

Bowie News Flash

February 2018

News

Upcoming City Holiday on Monday, February 19

City offices will be closed for the President's Day holiday on Monday, February 19. There will be no refuse or recycling collection. Collection resumes on your next regularly scheduled day.

City Council District 2 Special Election – March 12

The City of Bowie will hold a Special Election on Monday, March 12, 2018 to fill a vacancy in the District 2 Councilmember seat. Only voters of District 2 are eligible to vote in this election. Residents who are interested in filing to run should contact City Clerk Awilda Hernandez at 301-809-3029 or ahernandez@cityofbowie.org. A candidate for the seat must live in District 2, must be a registered voter, and must have lived in the City for at least one year. The filing deadline is February 9, 2018. More information for candidates can be found at www.cityofbowie.org/election.

District 2 consists of the following neighborhoods: Belair Town, Bowie Forest, Buckingham, Derbyshire, Fairview, Forest Hills, Foxhill, Glenridge, Grady's Walk, Highbridge Park, Kenilworth, Longridge, Meadowbrook (only the streets south and west of Millstream Drive), Somerset, Stewart's Landing, and Tulip Grove.

Four Candidates Now Vie for District 2 Seat

As of Friday, February 2, 2018, four candidates have filed to run in the District 2 Special Election. The candidates are: Pete Mellits, Diane Polangin, Monica Roebuck, and Dufour Woolfey.

Bowie Ice Arena Design Presentation – February 5

There will be an informational presentation on design plans for the new Bowie Ice Arena to be built on Church Road. The City Council meeting begins at 8 p.m. in the Council Chambers at City Hall. For more information on this project, please call the Public Works Department at 301-809-2336 or visit www.cityofbowie.org/newicearena.

City Hall Art Gallery

- **Generations** - through February 9, 2018.
- **Youth Art** – through April 20, 2018.

The Gallery is free and open to the public during City Hall hours. For more information, please contact Matt Corley at 301-809-3078 or mcorley@cityofbowie.org

Five-Year Consolidated Plan Needs YOUR Input

The City invites residents to complete an online survey about the needs of the community. The input will provide valuable information as the City develops a new Five-Year Consolidated Plan for Community Development.

The City of Bowie, as a designated Entitlement Community by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), is eligible for direct Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funding. To receive federal funding the City must prepare a Five-Year Strategic and Consolidated Plan. The development of the City's Consolidated Plan for FY2019 - 2023 must be developed with input and recommendations from residents, neighborhood groups, businesses, developers, public and private sector service providers, and other stakeholders.

Complete the Community Needs Survey at www.cityofbowie.org/survey. While you are there, we hope that you will also complete a survey for the Bowie Police Department.

Five-Year Consolidated Plan Public Hearing – February 5

On February 5 at 8 p.m. at City Hall, there will be a public hearing on the process and development of the Citizen Participation Plan (CPP) for the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development's Five Year (FY19-23) Consolidated Plan for the City of Bowie. Topics include the needs of the community in the areas of housing, homelessness, community development and economic development. Please send information requests/written comments to bowieplan19@cityofbowie.org.

2018 City Holidays

- **Presidents' Day** Monday, February 19, 2018
- **Memorial Day** Monday, May 28, 2018
- **Independence Day** Wednesday, July 4, 2018
- **Labor Day** Monday, September 3, 2018
- **Veterans Day** Monday, November 12, 2018
- **Thanksgiving Day** Thursday, November 22, 2018
- **Day after Thanksgiving** Friday, November 23, 2018
- **Christmas Day** Tuesday, December 25, 2018

Bowie Ice Arena Events

Olympic Series Learn-to-Skate classes for beginners will start February 14. Register in person at the rink for all ages (18 months and older). Special beginner discounts are available. View the Public Skating Session calendar at www.cityofbowie.org/icearena.

The Bowie Ice Arena will host the annual Valentine's Figure Skating Competition February 17 and 18. The event is free to spectators. For more information, call 301-809-3090.

February is National Cancer Prevention Month.

According to the American Institute of Cancer Research (AICR) and the World Health Organization, the United States has the seventh highest overall cancer rate in the world. There are about 12.7 million cancer cases globally every year, and this number is expected to increase to 26 million by 2030.

Research shows that more than 40 percent of all cancers diagnosed in the United States can be attributed to preventable causes – smoking, obesity, physical inactivity, and excessive exposure to the sun. AICR offers the following recommendations to aid in reducing the risk of cancer:

- Maintain a healthy weight
- Exercise regularly
- Protect skin from the sun with appropriate clothing and sunscreen
- Avoid sugary drinks, and limit consumption of energy-dense foods (those with a high ratio of calories to volume)
- Eat a variety of vegetables, fruits, whole grains, and legumes
- Limit red meat consumption and avoid processed meats
- Limit consumption of alcohol
- Limit consumption of salty foods and foods processed with salt (sodium)

For more information, visit the following sites:

- American Institute of Cancer Research www.aicr.org
- American Association for Cancer Research www.aacrfoundation.org
- American Cancer Society www.cancer.org

City Board and Committee Vacancies

Volunteers are needed for the following City boards and committees:

- Administrative Review Board
- Arts Committee
- Community Outreach Committee
- Community Recreation Committee
- Diversity Committee
- Education Committee
- Board of Elections
- Environmental Advisory Committee
- Financial Advisory Committee
- Green Team Executive Committee
- Information Technology Committee
- Board of Personnel Appeals

Information on the role of each committee and how to apply for membership can be found at www.cityofbowie.org/committees or by contacting the City Clerk at ahernandez@cityofbowie.org or 301-809-3029.

Bowie Youth & Family Services Offers Help to Families

The following programs will be starting soon:

- **Calm Confident Kids** - A group for kids who worry too much that helps return some of the fun of childhood. Meetings will be on Thursdays, from 7 to 8:30 p.m.
- **Girls Count** - Empowerment group for high school-aged girls will meet on Mondays from 4 to 5:30 p.m.

Youth Services also provides free tutoring on Mondays and Tuesdays for Bowie-area students, grades 1 through 12. (Mondays 2:45 to 6:15 p.m. and Tuesdays 4 to 7 p.m.). Preregistration is required. Please contact 301-809-3033 for more information or to register.

Community Young Adult Employment Fair – March 24

Employers: are you looking to hire teens and young adults in the next few months? The City of Bowie is hosting an Employment Fair for young adults and is seeking employers to participate. The fair takes place on Saturday, March 24, from 9:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the City Gym. If you would like to participate, please reserve your space now, by completing an online application at www.cityofbowie.org/jobfair. For more information, contact Rhonda Simon at rsimon@cityofbowie.org or 301-809-3033.

National Anthem and *Voice of Bowie* Auditions

The City will hold 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, and the International Festival. Auditions will be held in the Council Chambers at City Hall on Saturday, March 3, 2018.

National Anthem auditions begin at 9 a.m. 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 the various City-sponsored special events. For information or to schedule an audition, contact Matt Corley at 301-809-3078 or mcorley@cityofbowie.org.

Snow Removal

A Snow Emergency is declared whenever snow reaches a depth of two inches. All vehicles must be removed from City streets. The City begins plowing when the snow depth reaches two inches. All main drives, hills and collector streets are treated and/or plowed first. In the event of a snowfall less than two inches, all main drives, hills and collector streets are treated with salt and/or sand. Streets and cul-de-sacs that are flat or have only slight inclines with limited intersections are only treated in extreme icing conditions. During a snow or ice event only, it is acceptable to park your vehicle on your grass. Each resident is responsible for removing snow and/or ice from the sidewalk in front of their home. To report hazardous road conditions within the City, call 301-809-2344 or after hours call the Non-Emergency Call Center at 240-544-5700.

Snow Removal Time Waiver

Do you have a limitation that may prevent you from removing ice and snow from the public sidewalk or driveway quickly? The City provides additional time for people with factors such as age, physical handicap or disability, but you must submit a waiver application and be approved. Visit www.cityofbowie.org/snowwaiver to download the application. For more information, please contact the Code Compliance Office at 301-809-3008 or dmichelle@cityofbowie.org.

Contact the Teen Job Bank for Help with Shoveling and Other Chores

Teens are needed for snow shoveling this winter. Bowie Youth & Family Services sponsors a Teen Job Bank, where residents can find Bowie youth who are looking for opportunities to make extra money, on either an occasional or a regular basis. Residents may use this service to find teens who can help with tasks such as snow shoveling, yard work, babysitting, tutoring, shopping or other chores. The resident and the teen determine the particulars of the job and the fees per hour. To participate, complete the Job Bank Teen Application or Resident Application found at www.cityofbowie.org/jobbank or call 301-809-3033.

What's Bouncing at the City Gym?

- **Morning Walking** Weekdays, 8:30 - 10 a.m.
- **Basketball Open Gym** Weekdays, 10 a.m. - 10 p.m.
- **Pickleball** Tuesdays and Thursdays, 10 a.m. - 12 p.m. Learn to play!
- **Coed Recreational Volleyball** Fridays, 11 a.m. - 1 p.m. No experience needed.
- **Senior Fit** Monday, Wednesday and Friday, 9 - 10 a.m. Hosted by Holy Cross Hospital at the Gym. Participants must register with Holy Cross. For information and registration, call Sara McKechnie at 301-754-7895.
- **Friday Night Open Gym** 7:30 - 10 p.m. Three courts open.

We Like to Recognize Our Residents

Throughout the year, the City of Bowie honors residents, businesses, and those who serve Bowie in a variety of ways. At present, the City is soliciting nominations for two different recognition programs:

- **Hall of Honor**
In 1991, the Hall of Honor was developed to recognize 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; have been a resident of the City of Bowie either during the time of their contribution or at the time of their death. The deadline to submit nominations for the 2018 Hall of Honor is Monday, March 5, 2018 at 5 p.m. at City Hall. For more information, contact Matt Corley at 301-809-3078 or mcorley@cityofbowie.org. Nomination forms are available at www.cityofbowie.org/cityforms.

- **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 2017. To be eligible for this award, Scouts or Scout Leaders must be affiliated with a Scouting group within the limits of the City of Bowie, and/or a Scouting group for which 50% or more of their youth members are City of Bowie residents. They must also be registered with the Boy Scouts of America or Girl Scouts, USA. Please see the nomination form for details regarding eligibility criteria and information required.

The deadline is Friday, March 23, 2018. Nomination forms are at

www.cityofbowie.org/cityforms or at City Hall. For more information, contact Sharon Hunt at shunt1@verizon.net or 301-802-0714, or Sally Hein at shein@cityofbowie.org or 301-809-3014.

Student Scholarships

The City Council believes it is important to recognize and help students through various City scholarship programs.

- **Art Scholarship** – This scholarship is awarded to graduating high school seniors who will be pursuing studies in an arts-related field. Arts Scholarship applications may be found at www.cityofbowie.org/cityforms.
- **Education Scholarship** – Scholarships are awarded to Bowie students who have excelled during their high school career. Students should contact the Guidance Department at their high school as soon as possible in order to be considered for this scholarship.

The application deadline for both scholarships is March 12, 2018. For information about either scholarship program, please contact Matt Corley at mcorley@cityofbowie.org or 301-809-3078.

Pet Owner Responsibility

Pet ownership requires an investment of time and money for healthcare, food and other essentials. Please clean up after your pet(s) and comply with local codes for licensing and vaccinations. Make sure your pet is properly identified with a collar, tag, microchip or tattoo. All dogs, cats and ferrets residing within the Bowie City limits must be licensed and be kept on a leash when off the pet owner’s property. (A current rabies vaccination is required in order to obtain a license.) For information, contact Bowie Animal Control at 301-809-3002 or ldowell@cityofbowie.org.

Staying Connected

This Bowie News Flash is one of the many ways that we use to communicate with residents. We recognize that different people have different preferences when it comes to how they receive their news about the City. Whatever method(s) you choose, our goal is to make it quick and simple for you to stay in touch with City government - to get the services you need, to get answers to your questions, or to provide feedback to City officials.

Please use any of the following methods to stay in touch; and if you have suggestions about how we can improve our communications with residents, please email publicinfo@cityofbowie.org or call 301-809-3032.

- **Alert Bowie** – Receive email and text messages, and in some instances, phone calls about what’s going on in Bowie. Sign up to receive weather alerts, traffic and crime alerts, news and events, job openings, government closures, and service interruption notices at www.cityofbowie.org/alerts.
- **City website** - View Council meetings, reports, job openings, bidding opportunities, event information, and more at www.cityofbowie.org. You can also pay your City water bill or a speed camera ticket on the site or submit a request for service.
- **Bowie Spotlight** – The monthly newsletter of the City of Bowie is published on the last Thursday of the month in the Bowie Blade-News. This free newspaper is delivered to every Bowie neighborhood. If you are not receiving the Blade each week, please call their circulation office at 410-268-4800 or email circulation@capgaznews.com.
- **Bowie Government Channel (Verizon Channel 10/Comcast Channel 71)** - Tune in to see announcements about upcoming City events or to view City Council meetings.
- **Social Media** – Follow the City government on Twitter (@CityofBowie), on Facebook (@BowieMD) and on Instagram (@CityofBowie). There are also Facebook pages for Bowie Animal Control, the Bowie Police Department, the Bowie Ice Arena, and Bowie Youth & Family Services and several City Twitter feeds. See the complete list at www.cityofbowie.org/socialmedia.

Jobs

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

- Assistant Director – Public Works Department (open)
- HVAC Specialist – Community Services Department (open)
- Police Officer – Entry Level and Lateral (open)

For more information or to apply, visit www.cityofbowie.org/jobs.

Events

2/5 – Regular City Council Meeting 8 p.m. at City Hall. On the agenda is a presentation about plans for the new ice arena and a public hearing on the Five-Year Consolidated Plan.

2/6 – Presidential Memories 10 a.m. at the Senior Center. For more information about this free program, please contact the Senior Center at 301-809-2300.

2/8 - Community Outreach Meeting on Five-Year Consolidated Plan 10 a.m. in Classrooms 2 & 4 at the Senior Center.

2/9 - 2/24 Musical Comedy Murders of 1940 at the Bowie Playhouse Information: 301-832-4819 or www.2ndstarproductions.com.

2/9 – Voter Registration Deadline and Candidate Filing Deadline for March 12 District 2 Special Election. Details at www.cityofbowie.org/elections or call 301-809-3029.

2/12 – Kristina Mitchell Performs 10:30 a.m. at the Senior Center. For more information, please contact the Senior Center at 301-809-2300.

2/12 – Ebony Images in Film 12:30 p.m. at the Senior Center. For more information, please contact the Senior Center at 301-809-2300.

2/13 – Harriet Tubman: History and Influences – Second Tuesday Lecture 7:30 p.m. at Belair Mansion. Free. For more information, please contact 301-809-3089 or museumevents@cityofbowie.org.

2/14 – Friendship Day 12:30 p.m. at the Senior Center. Featuring Charles Sullivan: The Motown Revue. For more information, please contact the Senior Center at 301-809-2300.

2/16 – Fairy Tale Fun 10 a.m. at Belair Mansion. Ages 2 to 5. Free. For more information, please contact 301-809-3089 or museumevents@cityofbowie.org.

2/17 - 2/18 – Valentine’s Figure Skating Competition Bowie Ice Arena. Free to watch. For more information, call 301-809-3090 or visit www.cityofbowie.org/icearena.

2/18 – A Gift Shop Sale by George! 12 - 4 p.m. at Belair Mansion. 20% off in honor of Washington’s birthday. For more information, please contact 301-809-3089 or museumevents@cityofbowie.org.

2/19 – Presidents’ Day Holiday City offices are closed. There will be no refuse or recycling services; services will resume on the next regularly scheduled day.

2/20 – Kids Kaboose 10:30 a.m. at Bowie Railroad Museum. Railroad stories and fun for ages 1 - 10. Free. For more information, please contact 301-809-3089 or museumevents@cityofbowie.org.

2/20 – Regular City Council Meeting 8 p.m. at City Hall.

2/24 – Games People Played 12 - 4 p.m. at Belair Mansion. Drop in and enjoy games from the past. Free. For more information, please contact 301-809-3089 or museumevents@cityofbowie.org.

2/26 – The Dining Room ... Belair’s Dining Room - Brown Bag Lunch Lecture 12 - 1:30 p.m. at Belair Mansion. Free. Bring your lunch. For more information, please contact 301-809-3089 or museumevents@cityofbowie.org.

2/27 – *Hidden Figures* 12 p.m. Senior Center. A biographical drama based on the nonfiction book of the same name about a black female mathematician who worked at NASA during the Space Race. For more information, please contact the Senior Center at 301-809-2300.