free. Open to the public. For more information, contact Donna Hooper at 301-809-2383 or [dhooper@cityofbowie.org](mailto:dhooper@cityofbowie.org).

**3/25 – Kids Passport to Maryland History** 11 a.m. - 3 p.m. at South Bowie Library. Free. For more information, please contact the Museum at 301-809-3089 or email [museumevents@cityofbowie.org](mailto:museumevents@cityofbowie.org).

**3/25 – Bowie Ice Arena Open House** 10 - 11:45 a.m. This free event offers on and off ice fun, skating exhibitions, and door prizes.

**4/1 – Stream Cleanup 9 a.m. to noon at various locations in Bowie.** Volunteers walk along a variety of stream segments and pick up trash and litter. The City will provide all supplies and Prince George’s County students can receive service learning hours. To register or for more information, contact Tiffany Wright at 301-809-3043 or [twright@cityofbowie.org](mailto:twright@cityofbowie.org).