

Bowie Spotlight

The Official Newsletter of the City of Bowie

July - August 2009

Bowie Celebrates America July 4th at Allen Pond Park!

Independence Day Schedule of Events

6:30 p.m. - 7:45 p.m.	The Crayfish
8 p.m.	The Crayfish
9 p.m.	Welcome ... Mayor G. Frederick Robinson Introduction of Elected Officials Flag Ceremony National Anthem
9:15 p.m.	Fireworks

It's time to wave the flag, don our red, white, and blue, and celebrate our Nation's independence. The City of Bowie invites you to join us at Allen Pond Park, located at 3330 Northview Drive, on Saturday, July 4, 2009 to celebrate America!

Food, drinks and novelties will be on sale throughout the Park beginning at 3 p.m. Entertainment begins at the Robert V. Setera Amphitheater at 6:30 p.m. Don't miss the fireworks at dark (approximately 9:15 p.m.). Excellent viewing locations and concessions can be found at both the Northview Drive and Mitchellville Road sides of the Park.

Grills are permitted only in designated areas! Due to both safety and humane concerns, pets will not be permitted in Allen Pond Park after 12 p.m. on July 4th. The rain date for fireworks only is Sunday, July 5th.

*For more information, please call 301-809-3011.
See Page 8 for traffic and parking information.*

Salute to America Concert

The City's Sunday Sunset Concert Series at the Robert V. Setera Amphitheater in Allen Pond Park will conclude with a very special concert on **Sunday, September 6, 2009** from 7 – 8 p.m. The special concert titled *Salute to America* and featuring the United States Naval Academy will honor and salute the members of the Armed Forces who protect our freedoms each day of the year.

Bring your flags, candles, friends, and families to the Park for this patriotic evening. All attendees are encouraged to dress in red, white and blue, or wear military attire if appropriate. For more information, please contact Matt Corley, Special Events Coordinator, at 301-809-3078 or mcorley@cityofbowie.org.

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Preventing Dog Bites

Recently, Bowie Animal Control has handled several dog bites involving very young victims. It is fact that children are the most common victims of dog bites and serious dog attacks. More than half of all bite wounds requiring medical attention involve children. In addition, almost half of all children are bitten before the age of 18. The most vulnerable are 5 to 9 year-old boys. Dog bite injuries rank third only to bicycle and baseball injuries as a leading cause of emergency admission of children to hospitals. Children's natural behavior, including running, yelling, grabbing, hitting, quick and darting movements, and maintaining eye contact, put them at risk for dog bite injuries. Proximity of a child's face to the dog also increases the likelihood that facial injuries will occur. Here are some helpful suggestions if approached by an unfamiliar or aggressive dog:

- Stop, stay motionless and speak softly.
- Wait and see what the dog is going to do.
- Look for signs of an unsafe dog - a rigid body, stiff tail at half mast, shrill hysterical bark, crouching or slinking position, nose close to the ground, or a staring expression.
- Pivot slowly if the dog tries to circle behind you. Wait until the dog stops moving and then move slowly. Stop when the dog moves again.
- Never turn your back on a dog moving toward you.
- Never touch a strange dog.
- Never strike, kick, tease or make any threatening gestures to an unfamiliar dog.
- Do not make the first overture of friendship with a dog. Allow the dog to smell you.
- Do not allow your child's face to be close to an unfamiliar dog.
- Do not approach a dog that is backing away or cowering from you.

For more information regarding dog bite prevention, please contact Bowie Animal Control at 301-809-3002.

Beautification Awards Program

In early July, staff and two nationally accredited members of the Landscape Design Council of the National Capital Area Federation of Garden Clubs plan to conduct yard judging of all 2009 Beautification Award entrants.

The City will host a Beautification Awards Program Ceremony on **Thursday, September 24, 2009** at the Bowie Senior Center. A slide presentation and refreshments will begin at 7 p.m. and the awards presentation will begin at 7:30 p.m. For additional information, please contact Matt Corley at 301-809-3078 or mcorley@cityofbowie.org.

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

City of Bowie
2614 Kenhill Drive
Bowie, MD 20715

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



Bowie Electric Reliability Action Plan (BERAP)

Over the past two years, the City has been working with BGE to improve electric reliability in the City. Below is a summary of where this program currently stands, what some of the results have been, and what residents can anticipate in the future regarding the implementation of this program.

The BERAP program started as a result of citizen frustration concerning the dependability of electric service in the City. Primarily, the February 14, 2007 ice storm that caused extended power outages to many sections of the City was the single event that brought citizens together and helped to communicate to BGE the extent of frustration that existed in the Bowie community. In May 2007, City Council appointed seven Bowie citizens to serve with five representatives of BGE and City staff to the BGE Task Force. The purpose of the Task Force was to examine ways to improve electric reliability in the City and to improve communication with BGE and the citizens of Bowie and to report back to City Council with its recommendations.

Also beginning in May 2007, BGE implemented a pilot program that would apply more aggressive tree trimming and removal standards along the feeder line in the Meadowbrook section of the City in order to improve electric reliability. The results of this pilot program were very promising.

The Task Force made a number of recommendations to the City Council as to how electric reliability could be improved. These included: 1) Enhanced tree trimming along feeders and enhanced trimming along taps; 2) Undergrounding selected mains and taps; 3) Removal of unused phases; 4) Leverage of the use of distribution automation equipment; 5) Renewal of selected equipment; and 6) Relocation of selected equipment. These improvements were endorsed by City Council and BGE began the implementation of the BERAP program in March 2008.

The overall project is approximately 67% complete. Vegetation management is 73% complete. Six of the 21 feeders that serve the City remain to be completed regarding vegetation management. It is anticipated that tree trimming and removal will be complete by December 2009. Infrastructure upgrades are 60% complete. Over 325,000 man-hours on construction activity has occurred on this project. Approximately 410 poles have been renewed or replaced. Approximately 44,000 feet of cable in duct has been installed by directional boring. It is anticipated that construction activity will be completed by March 31, 2010. As a result of this activity, significant improvement has occurred in the reliability of electric service in the City.

BGE is now estimating the cost of their improvements in the City at approximately \$32 to \$35 million. This is a significant investment toward improving electric reliability. We recognize that there has been a downside to these improvements with regards to the loss of tree canopy and disruption to residents while these improvements are being implemented. We regret this loss and disruption. However, we are hopeful that the work that BGE is performing will continue to show the dramatic improvement in electric reliability that has been demonstrated thus far. Should you have any questions about this program, please contact John Fitzwater, Assistant City Manager, at 301-809-3075 or jfitzwater@cityofbowie.org.



Young Person's Art Gallery



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

July

2009 Poster Contest
Winners

August

2009 Photography Contest
Winners (new this year)

Art Notes

The Galleries of City Hall The Conference Room Gallery exhibit was just changed and the current exhibit will run until December. This gallery can be found in Rooms 111 and 204. There are many interesting framed paintings, as well as photography, in the Conference Room Gallery and they represent the work of a wide variety of local Bowie artists. Visitors to City Hall can stop in the two rooms to view the artwork as long as there's not a meeting scheduled for the rooms.

Stop a moment as you wander through the halls of City Hall and check out the City Hall Gallery that in July features the paintings of Lester Yard and in August come see the photographs of Marion Shipman. The gallery changes on a monthly basis.

Don't forget to check the entrance foyer of City Hall for the latest art efforts of some of Bowie's youngest artists. In July the winners from the recent 2009 Poster Contest will be featured in the Young Person's Gallery, and in August come view the winning photos in the City's first Youth Photo Contest.

There are four galleries in all at City Hall: Conference Room Gallery, Visions of Bowie, City Hall Gallery and Young Person's Art Gallery. The galleries are managed by the Arts Committee. All galleries are open to the public when not in use for meetings. The gallery hours are 8:30 a.m. to 9 p.m. Monday through Friday and 9 a.m. to 12 noon on Saturday. To find out more about the galleries or how to exhibit, contact Annette Esterheld, Arts Specialist, at 301-575-5601 or aesterheld@cityofbowie.org.

Youth Photo Contest If you were taking a picture of how you see Bowie and what living in Bowie means to you, what would you focus on? The City's Arts Committee is sponsoring a Youth Photo Contest, open to all children ages six to 18 who live in a community within the City limits of Bowie, or attend a school located in Bowie. All photos must be 8" by 10" and can be either black and white or color. All photos must be printed on photo paper and can not be digitally altered or enhanced. Each photo must have the artist's name, age, address and phone number on the back. There is a \$50 first place prize, a \$25 second place prize and prizes for honorable mention photos. All prizes will be awarded at a reception that will be held at City Hall during the month of August. Photos must be submitted to City Hall by close of business 5 p.m. on Friday, July 17, 2009. If you have any additional questions, please contact Photo Contest chairperson Margaret Suddeth at 301-262-9426, or Arts Specialist Annette Esterheld at 301-575-5601 or aesterheld@cityofbowie.org.

Looking for Mr. & Mrs. Claus

The City is looking for a right jolly old elf whose cheeks look like roses and has a nose like a cherry. He has a beard as white as snow, a round belly that shakes like jelly every time he laughs. He is not afraid of heights or flying. He often goes by the name of St. Nick. If he is married, ask him to bring the Mrs. along. If single, no problem - match-making can be provided. If you have seen him, please ask him to come to the City's Jolly Old Elf auditions. (P.S. We are looking for Mrs. Claus, too!) Mr. & Mrs. Claus will appear at various locations during the holiday season (costumes, beard and round belly, if necessary, provided).

Auditions will be held on Saturday, **August 8, 2009**, 9 - 11 a.m. in the TV Studio at City Hall. For information or to schedule an audition, please contact Special Events Coordinator, Matt Corley, at mcorley@cityofbowie.org or 301-809-3078.

Education Grants Available

The Grants for Education program is one of the many ways that the City supports education. These grants provide funds to teachers, PTAs, PTOs, or individuals for projects developed to enhance the learning experiences of students or to provide educational enrichment within eligible schools. (Please see Page 6, *Teachers of the Month* item for the list of eligible schools.) Grant applications are available on the City's website - www.cityofbowie.org. The deadline for applications is **October 15, 2009**. A Grants Information Meeting will be offered in September; details about that will be available on the website later in the summer. For more information, contact Leni Stern at 301-809-3068 or lstern@cityofbowie.org.

Travel Around the World with Music, Entertainment, Crafts and Food at the Bowie International Festival

Entertainers, artists, crafters, food, a Parade of Cultures and children's activities will fill Allen Pond Park at the Bowie International Festival on **Saturday, October 3, 2009** (with a rain date of Sunday, October 4), from 11 a.m. - 5 p.m. Experiences at this Festival will take you "Around the World in Just One Day."

Bring your family and join friends and neighbors for the following activities: entertainment on two stages; food from the far reaches of Asia to right here in our own backyard; children's activities such as stories, international flags and strategy games from around the world; vendors of crafts, clothing, jewelry and other offerings, representative of a variety of countries and cultures; and a Parade of Cultures.

This festival will include something of interest for everyone. Children may pick up a passport at any children's activity booth or the event information booth and participate in various activities, accumulating stamps at each. At the end of the "trip," children receive an international prize. Visitors learn about their neighbor's cultural background with the Parade of Cultures, or they can wear clothing from their country of origin and join the Parade of Cultures.

Do you have a native costume from a country of your family's heritage, purchased during your travels, passed down through your family, or worn as a participant in a performance representing another culture? If you would like to showcase a country or culture by wearing clothing representative of another culture or part of the world, and would be interested in participating in the Parade of Cultures at the International Festival, contact the International Festival Committee at the email or number below.

The International Festival Planning Committee is seeking sponsors to help cover the cost of children's activities and entertainment at the Festival. If you own, manage or work for a local business that would like to be a sponsor, please contact us at the email or number below. Names of sponsors will be included in publicity about and at this fun event.

For more information, go to www.cityofbowie.org (select Leisure Activities, then Special Events). You can also contact City Hall at 301-809-3011 or mcorley@cityofbowie.org.



Teachers of the Month



This program was developed several years ago as a way to recognize the wonderful teachers educating Bowie students. City residents, parents, students, teachers and other school staff are provided with 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 provided by BB&T Bank, and a special lunch with their principal, courtesy of Main Street Catering.

Teachers at these schools are eligible: Bowie High School and Tall Oaks Technical Academy; Benjamin Tasker and Samuel Ogle Middle Schools; St. Pius X Regional, Grace Christian, Cornerstone Christian Academy, Holy Trinity (lower campus); Heather Hills, High Bridge, Kenilworth, Northview, Pointer Ridge, Rockledge, Tulip Grove, Whitehall and Yorktown Elementary Schools; Chapel Forge Early Childhood Center and C. Elizabeth Rieg Regional School.

Nominations are accepted at any time. Information is available at the above schools, on the City's website - www.cityofbowie.org (select Committees, then Education Committee), or at City Hall. For more information, contact Leni Stern at 301-809-3068 or lstern@cityofbowie.org.

Matthew McCorkle of Chapel Forge Early Childhood Center is the March Teacher of the Month.

Mr. McCorkle teaches students with multiple disabilities. According to his nomination, submitted by fellow teacher, Ms. Eileen Rodriguez, students and their families "benefit from his talents." Everyone in his classroom works on "hands-on activities" and everyone is "actively involved" in every aspect of the day's activities.

Mr. McCorkle brings a "magic" to the activities that he prepares to address the needs of his students. He jokes, laughs and cooks with his students. He adapts materials, uses puppets as a visual tool and plays guitar for them. He "collaborates with his team," listens to suggestions and modifies programs and activities to benefit his students.

It would be easy to become "overwhelmed" in his position, as there are many specialists coming in and out of his class-

room to work with the children's unique needs, but he is not. He attends to the child(ren) he is working with, while observing what is going on in every corner of the room.

Elyse Hurley, Principal at Chapel Forge, says that Matt has a "gift and talent for providing an enriching environment for these children, who have "severe and profound physical and cognitive disabilities. His lessons are fun; filled with singing, musical instruments, art, technology and anything else he can find to engage his students. He individualizes his instruction in such a way that each child gets exactly what he or she needs. Everyone who walks through the door is taken in by his enthusiasm and pride for his students."

Lori Stevens of Grace Christian School is

the April Teacher of the Month. Lori Stevens, a kindergarten teacher, nominated by parent Janine Dolinka, has "an enthu-

siastic and contagious teaching style," with which she presents material in an animated way, as if she herself has just discovered it for the first time. Parents are encouraged to stop by and observe, and they are greeted with enthusiasm.

In the classroom, fun is used to promote learning. Items such as shaving cream are used to teach letters, students make up and solve their own math problems, and field trips are scheduled regularly.

Parents receive weekly emails, through which Ms. Stevens is able to communicate important information and keep them updated. This teacher is a "superb instructor" and "wonderful communicator!"

According to Principal Evelyn Nunes, Ms. Stevens "portrays an inner joy and peace that impresses us all! She is constantly planning and implementing techniques that will involve her students totally in the learning process."

Renee Roth of Tulip Grove Elementary School is the May Teacher of the Month

Mrs. Roth, a National Board Certified third grade teacher, was nominated by parent Doreen Wood, who had many wonderful things to say about her. She is positive, enthusiastic, dependable and personable. She is organized and assists students with organizational skills. She understands her students, knows what motivates them and ensures that "maximum learning occurs." She is committed to her profession, students, peers and the school.

Ms. Roth "goes the extra mile." She makes learning fun, scheduling a variety of activities in school and outside on field trips. She also runs an after-school science club. This is a teacher who is there for everyone! Her open-door policy applies to students, parents and peers. "No" is not an option. Her response is always, "What can I do to help?"

Upon hearing about Ms. Roth's selection, the Principal at Tulip Grove Elementary School ("Where Children Bloom"), Brian Baudoin, responded by saying that "there is not a more qualified or deserving teacher than Renee Roth. She is a National Board Certified teacher par excellence, who always strives to hone her craft. Her teaching style is a model for others to emulate. She has a laser-like focus on student engagement and extending student learning. Among Tulip Grove's 'all star' staff, Renee Roth shines brightly."

The City of Bowie presents a

Document Shredding and Electronics Recycling Event

Saturday
July 18, 2009
8 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Bowie High School
15200 Annapolis Road



Shred sensitive documents, and recycle unwanted electronics at this **FREE Event!**

ACCEPTED MATERIALS

Document Shredding:

- Up to 550 lbs. of sensitive documents (five tall kitchen bags or five archive boxes).
- Residents may observe their documents being shredded.

Electronics Recycling:

- CPUs
- Computer keyboards
- Mainframes
- Computer speakers
- Copiers
- Surge protectors
- Monitors
- TVs
- CD players
- Telephone systems
- Fax machines
- Cell phones
- Laptop computers
- Scanners
- Pagers
- Wire
- VCRs

For more information, call the City of Bowie Public Works Department at **301-809-2344**.

City Scholarship Awards

The City awards scholarships for “**Arts**” and “**Excellence in Education**” to graduating high school students who are residents of Bowie. Congratulations to this year’s winners. We wish the following students great success in their future studies:

An Arts Scholarship was awarded to:

- **Carl Wilson** - Attending New York University’s TISCH School for the Arts.

Education Scholarships were awarded to:

- **Jade Avery** - Attending the University of Chicago.
- **Miguel Flores** - Attending Massachusetts Institute of Technology.
- **Megan Hazard** - Attending Penn State University.
- **Alexandra Mills** - Attending the University of Maryland, Baltimore County.
- **Katherine Monks** - Attending Brown University.

If you would like to know more about the City’s scholarship programs, please contact Arts Specialist Annette Esterheld at aesterheld@cityofbowie.org or 301-575-5601, or Community Outreach Specialist Leni Stern at lstern@cityofbowie.org or 301-809-3068.

4th of July Traffic Information

Parking

Handicapped parking **ONLY** is available with proper identification in the main parking lot at Allen Pond Park located off of Northview Drive.

Public parking is available at the Mitchellville Road soccer fields **gravel lots only** (beginning at 5 p.m.); Northview Elementary, Enfield Chase Park, Park and Ride Lot (MD Rt. 197 and Northview Drive) and Bowie Town Center parking lots; and other public streets.

A drop-off zone will be available along Northview Drive in front of the Ice Arena. Individuals are asked to unload vehicles and then immediately remove the vehicle from the drop-off zone. Drivers must remain with the vehicle. Unattended vehicles will be ticketed and towed.

Exit Traffic Plan - In Effect 9:30 - 11 p.m.

Northview Drive will be two lanes out to Route 197 and one lane toward Mitchellville Road.

Traffic exiting Nottingham Drive must turn left onto Northview Drive toward Route 197. Traffic on Nottingham Drive is two-way. Traffic exiting Nottingham Drive onto Mt. Oak Road may turn right or left onto Mt. Oak Road.

Vehicles traveling south on Mitchellville Road toward Route 301 may not turn left onto Mt. Oak Road.

All traffic leaving the Mitchellville Road ballfield site must turn right onto Mitchellville Road toward Route 197.

Traffic northbound on Route 197 **will not** be allowed to turn left onto Northview Drive. Only traffic traveling southbound on Route 197 (toward Route 301) will be allowed to turn right onto Northview Drive.

Please obey the direction of the City of Bowie and Prince George’s County Police Officers, as changes may occur.

Thank you for your cooperation. For more information, contact City Hall at 301-809-3011.

City of Bowie "Senior Needs" Survey

The City of Bowie is interested in providing services and facilities for our 55+ aged residents. We are also interested in knowing what you see as your needs for the future. This "Senior Needs" survey, will help identify your needs, present and future, within the City of Bowie. It is your input that will guide our planning process and produce the programs and projects that benefit our senior residents in the most productive ways. **Note: Surveys must be returned by August 1, 2009. One survey per person. Survey should be completed by City of Bowie residents ONLY.**

General Information: (circle correct response)

Age: under 55 55-64 65-74 75-84 85-94 95 and older

Gender: Female Male **Are you a member of the Senior Center?** Yes No

Do you use the Senior Center bus service? Yes No

Number of years lived in City: 0-5 6-10 11-20 21-30 31 or more

What are the ways you receive information about City programs/issues? (circle 3)

City Website Alert Bowie City Newsletter (*Bowie Spotlight*) Cable TV

Message Boards Local Newspapers Senior Center Newsletter

What are the most important issues you currently face? (circle 3)

Health Housing Recreation Transportation Financial

Employment Legal Safety Municipal Services

What are the most important issues you expect to face in the next 5-10 years? (circle 3)

Health Housing Recreation Transportation Financial

Employment Legal Safety Municipal Services

What are the most important issues you expect to face in the next 10-20 years? (circle 3)

Health Housing Recreation Transportation Financial

Employment Legal Safety Municipal Services

Please rank (circle) each of the following needs as follows:

H = High Need M = Moderate Need L = Low Need N = No Need

Transportation:

Taxi Service	H	M	L	N
Extended Metro Bus Routes	H	M	L	N
Volunteer-provided Transportation Service	H	M	L	N
Paved Trails for Walking/Biking	H	M	L	N
Connecting Existing Metro Bus Routes	H	M	L	N
Metro Access (disabled transportation service)	H	M	L	N

City of Bowie "Senior Needs" Survey

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Housing:

Affordable Senior Ownership Housing (condos, townhouses, single-family)	H	M	L	N
Affordable Senior Rental Housing	H	M	L	N
Assisted Living	H	M	L	N
Hospice Facility	H	M	L	N
Homeownership Retention (foreclosure prevention)	H	M	L	N
Major Home Improvement Assistance (structural, electrical, plumbing)	H	M	L	N
Minor Home Improvement Assistance (painting, yard maintenance)	H	M	L	N
Aging in Place	H	M	L	N
Grants from the City of Bowie for Home Improvements	H	M	L	N

Health Needs:

Information on Medicare and Other Insurance Options	H	M	L	N
Adult Daycare Options	H	M	L	N
Dental Services	H	M	L	N
Mental Health Services	H	M	L	N
Services for Homebound Persons	H	M	L	N
Services for Disabled	H	M	L	N
General Medication Information	H	M	L	N
Fitness Information/Seminars	H	M	L	N
Rehabilitative Care	H	M	L	N
Nursing Homes	H	M	L	N
Health Assessments/Levels of Care	H	M	L	N
Good Nutrition Information	H	M	L	N
Emergency Meal Availability	H	M	L	N
Hearing and Vision Programs	H	M	L	N

Municipal Services:

Senior Adult Daycare	H	M	L	N
Affordable Transportation (subsidized)	H	M	L	N
Available City Publications Covering Senior Activities/Services	H	M	L	N
Alternate Language Publications	H	M	L	N
City Website	H	M	L	N
Volunteering Opportunities	H	M	L	N
Senior Center Sponsored Trips (locally)	H	M	L	N
Senior Center Sponsored Trips (out of area)	H	M	L	N
Emergency Preparedness	H	M	L	N

Employment:

Counseling and Referrals	H	M	L	N
Job Training and Placement	H	M	L	N
Availability of Job Listings	H	M	L	N
Senior Discrimination in the Workplace	H	M	L	N

City of Bowie "Community Needs" Survey

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Safety:

Handicap Accessibility	H	M	L	N
Crime Awareness/Prevention	H	M	L	N
Mental and Physical Safety Assessments	H	M	L	N
Handling Door-to-Door Solicitations	H	M	L	N
Handling Unwanted Phone Solicitations	H	M	L	N

Legal:

Wills and Estate Planning	H	M	L	N
Power of Attorney	H	M	L	N
Medical Directives	H	M	L	N
Elder Abuse	H	M	L	N
Medicare	H	M	L	N
Medicaid	H	M	L	N

Financial:

Credit Counseling	H	M	L	N
Reverse Mortgages	H	M	L	N
Selling My Home	H	M	L	N
Financial Power of Attorney	H	M	L	N
Banking Services	H	M	L	N
Fraud	H	M	L	N
Estate Planning	H	M	L	N
Tax Related Issues	H	M	L	N
General Financial Issues	H	M	L	N

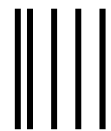
Recreation:

Aquatic Center	H	M	L	N
Expanded Fitness Facilities	H	M	L	N
Information About In-home Exercise	H	M	L	N
Senior Sports Programs	H	M	L	N
Senior Sports Leagues	H	M	L	N

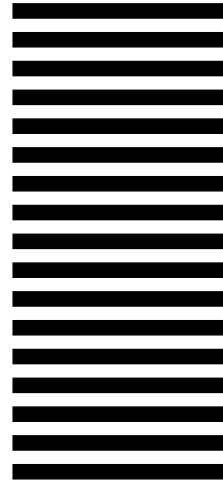
Comments or Suggestions:

Thank You!

Surveys must be returned by August 1, 2009



NO POSTAGE
NECESSARY
IF MAILED
IN THE
UNITED STATES



BUSINESS REPLY MAIL
FIRST-CLASS MAIL PERMIT NO. 14202 BOWIE, MD

POSTAGE WILL BE PAID BY ADDRESSEE

**DIRECTOR OF COMMUNITY SERVICES
CITY OF BOWIE**
2614 KENHILL DR
BOWIE, MD 20715-9989



Fold Here

City of Bowie "Senior Needs" Survey

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Thank you for taking the time to share your thoughts with the City concerning Senior Citizen needs in our community. Your input is important and will assist us in developing appropriate programs that will benefit our residents.

After you have completed the survey, please fold it in half, tape it closed, and mail it back to City Hall by **August 1, 2009**. **No postage is necessary - just place in the mail.** Or drop off your completed survey at the Front Desk of the **Senior Center** during normal business hours. The Senior Center is located at 14900 Health Center Drive. If you have any questions, please contact the Senior Center at 301-809-2300.

Thank you for your contribution.

A Day in the Life of Bowie's Watershed Manager

Your first question may be "What is a watershed?" Well, all the land that drains to a specific waterbody or a specific part of a waterbody is its watershed. Bowie is part of many watersheds – our land drains to the storm drains and streams in our neighborhoods, then into either the Upper Patuxent River or the Western Branch of the Patuxent, and finally into the Chesapeake Bay. Bowie has 12 subwatersheds, which are smaller areas within the larger Patuxent River watersheds. These subwatersheds include three tributaries of the Western Branch and nine tributaries of the Upper Patuxent watershed.

As the City's new Watershed Manager, I get to implement the environmental and watershed protection programs from the City's Environmental Infrastructure Action Strategy Plan. My education and background are in marine science and watershed analysis at a local nonprofit organization. I am currently involved in outreach activities like last month's rain barrel workshop, attended by more than 100 of your fellow City residents, and working with volunteers during the spring and fall stream cleanups! I also get to work with a fun computer program that I use to make maps and analyze all sorts of stream and watershed data!

Some of the other things I do include staying in touch with residents, keeping other staff up-to-date on the latest watershed news and research, lots of reading and research, promoting the Green Bowie program, and the best part - getting out of the office to take a close-up look at local streams and watersheds. Not everybody gets paid to do what they love, but I do, and I couldn't be happier! If you have any questions about what you can do to help protect the City's environmental resources, feel free to contact me, Tiffany Wright, in the City's Planning Department at 301-809-3047 or twright@cityofbowie.org. Thanks for reading and don't forget – we all live upstream or downstream from each other! For information on the Green Bowie program, visit our website - www.cityofbowie.org/GreenBowie.

Bowie Farmer's Market

The Bowie Farmer's Market is now in full swing! Patrons will find various types of fresh fruits and vegetables, breads and baked goods, jams and jellies, salsa, herbs, fresh cut flowers, bedding plants and blue crabs at this "Producers-Only" market. The Farmer's Market is open **Sundays, 8 a.m. - 12 p.m.**, through October 25, 2009. The Market is held next to the Bowie Center for the Performing Arts at Bowie High School, 15200 Annapolis Road. A full-color market brochure is available online at www.cityof-bowie.org or at City Hall. For more information, please call 301-809-3078.

Upcoming Special Events

July 5 "Community Day"

This event will host equipment demonstrations from local Fire, EMS and Police. Free shaved ice will be offered to the public, 9 a.m. - 12 p.m.

August 9 "Corn Roast"

Free, fresh, hot grilled corn on the cob served, while supplies last, from 10 a.m. - 12 p.m., compliments of the Bowie Farmer's Market vendors.

September 20 "Agriculture Awareness Day"

Educational and interactive children's activities offered. 9 a.m. - 12 p.m.

October 25 "Octoberfest"

Free scarecrow making (participants supply a long-sleeved shirt and trousers). Free pumpkin painting (pumpkins available for purchase at market). Activities begin at 10 a.m.



So, What is a City Right-of-Way Street Tree?

In the last issue of the “Spotlight”, I summarized the job responsibilities of the Bowie Community Forester, yours truly. One of the regular ongoing and most important parts of this position is the maintenance of the City’s 17,000 street trees in the right-of-ways. This is in addition to the many park trees that exist. Many in our fair town are not aware of what qualifies as a “right-of way” street tree; so, let’s spend a few moments reviewing that specification.

In Bowie, “street trees” are determined by one of two stipulations. The first one is as follows: If there is a sidewalk along a given City street, and there is a tree planted/growing between the curb and the sidewalk, then that tree is a City of Bowie street tree. The second instance is as follows: If there is no sidewalk along a given City street, and there is a tree planted/growing with any part of its trunk (main stem) within 11 feet from the inside edge of the curb where the curb meets the grass, then that tree is a City of Bowie street tree. While there are a very limited number of exceptions to these specifications, in general, you can be pretty sure whether or not a tree is a City street tree using these parameters. And, it is important to note that only City of Bowie staff is permitted by the Maryland Department of Natural Resources to maintain, remove, and/or plant along these streets.

You may have noticed that I have used the terms “City streets” several times in this article. It is important to point out that we have at least four classifications of streets in the City of Bowie: 1) City of Bowie streets; 2) Prince George’s County roads such as Mitchellville Road, Church Road, Old Chapel Road and Race Track Road; 3) State roads such as Rt. 450 and Rt. 197; and 4) Private roads. The only street trees for which our division is routinely responsible are those on City streets. This includes a routine pruning rotation schedule (every 5-7 years depending on growth, need, and circumstances), necessary service call pruning, and necessary tree removals due to tree decline or a hazardous situation. Our division is also responsible to assess and address emergencies and hazards regardless of road classification throughout the City limits, such as storm damages and/or road and sidewalk blockages. The course of action with these is determined on a case-by-case basis.

I hope this helps you understand a little better how tree maintenance and health is addressed in the public domain in the City of Bowie. As always, I am available for questions and consultations related to City tree issues and can be reached at rkellner@cityofbowie.org or 301-809-3061. Rick Kellner, Community Forester

5th Annual “Back to School Bash” at the City Gym

Saturday, August 22, 2009, 10 a.m - 1 p.m.

Our annual “Bash” presents an opportunity for both children and parents to find out what’s new in fall and winter programming for youth throughout the upcoming school year. Numerous activities and games are set up for the children to enjoy, while parents can roam the informational area and collect all types of programming and activity ideas for the new season. Vendors typically represent recreational, educational and health related opportunities for children and families. The day includes a free give-away of school supplies (first 200 children, 10 and under), moon bounce, face painting, games, door prizes, demonstrations, music and more! The event is free of charge.

We are soliciting vendors for informational tables, demonstrations, musical performances etc. - there is no charge for space. To assure a space, reservations should be submitted no later than July 31st. Please go to www.cityofbowie.org and select Leisure Activities, Gymnasium, and then Special Events, to download a registration form. For more information, please call 301-809-2388.

Weekly Spraying Schedule

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

Tuesdays

9 p.m. - 4 a.m.

Belair Greens
Bowie Forest
Bowie Station
Buckingham
Chapel Forge
Derbyshire
Fairview
Fletchertown Road
Foxhill
Forest Drive
Glenridge
Grady's Walk
Highbridge Park
Hillmeade Station Addition
Huntington
Huntington Crest
Idlewild
Kenilworth
Long Ridge
Meadowbrook
Meadowbrook Townhouses
Northridge
Old Chapel Estates
Olde Stage
Overbrook
Princeton Square
Race Track Rd. Townhouses
Rockledge
Rolling Hills
Saddlebrook
Saddlebrook West
Somerset
Stewart's Landing
Sumner Chase
Tulip Grove
Victoria Heights
Westview
Whitehall
Yorktown

Wednesdays

9 p.m. - 4 a.m.

Amber Meadows
Bowie Commons
Collington Manor
Collington Station
Covington
Devonshire
Enfield Chase
Ensleigh
Essington
Evergreen Estates
Glen Allen
Greystone
Grovehurst
Heather Hills
Lake Village Manor
Longleaf
Mitchellville Rd. Townhouses
Mitchellville East
Northview
Oak Pond
Oaktree
Palisades
Pointer Ridge North
Pointer Ridge South
Ridgeview Townhouses
Tall Oaks
Ternberry
Vistas
Woodmore Highlands

Mosquito Control Program Underway

The City's 2009 Mosquito Control Program began with spring larviciding in April. The regular season will begin June 15 and continue into early September. Work may continue late into September if necessary.

The program consists of larviciding (control of immature stages of the mosquito), public education about the Asian Tiger Mosquito, and adult surveillance with possible spraying on Tuesday or Wednesday nights.

Larviciding involves the treatment of the immature stages (eggs, larvae or pupae) of the mosquitoes in the stagnant water where they occur. Known breeding areas will be checked every three weeks and will be treated as necessary.

Your neighborhood has been scheduled for adult mosquito surveillance and possible spraying according to the schedule to the left. This part of the program will begin the end of June and will continue through the end of September. Please call the Public Works Department if you have a mosquito problem in your area.

The Tiger Mosquito has become a major pest in this area. You can help reduce its "backyard breeding". Mosquitoes can breed in any standing water. To prevent backyard breeding areas, water should be changed weekly in birdbaths and wading pools, and daily in pet dishes. Gutters should be cleaned at least twice a year. Other water holding containers should be disposed of or stored upside down.

If you need assistance with identifying breeding areas around your home, or to report stagnant water near your property, contact the Public Works Department at 301-809-2336 or csullivan@cityofbowie.org. More information is also available from the Maryland Department of Agriculture Mosquito Control Office at 301-422-5080 or on the website at www.mda.state.md.us.

Code Corner

Disturbing Noise and Sounds

This is the time of year we all enjoy the great outdoors. We open our windows, our children play outside, we have picnics and barbecues, and we gather with family and friends. This is also a time for celebration with parties, and other outdoor activities. Sometimes our activities produce sound which may disturb others. We get caught up with our guests and friends and don't realize how loud our music is and how loud we have become. Every neighborhood is entitled to a peaceful environment free of loud and disturbing music, untimely gas powered lawn equipment, yelling and screaming, and obnoxious behavior.

The generation of loud and disturbing noise is prohibited by State Law, the Annotated Code of Maryland, CR 10-201 (c) 5 and the Bowie City Code. Chapter 13 of the City Code, "Environmental Noise Control", states it is unlawful for anyone to make, permit or generate any loud or raucous sound on their property. Chapter 16 prohibits the disturbance of the public peace by operating a loud, noise producing instrument or device. The City Code can be viewed on the City's website - www.cityof-bowie.org.

There are several options a resident may choose when they are disturbed by loud or raucous noise:

- If the disturbance is an immediate need for public safety concerns, a one-time occurrence, i.e., a loud party, disorderly adults or juveniles, etc., the resident should contact the Prince George's County, Public Safety Communications at 301-333-4000 (non-emergency). A City of Bowie Police Officer will be dispatched to the scene.
- If the loud noise is annoying, repetitive, and your concern is after the fact, the resident may contact the Bowie Code Compliance Office at 301-809-3008.
- We do not encourage any resident to confront the offending party.

Here are some guidelines to follow:

- Please be considerate of others.
- Lawn mowers and blowers should not be operated before 7 a.m. and not after 10 p.m.
- If you schedule a party into the evening hours, notify all of your neighbors. Remember, sounds travel a very long distance. Inform them of the date and time of your party. You may offer your cell phone or home telephone numbers to call you if the music or noise becomes annoying or disturbs their public peace. You may even consider inviting them to your party.
- Get to know your neighbors. Your neighbors may be of ill health, they may work evenings or during the midnight shift and sleep during the day. They may be stressed, or they may want to enjoy the peace and calm of a beautiful summer evening in Bowie.
- Bring your pet indoors if it constantly barks and annoys you neighbors. The constant barking is not good for your pet or for your relationship with your neighbors.

Please contact the Code Compliance Office at 301-809-3008 for more information, or if you have any questions or concerns.

Bowie Youth and Family Services

Bowie Youth and Family Services (BYFS) is one of the State of Maryland's 19 Youth Services Bureaus and has been serving the City of Bowie for more than thirty-five years. BYFS offers counseling for families with children living in the home who are under the age of 18. Groups are offered for those who want guidance with parenting skills, social skills for young children, helping children while parents are going through divorce or separation, and an ongoing group for high school girls. Family counseling services are provided free to residents within the corporate limits of the City of Bowie and on a sliding fee scale to those residing outside these boundaries. No medical assistance or insurance is accepted. BYFS staff is composed of Master's level clinicians with extensive training in family counseling. Families are encouraged to call **301-809-3033** for more information or to make an appointment. An initial intake will be done either by phone or in person.

Summer 2009 Skill Series

Come and learn some new skills, get ideas, and share with others who are in the same boat! Call 301-809-3033 to register.

Tools for the ADHD/ADD Parent - Wednesday, July 22 Learn tried and proven techniques that are useful with children who have ADHD and ADD. Get resources for ongoing support, and strategies for both home and school.

The Out of Sync Child - Wednesday, July 29 Tools and resources for parents with challenging children. How to decide when you need an outside evaluation, and who should you go to? Is it an organic impairment or an emotionally based problem? What treatment works?

Transitioning to Middle School - Thursday, August 6 How to increase your child's chances for success - what you can do to help.

Staying Connected to Your Teen - Thursday, August 13 This lecture will give ideas and offer skill building to help parents learn ways to open two-way communication with their teens.

Motivation, Inspiration, and Encouragement - Wednesday August 26 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 be brave and attack tasks that can be daunting, how to give your child a voice, and how children can learn and grow from mistakes.

Support the Bowie Food Pantry at the Sunday Sunset Concerts

The Community Outreach Committee (COC) encourages all individuals, groups and organizations to support the Bowie Food Pantry and Emergency Aid Fund. The Pantry is located at Christian Community Presbyterian Church at 3120 Belair Drive. Its hours of operation are Monday, Wednesday and Friday, from 9 to 11 a.m. The need for food and other assistance continues to rise and, at times, the food supplies dwindle to a dangerously low level. Nonperishable food, toiletries, baby and school supplies, as well as monetary donations are needed to help keep up with the demand.

Pantry donations will be accepted by the COC during the **Sunday Sunset Concerts** at Allen Pond Park, held each Sunday summer evening through September 6, 2009. In addition, there is a collection bucket near the reception desk at Bowie City Hall, and a collection basket in the lobby of the Senior Center where you may place donations. For more information, contact the Pantry at 301-262-6765 or BowieFoodPantry@gmail.com, or visit the website at Bowiefoodpantry.org. For more information about the Community Outreach Committee, please contact Committee Liaison Leni Stern at 301-809-3068 or lstern@cityofbowie.org.

News of the City Museums



Mark Your Calendar

“Get in the Game” - Tuesday Time Travelers

Tuesday, July 14, 10:30 - 11:30 a.m. at Belair Mansion.

Youngsters will learn about 18th century games and pastimes – and even participate in a few! For ages 4 - 10. No reservations required. Free.

Kids Kaboose at Bowie Railroad Station Museum

Thursday, July 16, 10:30 a.m. - 12 p.m. Enjoy a morning of railroad stories, fun, and a craft to take home. For ages 1 - 10. No reservations required. Free.

Can You Dig It?

Monday, July 27 and Tuesday, July 28, 9 a.m. - 3 p.m. at Belair Mansion. A two day archaeology adventure for middle schoolers. Bring a brown bag lunch – beverages/snack provided. Reservations required. \$25 per child.

“It’s Not All On the Wall” - Tuesday Time Travelers

Tuesday, August 11, 10:30 - 11:30 a.m. at Belair Mansion.

Young “art historians” will explore art and objects at the Belair Mansion. For ages 4 - 10. No reservations required. Free.

Kids Kaboose at Bowie Railroad Station Museum

Thursday, August 20, 10:30 a.m. - 12 p.m. Enjoy a morning of railroad stories, fun, and a craft to take home. For ages 1 - 10. No reservations required. Free.

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

Museum Hours of Operation

Bowie Railroad Museum,

Tuesdays through Sundays, 10 a.m. - 4 p.m., 8614 Chestnut Avenue. 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.

Old Town Bowie Welcome

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

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 by appointment only, Tulip Grove Drive. Free. *For information or to make an appointment, please call 301-262-2063. Appointments may also be made by email at pgcgs@juno.com.*

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.

Outside/Inside Activities

Enjoy the Center's outside activities - bocce, horseshoes and walking the labyrinth, or just chilling on the patio. If you like bocce, the Center's first tournament is underway; call for information. The Center also has inside sports activities -- table tennis, billiards tournaments, shuffleboard tournaments and card games.

Smart and Safe Living

Thursday, July 9
10:30 a.m.

Avoid being a victim of a con artist and other scams. Paul Kin will continue his Smart and Safe Living program. Learn how to identify the structure of the classic cons and scams, and how they are used today with modern technology against older adults. This interactive and informative presentation will include refreshments. Call the Center and reserve your spot!

Active Adult 55+

Members Fashion Show

Tuesday, July 21
12:30 p.m.

This is a "just for fun" fashion show! Models will be showcasing the fashions right out of their closets. Volunteer Rose M. Foreman is the Fashion Coordinator of this fun day. Ms. Foreman will also be the choreographer. Her philosophy is "to make the members bring forth beauty". We promise mystery, surprises and refreshments. If you would like to be a model, please call the Center.

Horseracing in Early

America

Thursday, July 30
10:30 a.m.

The "Sport of Kings", Thoroughbred horseracing, is an important part of American sports history. Here in Bowie, Belair's colonial owners Samuel Ogle and Benjamin Tasker imported an outstanding group of British Thoroughbred horses with the intention of breeding a better, faster American racehorse. That legacy continued to the 20th century, when William Woodward fielded some of the country's most noted racehorses, including Gallant Fox and Omaha (the only father/son horses to ever take the Triple Crown). Join Historic Properties Manager Pam Williams as she discusses the colorful history of Thoroughbred horseracing in America. Reservations required.

Bowie Senior Center

14900 Health Center Drive

301-809-2300

www.bowieseniorcenter.org

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.

CITY OF BOWIE
2614 KENHILL DRIVE
BOWIE, MARYLAND 20715

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New City Hall Hours and Contact Information

Most City offices located at City Hall are open Monday - Friday, 8:30 a.m. – 5 p.m. However, several of the offices have extended hours. These include Animal Control, Park Operations (Rangers) and Code Compliance. Below, please find the after-hours phone numbers for these offices. Also, beginning July 1, City Hall will be open new hours; the hours are provided for your information.

New City Hall Hours:

Monday - Thursday	8:30 a.m. - 10 p.m.
Friday	8:30 a.m. - 5 p.m.
Saturday	8:30 a.m. - 12 p.m.
Sunday	Closed

Contact Phone Numbers:

Police Emergencies	911
Police Non-emergencies	301-333-4000
City Hall Regular Calls and After-hours Emergencies	301-262-6200
After-hours Code Compliance (Friday, 5-10 p.m.; Saturday, 1-6 p.m.; Sunday, 7 a.m.-12 p.m. and 1-6 p.m.)	240-508-7147
After-hours Animal Control (Friday, 5-9 p.m. and Saturday, 1-5 p.m.)	301-440-5252
After-hours Park Ranger (Monday-Friday, 5-11 p.m.; Saturday, 7 a.m.-11 p.m.; Sunday, 7 a.m.-11 p.m.)	240-508-3881