

Bowie Spotlight

The Official Newsletter of the City of Bowie

January - February 2008

Dear Friends and Neighbors,

As we enter a new year, it is always helpful to recall how blessed we are as a community. Bowie is a very special place thanks to the wonderful people that call Bowie their home.

We work together, live together, play together, and we enjoy a great community life together. We assemble for celebrations in our parks that mark our history and our current interests, we take strength from our houses of worship, we enjoy parades that recognize our patriotic history and our veterans, we gather for concerts and a variety of performances that celebrate our diverse cultures, and we enjoy an incredible benefit from the strength of our friends and neighbors; folks that routinely come together in times of joy and in times of challenge. Yes Bowie, we are blessed indeed.

While we are ordinary folks, we have extraordinary amounts of commitment and interest in the future of our community. We build on the rich traditions of those that came before us and we embrace the future with a strong sense of optimism and sometimes that enthusiasm is contagious. This past October for example, the nationally recognized Forbes Magazine, selected Bowie, Maryland as the number 1 "most livable metro-area community". Their decision was based on our low crime rate, our educated workforce, our quality of schools, and our range of housing. Well done, Bowie!

So, we bid good-bye to 2007 and eagerly embrace 2008. On behalf of all my colleagues on the City Council and a dedicated City staff, we wish you a very Happy New Year!

G. Frederick Robinson, Mayor

City's Hall of Honor Accepting Nominations

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.

Past inductees include Robert V. Setera. Mr. Setera spearheaded the annual Bowiefest, which is now a staple in the City's recreational events calendar. Volunteering in organizations from the YMCA to the Color Guard Judges Association, Mr. Setera was dedicated to community service. His contributions were an example to his neighbors, friends, and family.

Another inductee, Malcolm C. "Skip" Popp, was a tireless Scouting volunteer. Along with some other fathers in the community, Mr. Popp organized the first Cub Scout Pack at Buckingham Elementary School in 1965. His final service to the community came through a tragedy as he drowned rescuing one of his scouts from the rough waters of the Shenandoah River's South Fork.

Once a nomination is received, forms and information are passed on to the City's Community Outreach Committee for review. The Committee then sends their recommendations on to the City Council for final approval. Once an honoree is approved, a reception is held in the inductee's honor and a plaque is hung in the front lobby of City Hall.

For more information on the Hall of Honor, please contact Matt Corley, Special Events Coordinator, at 301-809-3078 or mcorley@cityofbowie.org. Nomination forms are available at www.cityofbowie.org. The deadline to submit nominations for the 2008 Hall of Honor inductions is **Friday, February 15, 2008 at 5 p.m.** in Room 203 at City Hall.

City Hosts Program and Contests Honoring

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

The *Bowie Spotlight* is published by the City of Bowie six times a year. It is delivered to all postal carrier routes containing Bowie addresses.

Comments or questions regarding the content or form of the newsletter should be directed to the Public Information Office at 301-809-3040.

The City's TTY number is 301-262-5013.

For alternative versions of the newsletter, please contact the City's Public Information Office.

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David J.
Deutsch,
City Manager
301-809-3030



This year marks the 40th anniversary of the assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. in Memphis, Tennessee. For those who were alive in 1968, it was a time of upheaval and unrest that will not be forgotten. For newer generations though, the Civil Rights Movement of the 1960's and the legacy of Dr. King are part of our American history, but not part of their personal experience.

The City's Diversity Committee seeks to bring that time alive by hosting a program and contest in celebration of Dr. King's contributions. The powerful images of the Civil Rights Movement that made their way on to television or into magazines and newspapers were emotional and helped to bring the struggle into the homes and thoughts of everyday Americans. In that tradition of educating through art, this year's Martin Luther King Contest emphasizes the visual arts with a contest entitled "Visions of the Dream."

Contest

Age appropriate contests are being sponsored for youth in kindergarten through twelfth grade. Contests are open to all students who live within the municipal limits of Bowie or attend a school in the City of Bowie. The contests are as follows:

Kindergarten – Second Grade – Coloring Contest

Third – Fifth Grade – Poster Contest

Sixth – Twelfth Grade – Photography Contest

Entries must be submitted to the City Manager's Office at City Hall by **Wednesday, January 9, 2008 at 5 p.m.** First (\$100), second (\$50) and third (\$25) place prizes will be awarded in each category. Contest rules and requirements, including the picture to be colored for the primary grade contest, have been sent to all schools in the City and are available on the City's website at www.cityofbowie.org/mlk.asp. For more information, please call **301-809-3032** or email ucoop@cityofbowie.org.

Program

On **Tuesday, January 22, 2008**, the City of Bowie will host a short program honoring the life's work of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. The theme for the evening will be "Visions of the Dream." The public is invited to attend the program, which begins at 7 p.m. in the Multipurpose Room at City Hall. Works of art from the contest will be displayed.

In addition to the **January 22nd** program sponsored by the City, the Martin Luther King Commemoration Committee of Bowie is organizing an ecumenical service and a weekend of entertainment and educational activities honoring Dr. King from January 19 - 21. For more information, check local papers or contact the committee at jcs1piano@verizon.net.

Code Corner ... Wintery Weather Advisory

Winter has arrived and with it comes special safety concerns. Please assist the City by following the City Code requirements related to snow removal. Your cooperation will provide a safer environment for those who use our walkways and streets to travel to school, work and other public places.

When a Snow Emergency (accumulation of two or more inches of snow or ice) is declared, all cars must be removed from City streets so that plow and sand/salt trucks can clear the roadways. During the very limited time that a snow emergency is in place, cars can be parked over the curb in the right-of-way.

When snow accumulation exceeds two inches, all residents and businesses are also required to remove snow/ice from the sidewalks abutting their property. This must be completed within 48 hours of the cessation of snow fall. Please note that residents with special circumstances such as age or disability may complete a waiver application requesting a 24-hour extension of that 48-hour time requirement. Waiver forms can be requested by calling the **Code Compliance Office at 301-809-3008**. In order to keep this list accurate, residents must reapply annually. To assure safe passage for children and adults who are going to school and work, all residents should consider making arrangements now with an individual or company who would be able to clear walkways in the event of snow or ice.



Cold Weather Care for Your Pets

We are well into the winter season and the Animal Control Division would like to remind pet owners that they have the following obligations:

To provide shelter – all animals kept out of doors for extended periods of time must have a weatherproof shelter. The animal must be able to stand to its full height and turn around. However, if no artificial heat is being provided, it must be small enough to allow the animal to maintain its body heat and warm the interior of the structure. The structure must be wind and waterproof. It must have a solid floor that is raised at least two inches off the ground. Non-absorbent bedding must be provided.

To provide proper water – The water bowl must be replenished regularly and its contents kept from freezing.

All pet owners should remember that your dog and cat's paws are not well protected. Prolonged exposure to cold or snow can cause frostbite. Keep your pet warm and comfortable. Animals cannot speak for themselves, if you see an animal in the City that you feel is not being provided with a safe environment, please call the **City Animal Control Division at 301-809-3002**.

Attention Homeowners Associations

The City maintains a list of contact information for local homeowners associations. The list is used to share important information with your community about planned developments, transportation improvements, and other issues. Help us keep the list current by notifying the Planning Department when your officers change. Any corrections or updates to the information should be provided to Marianne Baird at mbaird@cityofbowie.org or by calling 301-809-3047.

If your association has a website and you would like it to be listed on the City's website, please provide that information as well.

Plan Your 2008 Picnics

Once again, the time has come to reserve your picnic site for the 2008 season. The City's Recreation Office has reserved priority days when only City residents will be permitted to reserve picnic sites at Allen Pond and Whitemarsh Parks.

In order to make this process more convenient, **City residents** are able to place their 2008 picnic reservations beginning at 9 a.m. on **Saturday, February 2, 2008** at City Hall, Room 204.

Nonresident picnic reservations will be accepted beginning at 9 a.m. on **Monday, March 3, 2008** at the Recreation Office in Room 203 at City Hall.

The following items are required when placing a picnic reservation:

1. **Picture ID** (driver's license, etc.) with printed address verifying that the applicant resides within the incorporated limits of the City of Bowie; or a picture ID and either a current voter registration card or a recent utility bill verifying residency within the incorporated limits of the City of Bowie.
2. **Full payment** in the form of cash or check, made payable to the City of Bowie. All checks must contain an address that is within the City's incorporated limits.

All reservations are on a first-come first-serve basis. Each adult may only make one reservation at a time. You are encouraged to arrive early to ensure you obtain the day and site you prefer. However, please have an alternate date in the event your preferred date is not available. For additional information, please contact the Recreation Office at 301-809-3011.

Donate to the Food Pantry

The Community Outreach Committee extends another THANK YOU for the many donations that continue to be made to the Bowie Interfaith Food Pantry and Emergency Aid Fund.

Donations continue to be needed throughout the year. You are making a difference in people's lives through your donations, which are very much appreciated!

Please continue to donate to the Food Pantry to help maintain the stock on its shelves. The Pantry is located at the Christian Community Presbyterian Church, 3120 Belair Drive. It is open Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 9 to 11 a.m. There are also collection containers near the reception desk in City Hall and in the lobby of the Senior Center, where you may drop nonperishable food, paper goods and personal items.

For more information, contact the Pantry at 301-262-6765.

Bowie Reads at Bowiefest

The Education Committee will once again hold a reading promotion booth at Bowiefest, on the first Saturday in June at Allen Pond Park. This year, the Committee has decided to focus on children's books, and is asking that community members donate "gently used" books that their children and/or grandchildren have read, are no longer interested in or have outgrown, and that they would like to share with other children. People will be able to pick up books at the Bowie Reads booth to read to their children or for their children to read, at no charge. Information about reading to children and reading programs will also be available.

Books may be dropped off at City Hall, in the Department of Community Services, Room 203, from 8:30 a.m. to 10 p.m. on weekdays, and from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Saturdays. For more information, please contact the Education Committee at lstern@cityofbowie.org or 301-809-3068. Thank you for your donation!



Young Person's Art Gallery



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

January

Tulip Grove Elementary
School

February

Yorktown Elementary School

Art Notes

City Hall Art Galleries Local artists are given continuing opportunities to exhibit and sell their artwork in four art galleries at City Hall. Galleries are open weekdays, 8:30 a.m. - 10 p.m., and Saturdays, 9 a.m. - 5 p.m. All artwork exhibited is subject to the approval of the Arts Committee, for appropriateness for display in a public facility. The Galleries include:

Young Person's Gallery Located in the entrance foyer of City Hall, this Gallery rotates monthly. It features artwork of local youth.

Visions of Bowie Gallery Artwork showing various artists' perspectives of Bowie is displayed in this Gallery, located in the Multipurpose Room.

Hall Gallery Located along the main hallways of City Hall, this Gallery is for adult artists in the Bowie community, and rotates monthly.

Conference Room Gallery This Gallery exhibits the work of local artists in three conference rooms. During the month of December, the exhibit in this Gallery changed. Take some time to come in and enjoy the new artwork!

If you are interested in, or have questions about any of these Galleries, please contact the Arts and Education Committees' liaison Leni Stern at lstern@cityofbowie.org or 301-809-3068.

Arts Directory The Bowie Arts Committee continues to collect information about local artists and arts organizations for the purpose of compiling an Arts Directory. It will include information about local visual artists and arts organizations, performing artists and groups, as well as local galleries, studios, available classes and other arts related offerings. For more information, please visit the City's website at www.cityofbowie.org, under City Committees/Arts Committee/Arts Directory, or contact the Arts Committee at lstern@cityofbowie.org or 301-809-3068.

Community Outreach Committee Resource List Available

If you need information about hotlines, support groups, health related services, and County services such as Aging Services, Family Services, Individuals with Disabilities or others that exist in Bowie and the surrounding areas in Prince George's County, check the City's website, at www.cityofbowie.org. To access this list, select "Community Information" on the left side of the City's home page, then select "Directory of Community Resources". If you have information for other services that might be considered for this guide, please email it to lstern@cityofbowie.org.

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, a \$100 savings bond, and a special lunch with their principal.

Nominations are accepted at any time. Information is available at public, private and parochial 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.

Elizabeth Rodriguez of Yorktown Elementary School is the September 2007 Teacher of the Month.

Ms. Rodriguez, a second grade teacher, was selected as a result of a nomination submitted by some of her peers, the staff at the school. She is described as an "individual who defines what an outstanding teacher is!" "She has an in-depth understanding of the curriculum," and a "broad knowledge of child development." Her expansive abilities and skills help her to encourage children to explore "their innate curiosity in an accepting learning environment." When observing in her classroom, you cannot pick out those who require special needs from those who do not, as her experience teaching in both Special Education and regular education assist her in working with students to achieve their potential as accepted members of the class.

Ms. Rodriguez utilizes the arts and technology in teaching her class, and is quite willing to share all of her ideas and methods with her

colleagues. Although she is really a leader, she is an ideal team player, with her innovative leadership skills and "can do" attitude.

This teacher is described by her principal as "a marvelous teacher!" She has worked as a Special Educator and as their Media Specialist. "She is able to modify classwork for students so that they are successful, no matter what their ability level."



Rosemary Rosen

Rosemary Rosen of Yorktown Elementary School is the October 2007 Teacher of the Month. Ms. Rosen's nomination was submitted by

teachers at Yorktown Elementary School, who highly recommend her for a number of reasons, which include her sense of humor, which helps to boost their spirits, and the fact that she "moves us forward to be a school of excellence." They feel that she is an asset to the Bowie community as well as to their school.

When Ms. Rosen noticed that students were not reading enough, and not receiving the support needed to do so at home, she developed an "After-School Reading Program." Two other teachers also volunteered to work with her to provide this program, to build reading skills and the "love of reading," in the children.

Ms. Rosen develops exciting themes for teaching "interrelated subjects." Her classroom "sparkles with excitement," as she incorporates poetry, literature, math, visual art, history and drama as she teaches various subjects. She is a teacher who really enjoys her students, and appreciates "their strengths and special gifts,

Teachers of the Month

while working to improve their weaknesses.” She works with parents as team members “to achieve positive growth for each individual student.” When one child struggles, she consults with colleagues and searches for new strategies, gathering the necessary resources to improve the child’s progress and success.

Yorktown Elementary School’s Principal, Ms. Linda Posko, describes Ms. Rosen as hopping around her classroom, “sharing her enthusiasm with her students.” “She is especially good at infusing technology into her lessons. This differentiation of instruction for her students helps to give all of them the opportunity to succeed.”



Heidi Clifton

Heidi Clifton of Rockledge Elementary School is the November 2007 Teacher of the Month.

Ms. Clifton was nominated by the parents of one of her students. She is a second grade teacher who keeps in contact with parents, and works with them to tune in to student’s learning styles and personalities, in order to direct their energies appropriately. The parents who submitted the nomination are Mr. and Mrs. McKinney. They expressed their appreciation for this teacher’s ability to motivate and challenge their son, which greatly improved his “demeanor and

classroom conduct.” He is now complimented and praised “for his good grades and consistent good behavior.”

These parents really appreciate the teamwork and communication with them. They are thankful that Ms. Clifton understands that students have “unique learning and development situations,” and that she took the time to acknowledge this and to work with them to find a solution to their son’s difficulties.

According to the Principal at Rockledge, Ms. Pamela Landry, Ms. Clifton “is an exceptionally talented teacher whose keen insight into the learning styles of her students supports them in achieving success. She works above and beyond to tweak the right lesson, communicate with parents, and lead the second grade team.” She makes school “a wonderful experience” for her students.

Parent Tips From the Education Committee

Ideas from the National PTA Parent Newsletter, October 2007:

Put your talents to work for your child’s school!

The National PTA suggests that parents share information about their talents and abilities with PTA leaders. You may be able to offer something that may prove to be very valuable and helpful in providing support for the school.

Three for Me - A PTA program that asks for parents to be involved, by promising to give three hours at their child’s school during the course of a school year. Of course if you have more time to give, that’s great, but for those who do not feel that they have any time, the three hours may be given in small increments or large chunks, in the school, at home, or in the community!

For more information, see the National PTA web site, <http://www.pta.org>.

Arts and Education

Scholarships

The City will once again offer Excellence in Education and Arts Scholarships for high school seniors. Scholarship applications will be sent to high schools attended by Bowie students during the month of February.

Schools are asked to nominate high school seniors who are City residents who meet the eligibility criteria for the Excellence in Education Scholarship. This scholarship requires a minimum grade point average of 3.5. Contact guidance counselors at the school attended to express interest in being considered for nomination. The schools will provide applications for the students they nominate.

The City Arts Committee Scholarship requires a 3.0 grade point average. Students must be planning to major in a visual or performing art field. Before the end of February, the Arts Scholarship applications may be obtained at high schools, on the City's website, www.cityofbowie.org, or at City Hall in the Department of Community Services.

This year, the application deadline for both scholarships is March 12, 2008. For additional information regarding either scholarship, please contact your high school guidance department or Arts and Education Committee Liaison Leni Stern at 301-809-3068 or lstern@cityofbowie.org.

Education Grants Awarded

Congratulations to the winners selected to receive 2007 - 2008 Grants for Education! Twenty-one projects were selected to receive funding. Forty (40) applications were received from thirteen (13) public and private schools. This year's winners represent eight different schools. Projects vary greatly in their purposes, but all offer enrichment for student learning experiences at their schools. This year's winners are:

Grant Title	School
Creating Authors: Writing With a Purpose	Benjamin Tasker Middle School
Enhancing the Light	Bowie High School
Enhancing the Light: An After-School Remediation Program	Bowie High School
Subgroup Intervention Program	Bowie High School
24-Hour Theater	Bowie High School
Shoebox Surprise	Chapel Forge Early Childhood Center
Talking My Way	Chapel Forge Early Childhood Center
Talk Tools: Take a Bite Out of Life	Chapel Forge Early Childhood Center
All Is Wellness	Cornerstone Christian Academy
Artists Reaching the Stars	Cornerstone Christian Academy
For the Love of Spanish	Cornerstone Christian Academy
Library Development - Books	Cornerstone Christian Academy
Lights, Camera, Action	Cornerstone Christian Academy
Musical Theater	Cornerstone Christian Academy
Weather Wise Students	Cornerstone Christian Academy
Great Books for Great Readers	Kenilworth Elementary School
It's A Small World After All	Kenilworth Elementary School
Tinker, Tailor, Soldier, Sailor?	Kenilworth Elementary School
Battle of the Books	Northview Elementary School
Tiger Pause	Tall Oaks High School
Rainforest Exploration Day	Yorktown Elementary School

Reduce or Eliminate the Junk Mail!

The City currently provides curbside newspaper and junk mail recycling for City residents. However, not having recyclables generated in the first place is even better!

The individual junk mail pieces sent to households in Bowie numbers in the tens of thousands every year. A Junk Mail Reduction-Elimination System would lessen or eliminate this junk mail from ever arriving at your house in the first place.

If you have too much junk mail to deal with individually, here is something you can do about it. Send a postcard or letter to: **Mail Preference Service, Direct Marketing Association, PO Box 643, Carmel, NY 15012-0643**. Include your complete name, address, zip code and a request to "activate the preference service". For up to five years, this will stop mail from all member organizations that you have not specifically ordered products from.

For those who have used this service in the past and those currently using this service, it really works. After all, how many new credit card solicitations do you need? The five minutes you take to contact this service will save you many times the return of your investment, and will help the environment in the process.

Bowie Stream Teams

On Wednesday, November 28, 2007, the Bowie Planning and Economic Development Department held a Stream Team Kick-off Meeting. This was the first planned program event that begins the process of implementing the City's Environmental Infrastructure Action Strategy Plan (EI Plan). The Bowie Stream Team Program is the first of 12 action plans proposed in the EI Plan, which was approved by the City Council in September 2007 and can be viewed under "What's New" on the Bowie website: <http://www.cityofbowie.org/>.

At the kick-off meeting, three members of the former Environmental Infrastructure Steering Committee spoke about some key issues regarding our local streams including water quality testing, urban tree canopy coverage, global warming, and recycling. The meeting was taped and will be rebroadcast on the local cable station in the near future.

Our first major Stream Team Event will be scheduled around **Earth Day**, which is on **April 22, 2008**. The Earth Day Network has a website devoted to worldwide events scheduled for that day at <http://www.earthday.net/>. For more information, please contact Ms. Chaisson at 301-809-3051 or at echaisson@cityofbowie.org.

In addition to the Stream Team Program, planning staff will be implementing three other action plans this year, which can be found in the EI Plan on pages 23-26: a Public Information Campaign for Recycling in Bowie over the winter, a Backyard Habitat Program in the spring, and a Rain Barrel Program in the summer. Senior Planner Elizabeth Chaisson will be setting-up future meetings regarding these plans in the upcoming months.

Bowie Youth & Family Services

301-809-3033

An important change in the **Teen Job Bank** has occurred that residents should know. City residents must now sign up **prior** to hiring teens for jobs such as yard work, babysitting, pet walking, etc. Teens and their parents must also have a form on file in the Youth & Family Services office. Please either go online to the City's website to download the required forms, or call our office to request forms to be mailed. Teens between 13 and 18 years of age are critically needed. If you are a teen or know a teen who may be interested, please let them know of this opportunity. For further information about the Teen Job Bank or about the other services offered, call **301-809-3033**.

2008 Winter Lecture Series

Preregistration is required. Lectures held 7 - 9 p.m. at City Hall.

Motivation, Inspiration, and Encouragement - Wednesday, January 16

Sometimes children don't try their best, even when they are "smart". Research shows that innate intelligence is not a benchmark for academic success. Learn what motivates children to develop the courage to attempt tasks that can be daunting. Learn how to give your child a voice and how children can learn and grow from mistakes.

Tools for the ADHD/ADD Parent - Wednesday, January 30

Learn tried and proven techniques that are useful with children who have ADHD & ADD. Get resources for ongoing support and strategies for both home and school.

Self-care and Nurturing for Moms - Wednesday, February 13

What mom has not wanted to spend an evening in nurturing herself? Moms are invited to come learn a few skills and techniques in self-care. It will be a couple of fun-hours for stressed-out moms.

Staying Connected to Your Teen - Wednesday, February 27

This lecture will give ideas and offer skill building to help parents learn ways to open two-way communication with their teens.

Groups

Beginning in February

Active Parenting - A popular group for parents that focuses on learning practical skills to help develop cooperation and responsibility in your child. Begins late February. \$40 fee.

ADHD Education - Adults learn about ADHD/ADD and new ways to help their child. Children, ages 8 - 10 focus on improving social skills. These two groups run simultaneously. Begins mid-February. \$50 fee.

Social Skills for Ages Eight to Eleven - A fast moving fun group for kids to learn how to get along easily with others – using newly acquired skills. Begins late January. \$50 fee.

My Family and Me - Separation and Divorce Group beginning in March – Two groups, one for one of the parents, the other for the children ages 6 ½ – 10. Exploring stressful life events using games, crafts, discussion for the kids, and helping parents learn about listening and problem-solving techniques. \$50 fee.

Girls Count! – Sharing the pressures of being female in today's complex society, teen girls support each other as they participate in activities that are fun and meaningful. For information, please contact Debby Shipler or Symone Colquitt at 301-809-3033. \$40 fee.

Wanted: A Few Good Men

Imagine an hour that impacts a lifetime. Volunteers, men and women, are needed for the City of Bowie's Community Prevention Network Teen Mentoring Program.

Volunteers spend one hour weekly, usually during lunch, with a student at Bowie High School. Through this program students receive the support of a caring adult and the mentors receive the satisfaction of helping students build personal confidence and strategies to navigate the challenges of the teen years and success in high school.

As a Mentor, you can:

- Create a valuable relationship providing a positive role model;
- Assist students in developing a positive self image;
- Encourage students to set and achieve goals;
- Support discovery of talents and abilities;
- Coach and encourage that will assist in achieving academic success;
- Decrease the likelihood of dropping out of school.

The Community Prevention Network and the Teen Mentoring Program have been helping teens at Bowie High School for more than six years. The need for teens to experience and benefit from significant, positive adult relationships has never been greater. At this time, the Teen Mentoring Program is in need of several men willing to mentor male students who have already applied to the program and are awaiting a mentor. This is a tremendous opportunity to make a meaningful difference in a young person's life. These young men have reached out for help and support and we do not want to disappoint them. You can help by contacting Rhonda Simon, Program Coordinator at 301-661-0573; Andra Berry, Prevention Coordinator, Bowie Youth & Family Services, at 301-809-3033; or email mentor@cityofbowie.org.

City Committees Seeking New Members

All City Committees are advisory to the City Council. Two Committees are currently seeking new members.

The **Bowie Arts Committee** is seeking residents who have an interest in the arts and might be interested in becoming a member of the Committee. The Arts Committee also runs four galleries at City Hall, offers grants in the arts, and scholarships to high school seniors.

The **Community Outreach Committee** is also seeking new members. The Outreach Committee administers the Popp Award, provides grants for projects serving needs of residents, and works with the Bowie Interfaith Food Pantry to collect donations and provide food for residents going through tough times.

For more information about either of these Committees, please see the City's website at www.cityof-bowie.org, under City Committees, or contact the staff liaison to both committees, Leni Stern, at 301-809-3068 or lstern@cityofbowie.org.

For general information regarding the process for joining City Committees, please contact City Clerk Pam Fleming at pflaming@cityofbowie.org or 301-809-3029.

Recycling Reminders

Christmas Trees - Trees will be picked up every **Wednesday in January** with yardwaste. Please make sure that all lights and decorations are removed from the tree. Place your tree at the curb by 7 a.m.

Yardwaste - leaves, branches and grass - Yardwaste recycling is mandatory in the City of Bowie. Yardwaste (bagged and bundled) is collected **every Wednesday** throughout the year along with the curbside loose collection of leaves in the Fall (during the months of November and December). Place all yardwaste curbside, bagged and/or bundled by 7 a.m. each Wednesday.

Telephone Books - Old telephone books will be collected with newspapers, junk mail and magazines throughout the year. Place in paper bags or tie in bundles.

For more information, please contact the Public Works Department at 301-809-2344.

Bowie Ice Arena

301-809-3090

Series 3 Group Lessons Offered

Series 3 Group Lessons will begin February 1, 2008.

Registration will be held January 24 - February 2, from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. at the Ice Arena. Registration must be made in person by a parent or legal guardian (cash or check only). Classes are offered for children as young as 18 months of age through adults. The series includes seven half-hour lessons, skate rental during the lessons, and a seven-admission public session pass. The fee for Bowie residents is \$80. Space is limited, so register early. Private lessons are also available. Please call the Ice Arena for further information.

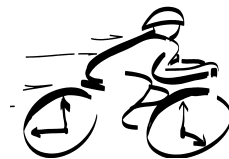
2008 Bike to Work Day

Save the Date!

Friday, May 16, 2008

Food, Fun and Prizes!

Registration information, time, and Bowie pit stop locations will be announced in the next **Bowie Spotlight**.



Keep Up With What's Happening In Bowie



Receive text messages and/or email alerts from the City of Bowie. Choose the types of alerts you'd like to receive when you register and receive the information you need to stay safe and informed about what's happening in your community. Recent alerts from the City have included warnings about impending bad weather, flooding on local streets, and traffic problems. To sign up, go to <http://alertbowie.org> or choose the Alert Bowie link from the City's website, www.cityofbowie.org.

Here Is Your Opportunity To Be Part Of A Great Festival

On **Saturday, October 4, 2008**, the Bowie International Festival will offer a day full of fun with entertainment on two stages, children's activities, demonstrations, vendors of food and arts and crafts, as well as a Parade of Cultures, at Allen Pond Park in Bowie, from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.

You can be an active part of this exciting event, as an individual or working with an organization, if you fit into any of the following categories:

Food, or arts and craft vendors - If you are a local vendor, selling food, arts or crafts that are representative of another country or culture, please see the City's website (under Leisure Activities/Special Events) for a vendor application form to submit.

Work with a local youth group such as Boy or Girl Scouts, or other group or service organization and would like to assist with the development and implementation of children's activities, such as crafts projects, at the Festival. (See contact information below.)

Have a native costume from a country of your family's heritage, which you would like to showcase in the Parade of Cultures. In the Parade, viewers hear about the native costume you (or a family member or friend) will model and the history of holidays, ceremonies, or activities the attire represents.

Sponsorships - Individuals or businesses may sponsor entertainment or children's activities for this Festival. Your donation will mean exposure for you and/or your company to the thousands of people who attend this event, while you support a fun, educational community event. Your name will appear at the activity (or during the sponsored performance) as well as in any publicity about this event.

Cultural Organization - Groups or organizations that would like to showcase a culture through displays, demonstrations, or by becoming a vendor of food or products from your country, or that are made in traditions of a culture of country. (For vendors, please see above).

For more information or to participate in any of the above-mentioned areas, please contact the staff liaisons to the International Festival Committee at mcorley@cityofbowie.org, or lstern@cityofbowie.org or 301-809-3011.

Bowie Playhouse

Presents

DEARLY BELOVED -- 1/18 - 2/2

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

BAREFOOT IN THE PARK -- 2/8 - 2/23

*Performances are at 8 p.m. on Fridays and Saturdays, and at 2 p.m. on Sundays.
Presented by Prince George's Little Theatre, 301-937-7458.*

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.



News of the City Museums



Mark Your Calendar

Key Ingredients: America by Food

January 1 - 6, 12 - 4 p.m. at Belair Mansion. Last week to see an excellent Smithsonian exhibit on American food here in Bowie.

Put to Work in Making Tobacco

At Belair Mansion. An exhibit exploring the lives of enslaved African Americans at Belair in Colonial America. Free.

Weaving the World

Second Tuesday Lecture Series

Tuesday, January 8, 7:30 p.m. at Belair Mansion. A look at weaving with a professional. Free.

Rosenwald Schools in Prince George's County

Second Tuesday Lecture Series

Tuesday, February 12, 7:30 p.m. at Belair Mansion. Historian Susan Pearl takes a look at early 20th century African American education funded by philanthropist Julius Rosenwald. Free.

Sweetheart Tea

Saturday, February 16, 4 p.m. at Belair Mansion. Romantic tea and goodies by candlelight. Reservations and advance payment required. \$23 per person.

For information on these, or any museum program, please call 301-809-3089 or email museumevents@cityofbowie.org.



Museum Hours of Operation

Bowie Railroad Station and Huntington Museum, Tuesdays through Sundays, 10 a.m. - 4 p.m., 11th Street and Chestnut Avenue, Old Town Bowie. Free.

Belair Stable Museum, Tuesdays through Sundays, 12 - 4 p.m., 2835 Belair Drive. Free.

Belair Mansion, Tuesdays 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 - 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, please 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 information, please call 301-262-2063 during open hours.*

Senior Services Overview

The Bowie Senior Center provides a wide variety of educational and recreational programs and services that include information and assistance, transportation, and a nutrition program for the active adult 55 years and older.

This is your invitation to stop in and take a tour of this great facility!

Alzheimer's Association's Senior Awareness & Education Program

Thursday, January 10
10:30 a.m.

Beginning in January, the Alzheimer's Association will provide a monthly education program of different topics on Alzheimer's. The first of the series will be Dementia and Memory Loss: what are the warning signs.



Wellness Information Fair

Saturday, January 12
10 a.m. - 1 p.m.

As part of the Center's Wellness Program, we feel the members would benefit from a day of informative alternative healing programs and opportunities. The Center will have vendors from the holistic community and demonstrations of our programs and activities that enhance and enrich the lives of members every day. As an extension of the Center's Wellness Program, we will introduce to you the benefits of using a labyrinth.

Preparing for the Digital Television Transition

Thursday, January 24
12:30 p.m.

The FCC will provide an informative program on the digital television transition that will be effective nationwide in February 2009. At that time, all TVs will require a digital hook up. The program will address and explain what digital television is, its cost, and any other questions you may have.

Salute Our Soldiers

If you have a soldier in your family (son/daughter, grandchild, nephew/niece, etc), who is currently serving in the armed forces, the Center would like to honor them. If you are interested in participating, bring a picture of the person serving and a short bio to the front desk and we will place them in our display area.

Bowie Senior Center
14900 Health Center Drive
301-809-2300

Hours of operation are
Monday, Wednesday and
Friday,
8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.;
Tuesday and Thursday,
8:30 a.m. to 8:30 p.m.;
and Saturday,
8:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.

Upcoming Events

New Year's Day

*Tuesday, January 1, 2008
City Offices Closed. No Refuse or Recycling Collection.*

Martin Luther King, Jr. Day

*Monday, January 21, 2008
City Offices Closed. No Refuse or Recycling Collection.*

Presidents Day

*Monday February 18, 2008
City Offices Closed. No Refuse or Recycling Collection.*

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

2008 City Holidays

New Year's Day	Tuesday	January 1, 2008
Martin Luther King, Jr. Day	Monday	January 21, 2008
Presidents Day	Monday	February 18, 2008
Memorial Day	Monday	May 26, 2008
Independence Day	Friday	July 4, 2008
Labor Day	Monday	September 1, 2008
Veterans Day	Tuesday	November 11, 2008
Thanksgiving Day	Thursday	November 27, 2008
Day after Thanksgiving	Friday	November 28, 2008
Christmas Day	Thursday	December 25, 2008

**City offices will be closed on the dates listed above.
There will be no refuse or recycling services on these dates.**

**CITY OF BOWIE
2614 KENHILL DRIVE
BOWIE, MARYLAND 20715**

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CITY COUNCIL

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GERALDINE VALENTINO-SMITH**

**Residential Customer
Local**

