

Bowie Spotlight

The Official Newsletter of the City of Bowie

May - June 2006

Electricity Rates Will Rise Sharply in July

BGE has announced that customers will see a substantial increase in electric rates this summer when the utility begins charging market rates for electricity. Rates have been capped since 1999 when the Maryland General Assembly approved an electric deregulation plan for the State of Maryland. The rate caps will be lifted on July 1, 2006.

When Maryland and other states across the country approved electric deregulation, the conventional wisdom was

that deregulation would encourage competition and ultimately result in lower prices for consumers. A reasonable, competitive alternative to BGE has yet to surface in Maryland. According to the Maryland Public Service Commission, there are only a few dozen BGE customers who are known to have switched to other providers.

The Public Service Commission, which oversees public utilities in the State of Maryland, has worked out a deferral

plan to soften the impact of the dramatic increases. Under the plan, if a customer takes the deferral, they will see an average 21% increase followed by gradually increasing amounts until the deferred increase has been paid back. However there is a fee associated with opting for the deferral. At the end of two years, all customers will pay the full market price for their electricity.

As this newsletter goes to print, the Maryland General Assembly session has ended, but there is talk of a special session to address the dramatic rate increase slated for July. It is possible that the deferral plan may be modified or that the General Assembly may require the rate increase be phased in over several years. Consumers will need to follow the issue in the local press to determine what their options are.

Utility companies, government agencies, consumer organizations and energy conservation associations, all offer ideas about how the average residential consumer can cut energy costs. A sampling of suggestions is provided inside. Residents may also want to visit one of the websites on the following page to learn more about energy conservation.

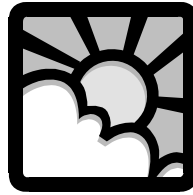
Get Ready for the Memorial Day Parade!

Marching bands, floats, clowns, Uncle Sam, and YOU! Join the City for its annual Memorial Day Parade which will be held on **Saturday, May 27, 2006** beginning at 11 a.m. at the Bowie High School Annex on Belair Drive. The Parade will turn right onto Belair Drive, right onto Sussex Lane, right onto Stonybrook Drive and a final left onto Sage Lane at Acorn Hill Park.

This year's Parade Grand Marshal is former Mayor Richard Logue. Look for appearances by the Collington Masonic Lodge, Belair Cooperative Nursery, and for the very first time, the Bowie High School Band. Bring your lawn chair and set up along the parade route to watch your neighbors show their patriotism and honor those who have served. Concessions will be available for sale at Acorn Hill Park beginning at 11 a.m. and continue throughout the parade. Individual units will be announced at both the Annex and Acorn Hill Park.

For more information or to enter your organization, contact Shannon Carpenter, Special Events Coordinator, at 301-809-3078 or scarpenter@cityofbowie.org, or go to www.cityofbowie.org, and select "Leisure Activities" and scroll to "Special Events."

More Useful Energy Information



BGE Provides Special Needs Registration

Before an emergency arises, customers are encouraged to contact BGE at **410-685-0123** or **1-800-685-0123** to advise of any personal medical hardships that require electrically operated medical equipment. Every customer with certified verification of his or her illness and type of electric-powered medical equipment will become part of the Customer Medical Equipment (CME) program.

In the event service is interrupted due to a storm or other act of nature, BGE will make every effort to restore service as quickly as possible to all customers. However, since priorities cannot be guaranteed, CME participants are encouraged to make prior arrangements for backup power supply or relocation plans in the event of an emergency.

*Source: Baltimore Gas & Electric Website Article
www.bge.com*

Energy Assistance Program

The Electric Universal Service Program is a State program to help low-income electric customers with paying their electric bills. If a customer qualifies, the program may help them in three ways:

- A past due electric bill may be paid.
- An ongoing grant may assist with paying a current or future bill.
- Weatherization services may be available to assist with reducing energy usage.

The program is administered by the Department of Human Resources. For more information, call 1-800-352-1446 or visit their website at www.dhr.state.md.us/meap.

Be More Energy Savvy

- ❑ Buy a programmable thermostat and use it to keep your home most comfortable during the hours you are at home and awake.
- ❑ Try setting the temperature at a few degrees higher (summer) or lower (winter) than you presently do. A change of one degree can mean a savings of up to 3% .
- ❑ Turn out the lights when you leave a room. It really can make a difference!
- ❑ Use compact fluorescent bulbs. They're more expensive (\$4—\$6 each) but last six times longer than incandescent bulbs. Replacing your five most used bulbs with fluorescent bulbs can save about \$60 a year.
- ❑ Keep appliances, furnaces and air conditioners in good repair. Change filters regularly. When buying new appliances, consider those with the "Energy Star" approval.
- ❑ Look for energy drains in your home. Insulate your attic and water heater, caulk drafty windows, and close off unused rooms.
- ❑ Small appliances and computers draw power when they're plugged in. Shut down the computer and printer when not in use. Unplug the toaster, coffee pot, and iron until you need to use them.
- ❑ In summer, avoid activities that will generate heat during the hottest part of the day, such as running the dryer or using the oven.
- ❑ Explore BGE's Time of Usage Rate Plan to determine if it would lower your bills.
- ❑ Become energy wise. Learn what makes the biggest impact on your usage and explore ways to economize.

More Energy Information



Home Energy Conservation Resources

American Council For An Energy Efficient Economy

[www.aceee.org/
consumerguide/chklst.htm](http://www.aceee.org/consumerguide/chklst.htm)

Alliance to Save Energy

www.ase.org

Baltimore Gas & Electric

www.bge.com

Energy Hawk

www.energyhawk.com

Maryland Energy Administration

www.energy.state.md.us

Maryland Public Service Commission

[www.psc.state.md.us/psc/
info/brochures/
loweringEnergyCosts.pdf](http://www.psc.state.md.us/psc/info/brochures/loweringEnergyCosts.pdf)

US Department of Energy - Consumer Energy Information

[www.eere.energy.gov/
consumer](http://www.eere.energy.gov/consumer)

4th of July Celebration National Anthem Auditions

The City's Civics Affairs Committee is holding open auditions for individuals or groups to perform the National Anthem at the City's 4th of July Celebration.

Auditions will be held in the Multipurpose Room at City Hall on Saturday, May 6, 2006 beginning at 10 a.m. Performers must be prepared to perform the National Anthem a cappella for a judging panel. The chosen performer(s) will sing following the flag ceremony at the City's 4th of July Celebration taking place at Allen Pond Park the afternoon of July 4, 2006 (rain date July 5).

For more information or to schedule an audition, please contact Special Events Coordinator Shannon Carpenter at 301-809-3078 or scarpen@cityofbowie.org.



Attend the "Walkable Communities" Workshop on Saturday, May 20, 2006

The City's Department of Planning & Economic Development, in conjunction with the National Center for Bicycling and Walking, will hold a **"Walkable Communities" Workshop**, Saturday, **May 20, 2006**, from **9 a.m. to 1 p.m.**, at the **Knights of St. John Hall**, on 12th Street in Old Bowie. The workshop, part of a program which helps determine how to make an area more "walkable," will study elements in the Huntington section such as sidewalk conditions (surfaces, missing linkage, topography), streetlights, crosswalks, handicap accessibility, signage, trails, etc. Community participation is encouraged.

For more information, please contact Frank Stevens in the City's Planning Department at 301-809-3053 or fstevens@cityofbowie.org.

Tell Us What You Think

The City will be surveying residents on a variety of topics in the next few weeks. If you receive a written survey in the mail or a telephone survey, please help by taking a few minutes to share your thoughts with us.

SPOTLIGHT ON EDUCATION

Students Recognized for Accomplishments

The third Student Recognition Reception was held by the City's Education Committee on March 29, honoring 78 students who have been successful in a variety of areas.

Middle and high schools attended by Bowie students were asked to provide a description of accomplishments of students who were deserving of recognition but who might not otherwise receive it. The areas suggested included academics, such as sciences and math, geography, technology and similar competitions, or leadership and the arts. There are many great young people in Bowie who are working hard and succeeding in many areas.

Students received certificates of congratulations from the City, the Maryland House of Delegates, the Maryland Senate, and the Prince George's County Council.

Congratulations to these outstanding students. We wish you continued success in the future!



Student	School
Alice Bannigan	Benjamin Tasker Middle School
Kelly Barrett	Eleanor Roosevelt High School
Cameron Bennett	DeMatha Catholic High School
Josh Blackburn	Samuel Ogle Middle School
Karen Blocker	Archbishop Spalding High School
Sarah Boison	Bowie High School
Vernessa Broddie	Bowie High School
Bridget Bronder	Archbishop Spalding High School
Couriel Brow	Samuel Ogle Middle School
Taylor Brown	Benjamin Tasker Middle School
Emily Brutout	Bowie High School
Alexander Campbell	Bishop McNamara High School
Holly Carpenter	Samuel Ogle Middle School
Kimberly Carrette	Grace Christian School
Immanuel Chaney	Bowie High School
Alice Chang	Grace Christian School
Grace Clemens	Bowie High School
Cameron Cook	Samuel Ogle Middle School
Darren Coward	Bowie High School
Page Diggs	Samuel Ogle Middle School
Reese Fuller	Samuel Ogle Middle School
Benjamin Garmoe	Bowie High School
Ankush Gola	Samuel Ogle Middle School
Danielle Greer	Bishop McNamara High School
Cara Hamel	Grace Christian School
Naila Henry	Samuel Ogle Middle School
Rachel Hill	Samuel Ogle Middle School
Elizabeth Hoffman	Bowie High School
Mylah Howard	Samuel Ogle Middle School
Elaine Huffman	Eleanor Roosevelt High School
David Johnson	Bowie High School
Aliesha Jones	Bowie High School
Dorothy Kay	Benjamin Tasker Middle School
Brenda Kittles	Bowie High School
Eric Lamison-White	Bowie High School
Gabrielle Larew	Bowie High School
Catherine Lilly	Bowie High School

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Student	School
Takia Lomax	Benjamin Tasker Middle School
Travis Maclin	Bowie High School
Alex Marvi	Samuel Ogle Middle School
Michael May	Benjamin Tasker Middle School
Rachel Mattos	Bishop McNamara High School
Joseph Mensah	Bowie High School
Katherine Monks	Bowie High School
Spencer Nelson	Bishop McNamara High School
Max Neugebauer	Benjamin Tasker Middle School
Karl Nguyen	Bowie High School
Reba Noel	Bowie High School
Ugomma Nwachukwu	Elizabeth Seton High School
Daniel Palumbo	Archbishop Spalding High School
Rachel Pataky	Samuel Ogle Middle School
Zack Powers	Bowie High School
Katelyn Price	Samuel Ogle Middle School
Ricardo Rivera	Eleanor Roosevelt High School
Nabeel Rizvi	Bowie High School
Sarah Rogel	Samuel Ogle Middle School
Brendan Ross	DeMatha Catholic High School
Yusef Sahubzada	Samuel Ogle Middle School
Caroline Schuler	Bishop McNamara High School
Anuraag Sharma	Samuel Ogle Middle School
Michael Stevenson	Bowie High School
Stephen Steward	Archbishop Spalding High School
Briana Strachan	Bowie High School
Jessica Street	Samuel Ogle Middle School
David Thompson	DeMatha Catholic High School
Amanda Thornton	Bowie High School
Sarah Thornton	Bowie High School
Daniel Thrift	Bowie High School
Clark Toombs	Bishop McNamara High School
Kelly Vereb	Archbishop Spalding High School
Martin Weeks	Eleanor Roosevelt High School
Shannon Weikle	Bowie High School
Melinda Williams	Archbishop Spalding High School
Steven Woodruff	Bowie High School
Brittany Wright	Samuel Ogle Middle School
Brett Yon	Samuel Ogle Middle School
Amanda Zangla	Elizabeth Seton High School

SPOTLIGHT ON EDUCATION

Bookshelves Full? Share Your Gently Used Books

The Bowie Education Committee will share reading information and give away free books under the purple “**Bowie Reads**” tent at Bowiefest on **Saturday, June 3** at Allen Pond Park.

The Committee is seeking donations of gently used books for children of all ages. Books may be brought to the Community Services Department at City Hall during the month of May. Please call 301-809-3068 or email lstern@cityofbowie.org for more information.

Thank you for sharing your children’s books with others! Stop by to say “hi” and find a “new” book to read at Bowiefest on June 3rd.



Teachers of the Month

This program was developed several years ago as a way to recognize the wonderful teachers educating Bowie students. This program gives City residents, parents, students, teachers and other school staff, the opportunity to say "Thank You" to a special teacher. Teachers selected are recognized by the City Council and are presented with a certificate and a savings bond. Thanks to the Washington Savings Bank for providing funds for the savings bonds since the program's beginning in 1999!

While nominations are accepted at any time, teachers are selected for the months of September through June. Nomination forms are available at schools in Bowie, on the City's website, www.cityofbowie.org (select Committees, then Education Committee), or at City Hall. For more information, contact Education Committee Liaison Leni Stern at 301-809-3068 or lstern@cityofbowie.org.



Frances Koontz

Frances Koontz of Rockledge Elementary School Selected as March Teacher of the Month Mrs. Koontz, a fourth grade teacher, is an "essential member of our school community," according to her nomination submitted by parent Cynthia Farmer and her son Craig Farmer, Jr. She sets high expectations for students resulting in students being motivated, working hard, staying focused and "applying higher level thinking skills to achieve academic success."

Mrs. Koontz "establishes a positive and productive classroom environment," where ideas are "generated, accepted and respected." Students want to be a part of her classroom, as she "turns

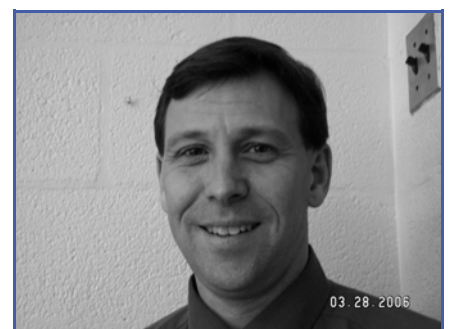
her classroom into an exciting, intriguing and positive world of learning."

According to Principal Pamela Landry, Mrs. Koontz is an exceptional teacher. "Mrs. Koontz brings out the curiosity of her students, encouraging questions, exploration and growth. She works well beyond the school day to prepare this grand arena for learning. She cares for her students deeply and continues her study of educational practices to be able to assist every student in succeeding. She is a model for all of us."

Rob Watson of Kenilworth Elementary School Selected as April Teacher of the Month. In nominating Mr. Watson, the Mellen family refers to his fourth grade classroom as being full of attention grabbers. "He's the ambassador of spirit and excitement for his students. In class he finds a way to reach out to and engage every student." "At recess or after school you can find him with his students, whether he's playing a game of kickball on

the playground or stopping into the Chess Club on Friday afternoon to play a few games." He invites students to "lunch bunch" in his classroom to celebrate good behavior and achievement. He includes parents as integral partners in the class community.

Mr. Chris Mills, Kenilworth's Principal, calls Mr. Watson an "outstanding teacher! He uses innovative strategies in the classroom to motivate his students to learn. He takes advantage of local and national events to enrich the curriculum and engage his students in meaningful real-world activities." He is also a mentor teacher, social studies chairperson, and sponsor of the school newspaper.



Rob Watson

SPOTLIGHT ON EDUCATION



Anne Kienast

High Bridge Elementary School Paraprofessional Honored with New Award

Anne Kienast was one of many nominees for this new paraprofessional Education Committee recognition. She works with Community Referenced Instruction at High Bridge, and was nominated by the CRI Special Educator she works with, Susan Bailey.

Her nomination indicates that by definition paraprofessionals

“are expected to be the right hand of the certified special educator.” Ms. Bailey says the best way to describe Ms. Kienast is as “the embodiment of tender loving care. The children love her and she loves them.” Students seek her hugs, kisses and high fives, which she freely offers for their smallest accomplishments. She sends notes home with children about their successes, so that the celebrations can continue at home. “She is an outstanding person who loves, teaches, and nurtures our special needs children, and she supports me with all the responsibilities that are necessary to provide quality teaching,” said Ms. Bailey. She is quick to observe and replicate new strategies for better in-

struction without any prompting. She works sometimes late at night, to plan, prepare and complete the volume of paperwork that is required in special education.

Pamela Felton-Redmon, Principal at High Bridge, refers to Ms. Kienast as pleasant, jovial, and very dedicated. “She supports the teacher by reinforcing academic skills with the students, teaching them social skills and planning field trips.”

She challenges her students academically. And she supports other school programs by adding new ideas and personal materials. She reflects the motto of the school, “High Bridge: A Learning Community.”

Excellence in Education Dinner Honors Teachers

On Wednesday, May 3, sixteen teachers will be honored for their special dedication and efforts in the education of Bowie students at the City’s annual Excellence in Education awards celebration.

The teachers are selected by their school peers to be honored at this celebration each spring. The Education Committee plans this event to be a very special evening during which the teachers are the center of attention as they are recognized for their remarkable efforts in education.

Congratulations to these outstanding teachers!

Teacher

Philip Hall
Sally Burns
Patricia A. McGowan
Judy Coleman-Kla
Karen Smith
Sandra J. Bossard
Elizabeth S. Kowalewski
Mary Lou LeMasters
Janice F. Lee
Norma Gail Hornbeck
Thomas X. Keefe
Tammi Price
Juanita D. Jeter
Shannon Landefeld
Carol Collins Everett
Suzanne Bempohl

School

Benjamin Tasker Middle School
Bowie High School
Bowie High School
C. Elizabeth Rieg Regional School
Chapel Forge Early Childhood Center
Grace Christian School
High Bridge Elementary School
Kenilworth Elementary School
Pointer Ridge Elementary School
Rockledge Elementary School
Samuel Ogle Elementary School
St. Pius X Regional School
Tall Oaks High School
Tulip Grove Elementary School
Whitehall Elementary School
Yorktown Elementary School



Young Person's Art Gallery



This gallery at City Hall features the artwork of school-aged children. The featured artists are:

May
 Holy Trinity
 Episcopal Day School

June
 Samuel Ogle
 Middle School



New "Visions of Bowie" Gallery Open The Arts Committee is very excited about this new gallery in the Multipurpose Room at City Hall, where artwork depicting people, places and things in Bowie are displayed. The Committee would like to thank Joan Ann Dubbs for working on integrating many photos into a new and unique sign for this gallery, developing it into a unique work of art itself.

"If I Were Governor, Mayor Or Other Elected Official" Poster Contest The Arts Committee Poster Contest is open to students in grades one through twelve. Students are encouraged to think of problems they would like to fix or programs they would like to develop if they were an elected official. Issues could involve education, the environment, transportation or recreation, among others. Ideas can range from fanciful and imaginary to more localized and realistic. Please submit 12"x18" posters using paint, colored pencil or other similar medium, in a two-dimensional design. Each poster must have the artist's name, grade, address and phone number on the back. Posters must be submitted to City Hall by 5 p.m. Monday, **May 15, 2006**. Winning posters will be displayed in the Young Person's Art Gallery during the month of July. All contest entries may be picked up at City Hall the first week of August.

City Arts Grants Awarded The Arts Committee selected two programs to receive grants for projects in the arts:

- Samuel Ogle Middle School Band and Orchestra Director, Kimberly Bergstrom, for "**Samuel Ogle Middle School Jazz Band Program.**" This project will introduce a performing arts program at Samuel Ogle Middle School offering students an opportunity to study styles of music and music theory, and to participate in a jazz band.
- Heather Hills Elementary School Art Teacher, Marlene Spinosa and Kenilworth Elementary School Art Teacher, Karen Swezy, for "**Bowie Through the Years.**" In working with this project, students studying Maryland will learn about the history of Bowie, and develop a mixed media visual relief wall sculpture depicting the changes from Old Bowie to current day Bowie. When completed, the mural will hang at Huntington Community Center and then at the two schools where developed.

For information about these items, contact Arts Committee Liaison Leni Stern at 301-809-3068 or lstern@cityofbowie.org.

Celebrate Bowiefest!

The City and the Civic Affairs Committee invite you to celebrate Bowie at this year's *Bowiefest* on **Saturday, June 3, 2006** from 11 a.m. - 6 p.m. at Allen Pond Park. This Bowie tradition boasts two stages of entertainment packed with local groups including The Crayfish, C&C Dance Company, The Belle Aires Twirling Corps, Bowie State University Students, and the Belair Square Cats. Food ranging from pulled pork barbecue, roast beef, and Italian sausages, to cotton candy, and ice cream will be available throughout the Park. Local organizations will offer information to attendees as well.

Stop in under the trees to purchase handmade arts and crafts provided by area vendors. For more information about crafters or to obtain an application, please contact Pam Fleming of Soroptimists International of Bowie/Crofton at 301-809-3029 or email pfleming@cityofbowie.org.

The Greater Bowie Chamber of Commerce will hold its annual Business Expo in conjunction with Bowiefest in the Ice Arena. Check out what local businesses have to offer. For more information about the Business Expo, please contact Kelly Pierce, Executive Director of the Chamber, at 301-262-0920 or kelly@bowiechamber.org.

This event is sure to have something for everyone, so please mark June 3rd on your calendars! We hope to see you there. For information, please contact Shannon Carpenter, Special Events Coordinator, at 301-809-3078 or scarpenter@cityofbowie.org, or go to www.cityofbowie.org, select "Leisure Activities" and scroll to "Special Events."



2006 Saturday Concert Series

**Town Green Park, 9th Street (MD Route 564)
Old Town Bowie, 2 - 4 p.m.**

These free concerts will be presented "*in the heart of the antique district*" in Old Town Bowie. Bands perform rain or shine, with a rain location at the Knights of Saint John Hall at 12th Street and Chestnut Avenue.

- | | |
|--------------------|--|
| June 10 | The Back Pages Band
<i>60's Cover</i> |
| June 17 | The Crayfish
<i>Rock and Roll</i> |
| June 24 | Project Natale
<i>Jazz</i> |
| July 1 | TBD |
| July 8 | The Homespun Ceilidh Band
<i>Celtic Music</i> |
| July 15 | Jericho Bridge
<i>Bluegrass</i> |
| July 22 | Mike Surratt & the Continentals
<i>Swing/Latin</i> |
| July 29 | Durham Station Bluegrass Band
<i>Bluegrass</i> |
| August 5 | Annie Sidley
<i>Pop/R&B</i> |
| August 12 | TBD |
| August 19 | Community Showcase
<i>Variety</i> |
| August 26 | The Moonlighters
<i>Blues/Oldies</i> |
| September 2 | The Dixie Power Trio
<i>Zydeco/New Orleans Jazz</i> |

For more information, please contact Shannon Carpenter, Special Events Coordinator, at 301-809-3078 or scarpenter@cityofbowie.org.



2006 Sunday Sunset Concert Series

Robert V. Setera Amphitheater

Allen Pond Park, Sundays 7 - 8 p.m.

These concerts offer relaxing entertainment for the entire family. Don't miss any of the talented performers on Sunday evenings at Allen Pond Park. All concerts are free. They are canceled in case of inclement weather.

May 28	The Rock and Roll Relics <i>50's Cover Band</i>
June 4	US Army Field Band Volunteers <i>Rock Ensemble</i>
June 11	Flag Day Program and Concert 6 p.m. Start Time <i>The Bowie Elks Lodge #2309 and the Bay Winds Concert Band trace our flag's history through verse and music.</i>
June 18	The Electric Company <i>80's Cover Band</i>
June 25	Swing Speak <i>Jazz/Swing</i>
July 2	The Winstons <i>Motown</i>
July 9	The Bay Jazz Project <i>Contemporary Jazz</i>
July 16	Bowie Knights of Harmony <i>Barbershop Chorus</i>
July 23	Annapolis Bluegrass Coalition <i>Bluegrass</i>
July 30	Premium Band & Horns <i>Motown</i>
Aug. 6	US Naval Academy Electric Brigade <i>Rock Ensemble</i>
Aug. 13	US Army Field Band Jazz Ambassadors <i>Jazz</i>
Aug. 20	NZN Band <i>R&B</i>
Aug. 27	US Naval Academy Concert Band <i>Concert Performance</i>
Sept. 3	TBD

*For more information, please call City Hall
at 301-809-3078.*



Enjoy Summer Campfire Stories

Come one ... come all ...
to campfire stories at
Whitemarsh Park.

Learn about nature and have fun doing
it! Campfire stories will be held on
**June 10, June 24, July 8 and
July 22 at 7:45 p.m.**

Please register in advance.
20 children maximum per event.
Recommended for children ages 4 - 10.
Program length: 30 - 40 minutes.
Free.

For registration and information,
please contact the City's Park
Operations Office at 301-809-3086 or
nspurgeon@cityofbowie.org



May and June 2006 City Council and Committee Meetings

City Council Meetings

May 1 and 15, 8 p.m.
June 5 and 19, 8 p.m.

City Council Worksessions

May 8 and 22, 8 p.m.
June 12 and 26, 8 p.m.

City Council Budget Worksessions

May 4 and 8, 8 p.m.

Administrative Review Board

May 18, June 15, 7 p.m.

Arts Committee

May 11 and 24, June 8, 7 p.m.

Civic Affairs Committee

May 9, June 13, 7 p.m.

Community Outreach Committee

May 9, June 13, 7 p.m.

Community Recreation Committee (City Gym)

May 3, June 7, 7:30 p.m.

Diversity Committee

May 17, June 21, 7 p.m.

Economic Development Committee

May 10, June 14, 7:30 a.m.

Education Committee

May 23, June 27, 7 p.m.

Financial Advisory Committee

May 3, June 7, 8 p.m.

Information Technology Committee

May 10, June 14, 7 p.m.

The public is invited and encouraged to attend all City Council and Committee meetings. Unless otherwise noted, all meetings take place at City Hall.

Bowie International Festival

The City will hold its third Bowie International Festival on **Saturday, October 7, 2006** from 11 a.m. – 5 p.m. This event will celebrate our diverse cultures through food, music, and the arts. The Festival Planning Committee is currently looking for food and craft vendors, as well as organizations to facilitate children's activities.

A new addition this year will be the Cultural Parade, showcasing regalia and wardrobe from various cultures and countries. If you are interested in modeling attire, lending your time or materials to this aspect of the event, please contact Bowie City Hall.

The International Festival is sure to have something for everyone. Check the City's website at www.cityofbowie.org for event updates, or call 301-809-3011 for information on how to become a vendor, participant, or volunteer. Let's celebrate our cultures with our neighbors and travel "Around the World in Just One Day!"

Community Outreach Grants

The Community Outreach Committee will once again award grants to local organizations serving Bowie citizens in the areas of social services, youth, senior citizens, and mental health. Grants will be awarded in amounts up to \$5,000 a project. Applications and information are available at City Hall and on the City's website at www.cityofbowie.org. Completed applications must be received on or before June 16, 2006. For additional information, please contact Leni Stern at 301-809-3068 or lstern@cityofbowie.org.

Hold a Yard Sale and Help D'Iberville

May 13, 2006 is **D'Iberville Yard Sale Day** in Bowie (rain date 5/20). On that date, residents, clubs, houses of worships, etc. are encouraged to hold yard sales for hurricane relief. Sale locations will be advertised on our website and participants will be provided with a sign designating it as a Yard Sale for D'Iberville.

For more information on this effort or to learn other ways to help our adopted city of D'Iberville, Mississippi, which was devastated by Hurricane Katrina, visit our website at www.cityofbowie.org.

Bowie Youth & Family Services - Considering Summer Camps

May is a great time to begin your planning for summer camps and programs for the kids. In just a couple short months, school will be over and summertime activities will be in full force. Children benefit from some structured activities during the summer. In addition, many working parents need their children involved in some type of organized activity when school is not in session. Before enrolling your child in summer camp, you should investigate their readiness for these types of activities. There are generally two types of camp experience, day camps and residential camps.

The decision to send your child to an **overnight/residential** camp involves careful consideration. If your child has trouble spending the night at friends and needs to be frequently picked up, or is a child who has not spent the weekend away from his or her family, he or she could have difficulty at a residential camp. If you are seriously considering such a camp for your child, have them spend a weekend with the grandparents or another close friend or relative. Find out how they may react to a couple of nights away from their normal home environment.

Once the decision is made, be realistic about their adjustment to camp. Usually children have ups and downs when they are away from their family, but typically, after one or two days at camp, thoughts of parents are put aside by the busy camp environment. Research the camp by talking to other parents, getting references, and visiting. Find out if it is credentialed by the American Camping Association, and what supervision and training is provided to the camp staff. Many camps have open house events that are offered in various locations.

Summer is a great time to explore special interests, such as dance, skating, or art intensives for those children already involved in these pursuits, or to try out something new like horseback riding, sailing, or basketball. We are fortunate to be in an area where there are many summer activities to choose from for your children. Check out the activities offered through the Bowie Ice Arena, the Bowie Gymnasium, or the Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission. Camp activities vary, so to be sure to get the program you and your child want, now is the time to begin investigating.

Bowie Youth & Family Services offers counseling, crisis intervention, parenting education, therapy groups, substance abuse prevention activities, Bowie High School mentoring program, and a Teen Job Bank. For information about any of these programs, or to obtain publications about underage drinking, call **301-809-3033**, or email the City's Prevention Coordinator at aberry@cityofbowie.org.

Verizon Fiber Optic Project

Verizon is currently installing a fiber optic upgrade throughout the City. The upgrade will allow residents to take advantage of advanced services such as high-speed broadband products, more reliable phone service and video programming service, which will mean competition to Comcast Cable.

The upgrade is an enormous undertaking that requires digging trenches in every yard in Bowie. Verizon's contractors will work in the public rights-of-way and in the public utility easements (which may be on private property). The fiber optic cables will be installed underground and in the front of each residence. **The Contractor is required to restore any disturbed area to the condition in which they found it.** Questions regarding the construction or restoration should be directed to Verizon's contractor, Cable Com at either 301-595-4704 or 1-800-322-6852.

If a resident is not satisfied with the response from Cable Com they can call either the City's Public works Department at 301-809-2344 or Denise Mahoney in the City Manager's office at 301-809-3031.

Have Summer Fun at the Bowie Ice Arena!

301-809-3090

Summer Camps Space is limited, so register now! Children of all skating levels will participate in on-ice instruction, on and off-ice games and crafts.

Small Skate Camps - for children 3-8 years of age are offered from 9:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. during the weeks of July 17-21 and July 31-August 4. Fee is \$85.00 per week for Bowie residents.

Full-day Camps - for children 6-13 years of age are offered from 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. during the weeks of July 10, July 24 and August 14. Fee is \$185 per week for Bowie residents. Before and aftercare is available for an additional fee.

Freestyle Camp - for skaters at this level, offered from 8 a.m. - 4 p.m. the week of July 31-August 4. Work on strength exercises, choreography, power stroking, jumps and spins. Fee is \$190 per week for Bowie residents.

Hockey Skills Camp - for those skaters at the Alpha level and above (moving forward unassisted) offered from 8 a.m. - 2 p.m. the week of July 17-21. Work on stick and puck handling, shooting, game strategy and rules of the game. Fee is \$195 per week. Full ice hockey equipment is required.

Group Lessons will be offered during July and August. Classes are offered for children as young as 18 months old through adults. What a wonderful way to stay cool during the hot summer months!

For more information, please call or visit the City's website at www.cityofbowie.org.

The Bowie Ice Arena, located at 3330 Northview Drive, will be closed for annual maintenance during the months of May and June. The facility will reopen for skating in July. The Blades of Bowie pro shop will remain open while the rink is closed for maintenance.

BOWIE PLAYHOUSE Presents

DEARLY DEPARTED -- 5/5 - 5/20/06

*Performances begin at 2 p.m. on Sundays and 8 p.m. on Fridays and Saturdays.
Presented by Bowie Community Theater, 301-805-0219.*

HOW TO SUCCEED IN BUSINESS WITHOUT REALLY TRYING -- 6/2 - 7/1/06

*Performances begin at 3 p.m. on Sundays and 8 p.m. on Fridays and Saturdays.
Presented by 2nd Star Productions, 301-858-7245.*



The Bowie Playhouse is located on Route 3 South in Whitemarsh Park.
For information about the performances or to purchase tickets, please call the theater company at the telephone number listed above.

Help Feed the Hungry This Summer!

The Community Outreach Committee will again collect donations of nonperishable food for the Bowie Food Pantry at the **Sunday Sunset Concerts in Allen Pond Park**. As you grab your chairs and blanket and head for the park, please think of neighbors going through tough times and bring an item to drop in the blue buckets provided at each concert.

The Committee will also collect nonperishable food items along the parade route and at the end of the **Memorial Day Parade on Saturday, May 27**. When you head out to see the parade, please bring along something to donate. And don't forget to drop by the Community Outreach Committee's information booth at **Bowiefest on Saturday, June 3** and leave your donation there.

Monetary as well as nonperishable food donations for the Bowie Food Pantry will also be collected at Prince George's Stadium before the **Baysox vs. New Britain Rock Cats game on Friday evening, June 23**. Look for Community Outreach Committee Members and make a donation as you head into the stadium for a big night highlighted by fireworks! Start your great evening out by feeling good about helping others who are less fortunate than yourselves.

Please make donations to the Food Pantry regularly. The Pantry is located at the Christian Community Presbyterian Church at 3120 Belair Drive. Hours are Monday, Wednesday and Friday, 9 to 11 a.m. Food Pantry donations may also be left in collection baskets at City Hall and the Bowie Senior Center.

For more information about the Community Outreach Committee, please contact Committee Liaison Leni Stern at 301-809-3068 or lstern@cityofbowie.org.

Hydrant Flushing Begins In May

The City of Bowie Public Works Department will begin the annual fire hydrant flushing and testing program in areas served by City water. **Hydrant flushing will occur between approximately 9 a.m. - 2 p.m., according to the following schedule:**

May 8 and 9	Buckingham, Derbyshire and Forest Drive
May 10 and 11	Somerset and Bowie Forest
May 12 and 15	Tulip Grove, including Twin Cedar
May 16	Foxhill and Long Ridge
May 17 - 19	Kenilworth
May 22	Heather Hills
May 23 - 26	Meadowbrook
May 30	Gradys Walk and Glenridge
May 31	Chapel Forge
June 1	Victoria Heights and Race Track Road Townhouses
June 2	Idlewild
June 5	Yorktown and Overbrook
June 6	Whitehall
June 7	Rockledge

Because some discoloration of your water may occur, clothes washing is discouraged on your scheduled day. If your clothes become discolored, keep them wet and rewash them using a rust remover. Free rust remover will be available at City Hall and the Public Works offices.

The water is safe for drinking and bathing even though it may be discolored. The discoloration is a result of rust and sediment buildup in the water lines and is not harmful. The discoloration should clear in approximately 24 hours. However, since all the water mains are interconnected, when flushing of hydrants in adjacent sections is performed, it may affect your water.

For more information, call the Public Works Department at 301-809-2336.

Aggressive Mosquito Control Program For 2006

The City's 2006 Mosquito Control Program began in April and will continue through late September. The program consists of larviciding (control of immature stages of the mosquito), public education about the Asian tiger mosquito, and adulticiding.

LARVICIDING – Larviciding, proven the most effective treatment, means treating the immature stages (eggs, larvae or pupae) of the mosquitoes in the stagnant water where they occur. Known breeding areas in your community will be checked approximately every other week for the presence of larvae and will be treated if necessary. Larviciding began in April and will continue until the end of September. Three different products are used for larviciding:

- **Bti and Bs granules** - These are granular formulations of two bacteria, *Bacillus thuringiensis* (var *israelensis*) and *Bacillus sphaericus*. These bacteria produce a substance toxic to mosquito and black fly larvae but not harmful to other organisms. The material will not persist in the environment and the bacteria do not reproduce and multiply, so the effect of the bacteria is very temporary.
- **Methoprene briquets, pellets, and sand granules** - This substance is an insect growth regulator, causing incomplete development within the immature stages. The mosquito dies before becoming a biting adult. The briquet and pellet formulations last up to 30 days, slowly releasing the active ingredient into the breeding area. The sand granule has no residual effect.

ADULTICIDING – Each City community will be evaluated for spraying. This is done by means of a “landing count” or by placing a portable trap overnight. If the number of mosquitoes does not exceed our action threshold (one per minute for a three-minute count or 25 per night in a light trap), spraying will not be done. The reason for this surveillance is that the phenothrin used for adult control is a contact insecticide; it must contact the mosquito to kill it. Spraying will be done in the late evening or early morning to coincide with the time of peak mosquito activity. Your neighborhood will be scheduled for a specific weeknight. If the sprayer operator encounters too many people outside in the spray area, spraying will not be done. Adulticiding will be done weekly, beginning at the end of June and continuing through September. One product is used for adulticiding:

- **Anvil** – The active ingredients are d-Phenothrin, a synthetic pyrethroid similar to natural pyrethrins that are extracted from chrysanthemum flowers, and piperonyl butoxide, a synergist which boosts efficacy at very low dosage rates. Anvil has been used for many years to help control adult mosquito populations. The ingredients in Anvil are not corrosive or staining, and therefore should cause no chemical harm to the finish of a car and/or house. It is suggested that you remain indoors while the truck is spraying your street, but there are no re-entry precautions or limitations. The product breaks down rapidly and will not accumulate in the environment.

The State of Maryland maintains a *pesticide sensitive list*. Spraying will not be done within 300 feet of homes on this list. Residents who have an objection to their neighborhood being sprayed, need to send a letter, complete with their name, address, and telephone number to the **Maryland Department of Agriculture, Mosquito Control Section, 6701 Lafayette Avenue, Riverdale, Maryland 20737**. However, it should be noted that if the City of Bowie determines that there is a severe public health problem caused by the mosquitoes, then the exemptions can be overridden.

Weekly Spraying Schedule

If necessary, spraying for mosquitoes will take place weekly according to the following schedule:

Tuesdays 9 p.m. - 4 a.m.	Wednesdays 9 p.m. - 4 a.m.
Belair Greens	Amber Meadows
Bowie Forest	Bowie Commons
Bowie Station	Collington Manor
Buckingham	Collington Station
Chapel Forge	Covington
Derbyshire	Devonshire
Fairview	Enfield Chase
Fletchertown Road	Ensleigh
Foxhill	Essington
Forest Drive	Evergreen Estates
Glenridge	Glen Allen
Grady's Walk	Greystone
Highbridge Park	Grovehurst
Hillmeade Station Addition	Heather Hills
Huntington	Lake Village Manor
Huntington Crest	Longleaf
Idlewild	Mitchellville Rd. Townhouses
Kenilworth	Mitchellville East
Long Ridge	Northview
Meadowbrook	Oakberry
Meadowbrook Townhouses	Oak Pond
Northridge	Oaktree
Old Chapel Estates	Palisades
Olde Stage	Pointer Ridge North
Overbrook	Pointer Ridge South
Princeton Square	Ridgeview Townhouses
Race Track Rd. Townhouses	Tall Oaks
Rockledge	Ternberry
Rolling Hills	Vistas
Saddlebrook	Woodmore Highlands
Somerset	
Stewarts Landing	
Sumner Chase	
Tulip Grove	
Victoria Heights	
Westview	
Whitehall	
Yorktown	

Preventing The Asian Tiger Mosquito

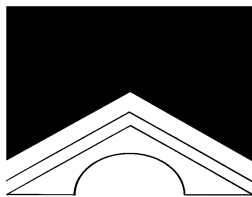
In addition to the average garden variety of mosquito, the Asian tiger mosquito has become a major problem in this area. **The community spraying program will not adequately control the tiger mosquito.** Preventing breeding grounds is the best way to control this pest. Mosquitoes can breed in any water-holding container including bird baths, wading pools, pet watering dishes, tin cans, old tires, clogged gutters or flower pots. To prevent mosquito breeding in these areas, water should be changed weekly in bird baths, wading pools and pet dishes. Gutters should be cleaned at least twice a year, and other water-holding containers should be disposed of or stored upside down.

If you choose to spray your yard for the Asian tiger mosquito, purchase the appropriate pesticide from a hardware store or a professional pest control agency. Make sure that the product you choose is labeled for the treatment of mosquitoes. Many different brand names will work. Look for the following active ingredients on the label which work well against Asian tigers: **Resmethrin, Permethrin, and Pyrethrin.** These are just suggestions; there are other chemicals that will work as well. Adult Asian tigers spend most of the time resting in bushes, ivy, tall grass, under decks, and in other shady, sheltered areas. Concentrate treatment in these areas. Although they are active all day, Asian tigers seem to be most active around dusk. Therefore, this is the best time to treat.

More information is also available from the Maryland Department of Agriculture Mosquito Control Office at 301-927-8357 or on their website at www.mda.state.md.us.

Please call the City's Department of Public Works at 301-809-2336 if you have any questions or concerns.

News of the City Museums



Mark Your Calendar

Mother's Day Tea at the Mansion Saturday, May 13, 4 p.m. at Belair Mansion

Treat the special lady in your life to tea in the historic elegance of Belair Mansion. A traditional tea menu — savories, scones and sweets — will be accompanied by traditional brewed tea. Following tea, enjoy a tour of Belair Mansion. Fee \$21 per person. Advance reservations and payment required.

38th Annual Bowie Heritage Day Sunday, May 21, 12 - 4 p.m. at Belair Mansion and Stable

Celebrate Bowie history at Belair Mansion and Stable Museums. Tours, music, pony rides, pony cart rides ... and a free Belair Lucky Horseshoe to the first 300 visitors at Belair Stable! Free drawing for a Belair Mansion fleece throw! Free.

“Digging Up the Past!” Archeology Exhibit Old Town Bowie Welcome Center and Belair Mansion

Take a look at “Belair Underground” to celebrate Archeology Month. Plates, pipes, cups and curiosities from below the surface at Belair shed light on the past! Free. (During regular open hours.)

Radio Fun!

Fridays, 10 a.m. - 5 p.m., Saturdays and Sundays, 1 - 5 p.m. at Radio and Television Museum

Enjoy “heritage programming” from the early days of radio and TV. Try your hand at sound effects or tune in a program on a crystal radio set. Discover the airwaves! Free.

For information about any of these events, please contact the Museums Office at 301-809-3089 or email museumevents@cityofbowie.org.

Museum Hours of Operation

Bowie Railroad Station and Huntington Museum

Wednesdays through Sundays, 12 - 4 p.m., 11th Street and Chestnut Avenue, Old Town Bowie. *Free.*

Belair Stable Museum

Wednesdays through Sundays, 12 - 4 p.m., 2835 Belair Drive. *Free.*

Belair Mansion

Wednesdays through Sundays, 12 - 4 p.m., 12207 Tulip Grove Drive. *Free.*

Radio and Television Museum,

Fridays, 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.,
Saturdays and Sundays, 1 - 5 p.m.,
2608 Mitchellville Road. *Free. To contact this Museum, call 301-390-1020.*

Old Town Bowie Welcome Center and Interactive Children's Museum

Tuesdays through Sundays,
10 a.m. - 4 p.m., 8606 Chestnut
Avenue, 301-575-2488. *Free.*

To schedule a group tour of any of these City Museums, or for more information, call 301-809-3089.

The Prince George's Genealogical Library,

Wednesdays, 10 a.m. - 7 p.m. (first Wednesday of the month 10 a.m. - 1 p.m.); and last Saturday of each month, 1 - 5 p.m., Tulip Grove Drive. *Free. For more information, call 301-262-2063 during open hours.*

Code Corner: Does That Project Need A Permit?

Spring has sprung and with it so have many construction projects in the City. Please call the Code Compliance Office at City Hall (301-809-3008) before embarking on a construction project to see if a permit is needed. This may save you money and aggravation!

Did you know that:

- anytime a Prince George's County building permit is required for a home/yard improvement project, a City permit is also required?
- it is the responsibility of the property owner, not the contractor, to know the law and make sure the appropriate permits are procured?
- usually the first 11-12 feet (sometimes more) of your property nearest the street is a Right-Of-Way (City, County or State) and NO construction can occur there?
- all replacement or expansions to a driveway require a permit?
- storage sheds can only be built in the back yard?
- you can construct one storage shed that is less than 150 square feet in your back yard without a permit; but if your storage shed is over 150 square feet or if you have more than one storage shed of ANY size, both County and City permits are required?
- construction of all fences (NEW or REPLACEMENT) over 4 feet in height require permits?
- there are large (25+ feet) setback requirements for fences placed in side yards on corner lots?
- fences are not permitted in front yards (except under special circumstances in Huntington)?
- nonconforming fences (those that were built in certain locations prior to changes in fence ordinances) can be replaced ONLY with fences of the same size and materials? (YES, we have photographs of them all!)

Many other projects such as additions, decks and swimming pools, to name just a few, also need permits. Violations of the City Code can result in "Stop Work" orders being issued, \$100+ fines, and the expense of removing an illegally built structure or driveway. Better to be safe than sorry! Call us BEFORE you start!

Barking Can Be A Problem

Many of us have dogs for companions and to protect our property. We see our dog's barking as a way to communicate. We may be unaware that the barking is disturbing our neighbors. Many complaints originate during the early morning hours when dog owners are getting up for breakfast and letting their pets out to relieve themselves. Many of your neighbors may still be asleep. Later in the day a neighbor may be trying to sleep because his/her job requires shift work or a parent may be trying to put a baby down for a nap. Please be considerate of their needs.

Section 4-13 of the City Code describes prolonged barking as: unreasonably disturbing the quiet of any person or neighborhood or permitting an animal unreasonably to disturb the quiet of any person or neighborhood, or causing frequent or long continued noise, to the disturbance of the comfort or repose of any person. A person failing to abate a nuisance caused by any animal either owned or in the control of an individual shall be guilty of a municipal infraction and subject to a \$50 fine.

Be a good neighbor and stay outside with Fido or better yet take him for a walk. Exercise is good for your dog and you as well!

For animal related questions, please contact the City's Animal Control Office at 301-809-3002.



Upcoming Events...

Mother's Day Tea at Belair Mansion

Saturday, May 13, 2006

4 p.m. \$22 per person

38th Annual Bowie Heritage Day

Sunday, May 21, 2006

12 - 4 p.m., Belair Mansion and Stable

Low Cost Rabies Vaccination Clinic and Pet Licenses

Saturday, June 3, 2006

10 a.m. - 1 p.m., Bowie High School

Bowiefest

Saturday, June 3, 2006

11 a.m. - 6 p.m., Allen Pond Park

Alternative versions of this newsletter are available upon request. Call the City Public Information Office at 301-809-3032 or TTY/TDD 301-262-5013

Bike to Work Day

Friday, May 19, 2006, 6:30 - 8:30 a.m.



Bowie Town Center Food Court

Old Town Bowie Fire Station, 9th Street

Gear up for Bike to Work Day 2006! Participate and receive a free t-shirt! It is a free event full of fun, food and prizes. Join thousands of area commuters and show your support for bicycling, by taking part in a clean, fun and healthy way to get to work. For more information, contact Frank Stevens in the City's Planning Department at 301-809-3053 or fstevens@cityofbowie.org.

TV Crew Volunteers Needed

Students and adults can volunteer to serve on cable TV crews. No experience is required. Students must be at least 13 years old and have parental permission. Volunteering in the studio is a great opportunity to meet producers in your area and build working relationships. If you would like to volunteer your free time to work in cable TV, please contact Jim Travland at 301-809-3057 or studio@cityofbowie.org. **Please note: Student volunteers can receive community service hours for high school graduation.**

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