

Bowie Spotlight

The Official Newsletter of the City of Bowie

November - December 2009

City Election Day - Tuesday, November 3, 2009 Polls Open 7 a.m. - 8 p.m.

The City of Bowie will hold an election on Tuesday, **November 3, 2009** to elect members of the City Council consisting of a Mayor and six Councilmembers to hold office for a term of two years. Each registered voter may cast a total of four votes. All City voters may vote for Mayor and two at-large Councilmembers. Voters in each district may also vote for a district Councilmember.

For example, a registered voter living in the Kenilworth section of the City may vote for Mayor, two at-large Councilmembers, and one district Councilmember to represent District 2. While the entire City will elect the Mayor and two at-large Councilmembers, only the residents of a specific district may elect the Councilmember to represent that district.

Please check inside this newsletter for information on Absentee Ballots and Polling Places, and to view a Sample Ballot.

For additional information about the City Election, please contact the City Clerk at 301-809-3029 or pflaming@cityofbowie.org, or visit the City's website at www.cityof-bowie.org.

Who Can Vote?

If you are a registered voter in Prince George's County and your voter registration card specifies your current City of Bowie address, you may vote in this City election. Only those registered to vote as of **October 2, 2009** may vote in this election. To determine if you are eligible to vote, please contact the City Clerk at 301-809-3029.



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City Election News

Polling Places for 2009

The City is divided into four election districts. There are two polling places in each district. Voters must vote at the polling place assigned to their neighborhood. Polling places are different than those used for the general election and a couple of polling places have changed since the last City election. Please take a moment to review the list of neighborhoods assigned to each polling place on **Page 3**. Voters will also receive a postcard from the Prince George's County Board of Elections, indicating where they should vote in this City election.

Voters To Use Electronic Voting Machines

This November, City voters will vote using electronic touchscreen voting machines. These electronic voting screens are user friendly, easy to read and wheelchair accessible. They also have the potential to speed up the Election Day process because these machines will electronically tabulate votes. Voters may check out a sample machine at City Hall from October 22 to November 3.

Absentee Ballots Available

Any qualified voter who is unable to get to the polls on Election Day, due to physical condition, religious beliefs, or necessary absence from the City, may make application for an absentee ballot. Applications are available from the City Clerk's Office at City Hall, or on the City's website, www.cityofbowie.org.

Application for an absentee ballot must be made in writing and signed by the applicant. If the applicant is unable to sign, the application must bear the mark of the applicant. The application must be presented to the City Board of Elections in person or by mail to 2614 Kenhill Drive, Bowie, Maryland 20715, no later than 5 p.m. on November 2nd.

When the application is received by mail, the City Clerk will issue the absentee voting ballot by return mail; when the application is presented in person, the City Clerk will issue the absentee voting ballot to the voter or duly authorized agent. Persons receiving absentee ballots will also be furnished official self-addressed return envelopes for use in returning the marked ballots. Only those ballots received in official return envelopes shall be counted and considered properly cast. All absentee ballots must be received by the Board of Elections by the closing of polls at 8 p.m. on November 3, 2009.

Need Help Getting to the Polls?

The Bowie Senior Center bus transportation service will be available for **seniors 55 and older, and for handicapped citizens**, for the City Election on November 3.

Shuttle service will be provided to the Pin Oak, Evergreen and Willows senior communities from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

For others, service will be provided from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Election Day. Please call the Senior Center at **301-809-2324** by Friday, October 30th to make arrangements.

City Election Polling Places

District	Neighborhood	Polling Place (Polls Open 7 a.m. - 8 p.m.)
1A	Bowie Station Horsepen Ridge Huntington Huntington Crest	Northridge Ray's Wood Rolling Hills Huntington Community Center 13022 8th Street
1B	Belair Greens Belair Town Chapel Forge Heartfields (Asst. Living) Idlewild Meadowbrook (north of Millstream Drive) Overbrook	Rockledge Saddlebrook Saddlebrook West Sumner Chase Victoria Heights Whitehall Yorktown Cornerstone Assembly of God Church 16010 Annapolis Road
2A	Bowie Forest Fairview Glenridge Grady's Walk	Highbridge Meadowbrook (south and west of Millstream Drive) Stewart's Landing Christian Community Presbyterian Church 3120 Belair Drive
2B	Buckingham Derbyshire Forest Hills Foxhill	Kenilworth Somerset Somerset Park Tulip Grove Bowie City Hall 2614 Kenhill Drive
3A	Allen Pond Bowie Commons Evergreen Apartments (Seniors) Long Ridge Northview Princeton Square Princeton Square Addition	Oak Pond Old Stage Summerville (Asst. Living) Westview Willows (Seniors) Woodmore Estates Woodmore Highlands Bowie Gymnasium 1400 Northview Drive
3B	Archstone Apartments Covington (north of Excalibur Road) Enfield Chase Ensleigh Essington Evergreen Estates	Heather Hills Heather Ridge Apartments Longleaf Palisades Pin Oak Village Vistas Woodland Lake Covington Recreation Center 3750 Elder Oaks Boulevard
4A	Amber Meadows Amber Meadows II Ashleigh (Mt. Oak Road) Covington (south of Excalibur Road)	Glen Allen Lake Village Manor Mitchellville East Oaktree Pointer Ridge Ridgeview Estates South Bowie Community Center 1717 Pittsfield Lane
4B	Ashleigh Ashleigh Station Collington Manor Collington Ridge Collington Station Devonshire Estates	Graystone Grovehurst Tall Oaks Crossing Ternberry Woodmore at Oakcreek Collington Station HOA 375 Jennings Mill Lane

November 3, 2009

OFFICIAL SAMPLE BALLOT

Polls Open
7 a.m. - 8 p.m.



MAYOR
(Vote for One)

COUNCILMEMBER AT-LARGE
(Vote for Two)

- Samuel R.
GRAHAM
- G. Frederick
ROBINSON

• _____
Write-in

- Dennis
BRADY
- Anthony
KENNEDY
- Geraldine
VALENTINO-SMITH

• _____
Write-in

• _____
Write-in

COUNCILMEMBER DISTRICT 1
(Vote for One)

COUNCILMEMBER DISTRICT 3
(Vote for One)

Elected
Only
by
District 1
Voters

- James L.
MARCOS

• _____
Write-in

Elected
Only
by
District 3
Voters

- Todd M.
TURNER

• _____
Write-in

COUNCILMEMBER DISTRICT 2
(Vote for One)

COUNCILMEMBER DISTRICT 4
(Vote for One)

Elected
Only
by
District 2
Voters

- Piero V.
MELLITS
- Diane M.
POLANGIN

• _____
Write-in

Elected
Only
by
District 4
Voters

- Isaac C.
TROUTH

• _____
Write-in



Young Person's Art Gallery



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

November
St. Pius X Regional School

December
Bowie High School

Art Notes

The Galleries of City Hall

Local Bowie artists have four gallery options at the Galleries of Bowie City Hall. The **City Hall Gallery** features one artist whose work hangs on the walls of City Hall. Between 24 and 30 pieces of art are featured in this monthly exhibit. Two other galleries, the **Conference Room Gallery** and the **Visions of Bowie Gallery** invite multiple artists to loan the City one framed painting/photograph for a six-month period to hang in one of these galleries. The **Conference Room Gallery** is not a themed one, but artists who wish to exhibit in the **Visions of Bowie Gallery** must submit a realistic depiction of a Bowie scene.

Before artists can exhibit in any of the three galleries, **City Hall, Conference Room, Visions of Bowie**, they first must submit their work and be approved by the City of Bowie's Arts Committee. To submit, artists must be residents of communities in Bowie that have a Bowie Zip Code address or belong to a Bowie-based group such as the Guild of Bowie Artists. Artists must email or provide five photographs of their work that represent their style. The Arts Committee meets monthly and reviewing artist's work is on the agenda.

The fourth gallery is the City's **Young Person's Art Gallery**. Participation in this gallery is limited to students who attend Bowie schools and is organized on a school basis, rather than submissions from individual young artists. Every spring, schools indicate their interest in participating in the **Young Person's Art Gallery** and once a schedule is made, it is the responsibility of the school's art teacher or staff to provide and hang the artwork. A special feature of these galleries is the option to host a monthly reception. The featured school with the assistance of the Arts Committee hosts a reception attended by the Mayor, who gives certificates to the young people whose art is hanging in this gallery.

All four galleries are managed by the Arts Committee. All galleries are open to the public when rooms are not in use for meetings. The gallery hours are 8:30 a.m. to 9 p.m. Monday through Thursday, 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Friday, and 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. on Saturday.

For more information about the galleries or how to exhibit, contact Arts Specialist Annette Esterheld at 301-575-5601 or aesterheld@cityofbowie.org.



Teachers of the Month



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 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 Special Center.

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

Elyse Parambo of Yorktown Elementary School is the September Teacher of the Month.

Ms. Parambo, a 4th and 5th grade teacher, is described in her nomination as someone who goes "above and beyond her duties as a teacher." Upon hearing about difficulties one of her past students was having with science in middle school, she offered her assistance. According to Sharon Hunt, the parent who nominated her, Ms. Parambo offered to tutor her child when she found out that she was in need of extra science help, even though it meant taking

some of her own time after school to do so. She set up an afterschool tutoring opportunity during which she not only taught science, but also study skills.

During the school day, Ms. Parambo is very creative in her classroom, introducing experiments and activities that engage students and build their enthusiasm about science. Children understand what she is teaching, as her organizational skills allow her to cover the materials being presented, in great detail.

According to Yorktown Elementary School Principal, Cheryl Archer, "Ms. Parambo is dedicated to student learning and has a passion for teaching science. She demonstrates her love of teaching by preparing lessons that are interactive, student-centered, and engaging. She is a valuable member of our 4th and 5th grade team."

Ms. Parambo was recognized by the Bowie City Council at their meeting on October 19, 2009.

Say "Thank You" to a Special Teacher

The school year is under way and students are having very special learning experiences. Perhaps one teacher stands out because of their special way of working with students, unusual methods that work, whether for one or a few students, or even an entire class or the whole school. Consider nominating him or her to be selected as a *Teacher of the Month*. The City's Education Committee is looking for the teacher who has made a difference in students' learning experiences and possibly their lives!

Bowie Youth Chorus

Like to sing? The City invites you to join a new musical performing group, the Bowie Youth Chorus. Young people in grades five through nine who are residents of Bowie or who attend Bowie schools will have the opportunity to work with Eleanor Minor, who has 34 years experience teaching vocal music in the Prince George's County School System. Eighteen of those years were at Bowie High School where Ms. Minor not only ran the vocal program and directed five different choirs, but also began a musical theater program. The musicals she produced include *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat*, *Grease*, *Metropolis*, *West Side Story*, *Disney's High School Musical*, *Peter Pan*, and most recently *All Shook UP*.

The Youth Chorus will begin rehearsing in January and conclude with several musical performances including one at the Bowie Center for the Performing Arts in late Spring. The fee to join the Chorus is \$50 for residents and \$55 for nonresidents. The fee will cover performance attire, music and other program costs. Auditions are not necessary, but there will be a vocal placement meeting for all participants before the chorus starts weekly rehearsals in January 2010. Additional information and registration forms are available on the City's website - www.cityofbowie.org.

2010 Census Basics

By now, you have probably heard something about the 2010 Census. Many are asking, "How does this involve me?" The Census provides valuable information about the people in each community, for all levels of government. The information collected is used to determine the allocation of funding, services and facilities, as well as boundaries for congressional districts.

The 2010 Census data helps determine:

- the number of representatives that are needed to properly represent you in Congress.
- how much federal funding will be allocated to your community.
- transportation, emergency food and shelter needs.
- Head Start Programs and programs for the elderly.
- Title 1 Grants for education.
- Women, Infants and Children (WIC) food grants.

Residents will receive Census forms in the mail in mid-March 2010. Forms should be completed and returned before April 1, 2010, Census Day. Everyone will receive the short form containing only ten questions. It should take approximately ten minutes to complete. Households are asked to provide key demographic information, including whether a housing unit is rented or owned; the address of the residence; and the names, genders, ages and races of others living in the household. By law, the Census Bureau cannot share an individual's responses with anyone, including other federal agencies and law enforcement entities.

The longer form is not included in the 2010 Census. More detailed socioeconomic information previously collected in the longer form will be asked of a small percentage of the population through the *American Community Survey*. To learn more about the *American Community Survey*, please visit www.census.gov.

The City encourages you to complete the Census form when you receive it and return it promptly! For more information about the 2010 Census, go to www.2010census.gov.



Bowie Ice Arena

301-809-3090

Series 2 Group Lessons Begin December 3, 2009. Registration will be held November 19-30, from 10 a.m. – 7 p.m. at the Ice Arena. Registration must be made in person by a parent or legal guardian. 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 \$90. Space is limited, so register early. Private lessons are also available. Please call the Ice Arena for further information.

Leaf Collection Begins

November 2

The City's leaf collection service kicks off November 2. Each residential neighborhood will have two collection dates. Residents should rake leaves into piles at the edge of their grass for pickup by the City crews. Collection will take place from approximately 7:30 a.m. to 3 p.m., according to the schedule on Page 9.

Crews will work rain or shine. However, in the event of snow or ice storms, leaf collection will be temporarily suspended, as the trucks and crews will be redeployed to salt or plow City streets.

Some sections of the City are listed on two consecutive days. Due to expected volume, these sections may take more than one day to complete. The leaves must be raked to the curb by 7 a.m. on the first scheduled date. The second day is built into the schedule to allow extra time if it is needed. Crews will visit areas not completed on the first scheduled day.

For up-to-date information, please call 301-262-6200 and select the prompt for the Leaf Collection Hotline. For more information, call 301-809-2344.

Public Skating Schedule

Sunday	2 - 4 p.m. *Family
Monday	9 - 11 a.m., 12 - 2 p.m. and 2:15 - 4:15 p.m.
Tuesday	9 - 11 a.m., 1 - 3 p.m. and 3:15 - 4:45 p.m.
Wednesday	9 - 11 a.m. and 1:45 - 3:45 p.m.
Thursday	9 - 11 a.m., 12 - 2 p.m., and 2:15 - 4:15 p.m.
Friday	9 - 11 a.m., 12 - 2 p.m., 3:30 - 5:30 p.m. *Family, and 9 - 11 p.m. *DJ
Saturday	1 - 3 p.m.

*Family Session - Admission for up to five (5) family members is \$12 plus skate rental.

DJ Session - Every Friday night is a Disc Jockey Session. The fee is \$8 and includes admission, skate rental and the disc jockey.

Admission Rates:

Adult	\$5.00
Child (under 16)	\$4.50
Skate Rental	\$2.75

**2 for 1 Admission
Any Public Skating
Session**

Bowie Ice Arena

Not valid during DJ Session or with any other discounts. Skates \$2.75.

Expires 12/15/09

**\$5 Off Series 2
Group Lesson Registration
Bowie Ice Arena**

Not valid with any other discount or offer. One coupon per family.

Expires 11/30/09

2009 Leaf Collection Schedule

Section	First Leaf Collection Date	Second Leaf Collection Date
AMBER MEADOWS	Tues. 11/24	Wed. 12/16
ASHLEIGH	Wed. 11/18	Tues. 12/15
BELAIR GREENS	Thurs. 11/19	Thurs. 12/17
BELAIR TOWN I	Thurs. 11/19	Thurs. 12/17
BELAIR TOWN II	Mon. 11/9	Tues. 12/8
BUCKINGHAM	Mon. 11/9	Tues. 12/1
CHAPEL FORGE	Tues. 11/10	Wed. 12/2
COLLINGTON MANOR	Wed. 11/18	Tues. 12/15
COLLINGTON STATION	Wed. 11/18	Tues. 12/15
COVINGTON MANOR	Mon. 11/23	Wed. 12/16
DERBYSHIRE	Mon. 11/9	Mon. 11/30
DEVONSHIRE	Wed. 11/18	Tues. 12/15
ENFIELD (excluding townhomes)	Mon. 11/23	Mon. 12/14
FAIRVIEW	Mon. 11/16	Tues. 12/15
FOXHILL*	Tues. 11/3 (& 11/4)	Thurs. 12/3
GLEN ALLEN	Mon. 11/23	Wed. 12/16
GRADYS WALK	Wed. 11/18	Tues. 12/15
GROVEHURST	Wed. 11/18	Tues. 12/15
HARVEY MANOR	Mon. 11/16	Thurs. 12/10
HEATHER HILLS	Mon. 11/23	Mon. 12/14
HIGHBRIDGE PARK	Mon. 11/16	Tues. 12/15
HUNTINGTON*	Mon. 11/16	Thurs. 12/10
HUNTINGTON CREST	Mon. 11/16	Thurs. 12/10
IDLEWILD	Mon. 11/9	Tues. 12/8
KENILWORTH*	Wed. 11/4 (& 11/5)	Mon. 11/30
LONGLEAF	Wed. 11/18	Wed. 12/16
LONG RIDGE*	Mon. 11/2	Tues. 11/24 (& 11/25)
MEADOWBROOK	Thurs. 11/19	Thurs. 12/17
MITCHELLVILLE EAST	Tues. 11/24	Wed. 12/16
NORTHRIDGE	Thurs. 11/5	Thurs. 12/10
NORTHVIEW	Mon. 11/23	Mon. 12/14
OAKTREE	Tues. 11/24	Tues. 12/15
OLD CHAPEL	Thurs. 11/19	Thurs. 12/17
OLD CHAPEL ESTATES	Thurs. 11/19	Thurs. 12/17
OLD STAGE	Mon. 11/9	Wed. 12/16
OVERBROOK	Thurs. 11/5	Tues. 12/1
POINTER RIDGE	Thurs. 11/12	Mon. 12/7
ROCKLEDGE	Tues. 11/17	Wed. 12/9
ROLLING HILLS	Mon. 11/16	Thurs. 12/10
SADDLEBROOK	Tues. 11/10	Tues. 12/8
SADDLEBROOK WEST	Tues. 11/10	Tues. 12/8
SOMERSET*	Mon. 11/2 (& 11/3)	Wed. 11/25
STEWART'S LANDING	Mon. 11/16	Tues. 12/15
TALL OAKS	Wed. 11/18	Tues. 12/15
TERNBERRY	Wed. 11/18	Tues. 12/15
TULIP GROVE*	Tues. 11/3	Thurs. 12/3
VICTORIA HEIGHTS	Thurs. 11/5	Wed. 12/2
WESTVIEW	Wed. 11/18	Tues. 12/15
WHITEHALL	Tues. 11/10	Wed. 12/9
WOODMORE ESTATES	Wed. 11/18	Tues. 12/15
WOODMORE HIGHLANDS	Wed. 11/18	Tues. 12/15
YORKTOWN	Tues. 11/17	Tues. 12/8

*Leaves must be placed at the curb by 7 a.m. on the first scheduled date. The second date is only for those areas not visited on the first date.

Tips on Pruning from the Community Forester

All aspects of landscape maintenance require a working knowledge of methods, timing, and specific plant culture. This would be true of turf (lawn) management as well as cultivation of trees, shrubs, vines, perennials, and annual flowers. I would like to address one area of landscape management, that is, pruning woody plants (trees and shrubs).

Know Your Plant - Considerations:

- What's my goal with the specific plant(s)?
- Is the plant evergreen or deciduous (loses leaves)?
- Is the plant a conifer (pine family) or a broadleaf?
- Does the plant flower noticeably, and is it valued for such?
- Do I want to encourage an informal, natural form, or do I want a more formal, tightly-shaped form?
- How does the plant's location affect how I want to prune it?

Timing:

- Does the plant flower on old growth or on new growth?
- If I prune now, will the plant force new tender growth just before frost and/or winter freeze?
- Is the plant under stress or suffering from insect or disease damage?

Good Practices:

- Use clean, sharp pruning tools.
- Remove all dead wood.
- Remove crossing and rubbing branches.
- Prune to encourage new growth in the right direction.
- Prune to minimize narrow branch crotches and/or codominant leaders.
- Prune to promote safety for people/pedestrians, vehicles, and property.
- Make cuts that are just outside the "branch bark ridge" back to the attaching stem.
- Make cuts leaving branches that are at least 1/3 the size of the attaching stems.
- Never prune/remove more than 25% of the plant in order to maintain plant health.

When In Doubt:

- Get a book from the library.
- Use the internet. (What a great resource!)
- Or, call the Forester!

So folks, these are obviously just very general, big picture thoughts about woody plant pruning. There are many specifics to understand per plant, but these points can get you headed in the right direction. Call me any-time for more information or for a site visit. I can be reached at 301-809-3061. Enjoy the autumn beauty! Rick Kellner, Community Forester

Holiday Tree

Lighting

Sunday, December 6

The City invites you to join your neighbors at the Holiday Tree Lighting Ceremony on Sunday, December 6, 2009. The program begins at **7 p.m.** at City Hall, 2614 Kenhill Drive. Bundle up for caroling outdoors, followed by the arrival of Santa and Mrs. Claus atop the Bowie Volunteer Fire Department's ladder truck.

Indoors following Santa's arrival, enjoy entertainment in the Multipurpose Room, children's crafts, and visit with Santa.

For more information, contact Matt Corley, Special Events Coordinator, at 301-809-3078 or mcorley@cityof-bowie.org.



**The City of Bowie
Presents the 28th Annual
HOLIDAY HOUSE
DECORATING CONTEST**



HOUSE DECORATING ENTRY FORM (Form may be reproduced.)

DECORATING CATEGORY

CIRCLE ONE: COLONIAL RELIGIOUS TRADITIONAL

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

HOME PHONE _____

WORK PHONE _____

EMAIL ADDRESS _____

By sending this form, participant gives the City of Bowie the right to use their name and picture of their house for future publicity.

**FORMS MUST BE RECEIVED BY 5 P.M. MONDAY, DECEMBER 7.
BOWIE CITY HALL, ROOM 203
2614 KENHILL DRIVE, BOWIE, MD 20715
ATTN: HOUSE DECORATING CONTEST**

**HOLIDAY HOUSE
DECORATING CONTEST**

Judging Categories and Criteria

Entrants will designate either house or townhouse, then select one of three categories:

***Traditional** (colored or white lights, children's fantasies, Santa Claus and friends, etc.)

***Religious** (of any denomination)

***Colonial** (candles in the windows, greenery, white lights, the Williamsburg look.)

Entries will be judged on the following:

- Creativity
- Appearance
- Effort

Contest Rules:

- Home must be located within the Bowie City limits. (Please check with us if you're not sure.)
- Contest is limited to what can be seen from the street side of the house at night.
- People or live animals are not allowed as part of the display.
- All participants are requested to keep their houses decorated through December 31st so the community may view and enjoy them.
- Entry deadline is Monday, December 7, 2009 at 5 p.m.
- **Judging is on Thursday, December 10, during the hours of 6 to 11 p.m.** (Participants: please turn on displays by 6 p.m. so that the judges may evaluate each entry accordingly.)
- Winners will be notified by phone on Friday, December 11.
- Judges' decisions are final.
- Prizes will be awarded at the Holiday Awards Reception on Wednesday, December 16, 2009 at 7 p.m. at City Hall. All contest entrants are invited to attend.

For additional information, please call City Hall at 301-809-3011.

Bowie's Tree Canopy

Well, it's that time of year again! Fall is upon us, and trees are shedding their leaves. We all know that trees can be quite beautiful – especially at this time of year when those vibrant yellows and reds are all around. But what other benefits do we get from trees that we either don't realize or take for granted? Well, the Arbor Day Foundation's website summarizes them. Residents can realize up to a 50% decrease in air conditioning costs with properly situated shade trees, and healthy, mature trees can also increase the value of a home by as much as 10%.

Perhaps more importantly, trees have tremendous benefits to the community and watershed as a whole. The University of Vermont recently completed an Urban Tree Canopy (UTC) assessment and found that Bowie has a 46% tree canopy, which is third among all Maryland communities with completed UTC studies. The watershed benefits of trees are invaluable, are often irreplaceable, and include:

- Stabilizing soil and stream banks,
- Reducing polluted stormwater runoff by intercepting and infiltrating rainfall,
- Reducing stream warming, and
- Providing a food source for the base of the stream ecosystem.

Trees are crucial to a healthy environment, and we're lucky to have such a large amount of tree canopy coverage here in Bowie. This is the time of year to plant trees and add to these benefits. The State has a goal of having citizens plant 50,000 trees by 2011 and is providing a \$25 coupon towards an approved tree at participating vendors. Visit www.trees.maryland.gov for more information and to print your coupon.

Check out the UTC report online - http://www.cityofbowie.org/Government/Planning/docs/UTC_Report_BowieFinal.pdf. And as always, visit us at www.cityofbowie.org/GreenBowie! For more information, please contact the City's Watershed Manager Tiffany Wright at twright@cityofbowie.org or 301-809-3043.

Donations to the Bowie Food Pantry are Greatly Appreciated

Thank you to those who have continued to support the Bowie Food Pantry through a variety of food drives and other efforts, and your willingness to drop things off at City Hall, the Senior Center and the Food Pantry. The Community Outreach Committee encourages all to continue to donate to help keep the shelves full as demand continues to rise. While the major need is for nonperishable food, additional accepted items include baby items (diapers and wipes), paper goods (towels and tissues) and toiletries (toothbrushes, toothpaste, soap and shampoo). Monetary donations are greatly appreciated as well!

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., but donations may be accepted at other times. 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, visit the website at www.Bowiefoodpantry.org or contact the Pantry at 301-262-6765 or BowieFoodPantry@gmail.com.

Wildlife in Bowie

City Animal Control Officers are responsible for maintaining a balanced and peaceful coexistence between residents and wildlife or other animals as regulated and dictated in State, Federal and local laws. The Bowie Animal Control Office receives many inquiries when wildlife is observed in a yard or park within the community. Foxes, deer, opossum, groundhogs, hawks, skunks, chipmunks, rabbits, and other wildlife have been discovered crossing roadways, sleeping in residents' back yards and exhibiting normal behavior in many other settings. Most of the wildlife that come into the yards are seeking food. Once a source of food is located, the wildlife will often return for additional feedings. Occasionally, they may even take up residence under the porch, shed, steps or in some other structure in your yard which provides shelter and protection. They usually like to remain close to a food source. Often, if you remove the food source on your property, the animals will move on.

What should you do when you observe a fox, groundhog, etc., in your yard or your neighbor's yard? It's important for residents to stop and observe the fox or other wildlife. Look for obvious signs of illness, injury or abnormal behavior. A fox or other wildlife sitting or lying on the ground is not an indication the animal is sick or injured. The animal may be resting or protecting a food source.

If the animal appears to be healthy, it will eventually move on. If you want the animal to leave, create an audio and a visual disturbance; sound the vehicle's horn, bang some pots and pans, open and close a door loudly, or clap your hands and yell; often the animal will leave.

If the animal shows obvious signs of illness, injury, or is acting strangely, do not approach the animal nor exit your vehicle or home. Contact our Animal Control Office at 301-809-3002 or the Prince George's County Animal Management Group at 301-780-7200. An Animal Control Officer will respond, assess the situation and take the necessary steps to have the animal removed.

You may call the Animal Control Office at 301-809-3002 and the staff will offer advice for coexisting with wildlife and dealing with "nuisance wildlife". Please note, we are not permitted to trap and relocate healthy outdoor wildlife, but we will respond to your concerns of sick and injured wildlife, and wildlife discovered in your home or outbuilding.

A good source for information concerning wildlife and nuisance wildlife is on the Maryland Department of Natural Resources website - www.dnr.state.md.us/wildlife/wlproblems.asp.

Contact the Bowie Police Department

The Bowie Police Department operates on the Prince George's County communications system. To report a crime or have a police officer respond in a **non-emergency** capacity, please call **301-333-4000**.

The Bowie Police Department can be reached Monday through Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. at **301-575-2480**.

In an emergency, always call 911.

How Does H1N1 Flu Spread?

The H1N1 (Swine) flu virus spreads in the same way that regular seasonal flu spreads -- mainly through the coughing and sneezing of people with the flu. Sometimes, healthy people may be infected by touching something with flu viruses on it, and then touching their mouth, nose, or eyes.

People infected with seasonal and H1N1 (Swine) flu may be able to infect others, from one day before getting sick to five to seven days after. The infectious time can be longer in some people, especially children and people with weakened immune systems.

Source: *Maryland Department of Health and Mental Hygiene website*

Housing Rehabilitation

Grants Available for Seniors

The City has begun a green housing rehabilitation grant program to assist seniors needing to make repairs to their primary residence in Bowie.

Repairs potentially eligible for the grants include roofing, siding, insulation, windows, doors, lighting, Energy Star Appliance upgrades, heating and cooling systems, and faucet, toilet, shower and water heater upgrades.

For more information, please call 301-809-3072, email bowiehsg@cityofbowie.org or visit www.cityofbowie.org.

The Flu and You

The Centers for Disease Control (CDC) recommends a yearly seasonal flu vaccination as the first and most important step in protecting against seasonal flu. However, the seasonal flu shot will not prevent a person from getting H1N1 flu. H1N1 shots will soon be available this fall. The H1N1 shots are being distributed initially to those most vulnerable to the illness including pregnant women, those age six months to 24 years old, households and caregivers of children younger than six months of age, those with chronic health conditions like diabetes, asthma or heart and lung disease, and to healthcare and emergency medical services personnel.

Seasonal Flu Shot Locations in the Bowie Area

In addition to individual doctors' offices, seasonal flu shots are available at the following locations:

BJ's, CVS, Giant, Rite Aid and Safeway

These businesses are offering shots either on specified clinic days or on a walk-in basis. Please call the individual establishments to verify when the shots are being given and how much they cost.

To locate a specific pharmacy or retail establishment offering flu shots, visit www.findaflushot.com and enter your Zip Code.

Any decision about whether or not to get the seasonal flu shot or the H1N1 flu shot should be made in consultation with your healthcare provider.

Need More Information

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)

Hotline: 1-800-CDC-INFO (1-800-232-4636)

Available in English and Spanish 24 hours/day, 7 days/week

TTY: 1-888-232-6348

Email questions to: cdcinfo@cdc.gov

Visit www.cdc.gov or www.flu.gov

Maryland Department of Health and Mental Hygiene

1-877-MDFLU4U

Visit www.flu.maryland.gov

Top Gardens Honored

The lovely yard of Mary and Ed Hardaway captured the top award as *2009 Distinguished Yard* at the 14th Annual City of Bowie Beautification Awards, held at the Bowie Senior Center. The City extends its thanks and appreciation to all the nominees, whose hard work and creativity have helped make Bowie a more beautiful and pleasant place to live, and to the sponsors who provided prizes and decorations for the program. This year's sponsors were Frank's Garden Center and Patuxent Nursery. Congratulations to all of this year's award recipients identified to the right.

Winners	Award
Mary and Ed Hardaway	<i>2009 Distinguished Yard Award</i>
Dorothy and Ed Bice	<i>All-Star Garden</i>
Marlene Boylan	<i>All-Star Garden</i>
Claire Coleman	<i>All-Star Garden</i>
Kristine Ferriera	<i>All-Star Garden</i>
Randal Mars	<i>All-Star Garden</i>
Richard Wilson	<i>All-Star Garden</i>
Richard Oliver	<i>Distinguished Back Yard</i>
Margaret Reid	<i>Distinguished Back Yard Water Feature</i>
Patricia Rauch	<i>Distinguished Professional Designed Back Yard</i>
Robert Evans Funeral Home	<i>Distinguished Business</i>
Maxine Brown	<i>Distinguished Front Yard</i>
Pam Fleming	<i>Distinguished Wildlife Habitat</i>
Rochelle Buckley	<i>1-Star Maintenance</i>
Dorothy Campbell	<i>1-Star Maintenance</i>
David Dolney	<i>1-Star Maintenance</i>
Heather Dunahoo	<i>1-Star Maintenance</i>
Todd Kear	<i>1-Star Maintenance</i>
Tulip Grove Elementary School	<i>1-Star Maintenance</i>
John Bednarczyk	<i>3-Star Maintenance</i>
Jim and Ginna Galentine	<i>3-Star Maintenance</i>
Patricia Lopes	<i>3-Star Maintenance</i>
Edmund and Janet St. Jean	<i>3-Star Maintenance</i>

Bowie Playhouse Presents



BRIGADOON -- 11/6 - 12/5

The magical village of Brigadoon exists in a time and space in the mists of Scotland and is only visible one day every one hundred years. On that one day, outsiders can visit and choose to stay, but no inhabitants of the village can ever leave or the enchantment breaks and everyone will disappear. Two men out hunting see the mist and village on that one magical day and Brigadoon tells their story and the story of the villagers. Swinging kilts, bonnie lasses, and bagpipes and lilting tunes are all a part of Brigadoon.

Directed by Jane Wingard. Produced by 2nd Star Productions. Performances are at 8 p.m. on Fridays and Saturdays. Matinees are at 3 p.m. on Sundays. There will be one Saturday matinee, 12/5/09. For tickets, call 410-757-5700 or 301-832-4819 (Note new phone number).

A CHRISTMAS CAROL -- 12/11 - 12/20

Ebenezer Scrooge is a usurious moneylender who undergoes a profound experience of redemption over the course of a Christ Eve night. Before his experience with the three spirits, he cares nothing for people and mankind exists only for the money that can be made by him through exploitation or intimidation. The spirits succeed in showing Scrooge the error of his ways and he becomes a changed man.

Directed by Rose English-Arrendondo. Produced by Prince George's Little Theatre. Performances are at 8 p.m. on Fridays and Saturdays and matinees are at 3 p.m. on Sundays. For tickets, call 301-937-7458.

(Note: With the 2009-2010 season, Prince George's Little Theatre is celebrating 50 years of providing comedies, dramas and musicals.)



All performances are at the Bowie Playhouse, located in Whitemarsh Park, 16500 Whitemarsh Park Drive. For ticket sales and information about the theater groups, please contact the theater companies directly.

Code Corner

Trash Pickup Over the Holidays

The holiday season is fast approaching. It's the time of year we invite our family and friends to our homes. We prepare dinners and have parties; we ensure our homes and yards are especially nice and clean, and inviting to our guests. What a horror it is to observe our neighbors trash and trash receptacles at the curb for days because they forgot there was **no trash pickup on the holidays**. This is a concern the Code Compliance Office receives all too often during the holidays. So, here are some reminders concerning the placement of trash and trash receptacles at the curb for pickup.

Chapter 10 of the City Code advises:

- Trash must be placed at the curb before 7 a.m. on the day of the scheduled pickup.
- Trash may be placed at the curb no sooner than 5 p.m. the day before the scheduled pickup.
- Trash may not be located at the curb when there is "no scheduled pickup" or when City offices are closed.
- Trash receptacles must be removed from the curb by 10 p.m. on the day of the scheduled pickup.

Please do not place trash or recycling out for pickup on the following City holidays:

- Wednesday, November 11, 2009
- Thursday, November 26, 2009
- Friday, November 27, 2009
- Friday, December 25, 2009
- Friday, January 1, 2010

If you will be away, yet still need to have your trash picked up, have a neighbor, friend or relative place your trash and trash receptacles at the curb on the proper days and times.

Removal of Snow and Ice from Sidewalks and Driveways (City Code Sec. 14-22)

Every owner or lessor of residential and commercial property fronting or abutting a paved sidewalk or driveway which forms a part of the public right-of-way is required to remove or clear away any snow and ice from the sidewalk or driveway within forty-eight (48) hours after the cessation of any falling snow, sleet, or freezing rain.

If circumstances (age, disability, illness, etc.) prevent an owner or lessor from removing the snow or ice within the forty-eight (48) hour period, an individual may apply for a twenty-four (24) hour extension. To obtain an Extension Application, please contact the City Code Compliance Office at 301-809-3008. Applications should be submitted by December 1, 2009.

Please Note: The twenty-four (24) hour extension does **not exempt one from clearing snow and ice from the public sidewalks and driveway area. It only provides a waiver of the forty-eight (48) hour rule and grants a twenty-four (24) hour extension. The extension will permit the applicant seventy-two (72) hours (3 days) to comply with the City Code.*

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

Bowie Youth & Family Services

Bowie Youth & Family Services' (BYFS) mission is to provide community-based mental health services for the families of the Bowie community, to improve understanding and communication between parents and youth, to prevent youth from entering the formal juvenile justice system, and to increase the safety of our community through drug and alcohol prevention activities. BYFS is dedicated to providing excellent professional services and innovative programming in order to help and support those citizens who are experiencing emotional difficulties and family stress.

BYFS believes that “every child deserves a seamless web of support—made up of parents, friends, neighbors, community, government, and the private sector through which no child will slip. It is everyone’s responsibility to help weave that web.”

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 in the greater Prince George’s County area. Families with children age 18 and younger are encouraged to call to make an appointment. Groups are offered for those who want guidance with parenting skills, social skills for young children, helping your children in coping with divorce, and a group for high school girls. Call **301-809-3033** for more information.

Teen Job Bank Needs Workers

Teens are needed for snow shoveling this winter. If you know a teen interested in signing up for occasional work, including housework, babysitting, leaf raking, yard work and snow shoveling, please call for an application at 301-809-3033. It’s a great way for a teen to earn a few extra dollars. For Bowie citizens who want to hire a teen, call **301-809-3033** for more information.

Volunteers Needed for City Committees

Would you like to play a role in how the City operates, help shape its future, and provide valuable service to the community?

If so, consider serving on a City Committee. These volunteer citizen bodies advise the City Council and help implement the laws and policies that the Council establishes. Committee members are appointed by the Council to serve a two-year term, and may be reappointed for additional terms. There are a variety of City Committees, each with a specific purpose and function. They meet periodically, usually once a month.

Currently, volunteers are needed for the following committees:

Heritage Committee	7 vacancies
Community Recreation Committee	3 vacancies
Education Committee	5 vacancies
Arts Committee	2 vacancies
Community Outreach Committee	3 vacancies
Financial Advisory Committee	1 vacancy

To learn more about the different City Committees, visit the City’s website - www.cityofbowie.org, select Government, then City Committees. Information on how to apply for vacancies can be found on the website or by contacting the City Clerk at pflaming@cityofbowie.org or 301-809-3029.

News of the City Museums



Mark Your Calendar

“Bits of History” Annual History Lecture Lunch Day

Monday, November 2, 9:30 a.m. - 4 p.m. at Belair Mansion. Includes lunch and tea. Reservations & advance payment required. \$60 per person.

“The Great Baltimore Fire” Second Tuesday Lecture

Tuesday, November 10 at 7:30 p.m. at Belair Mansion. Free.

Meet the Militia at Belair Mansion

Saturday, November 14, 12 - 4 p.m. Scouts of all ages (and others, too!) are invited to meet members of the 18th Army visiting the Mansion. Free.

Taste of the Past at Belair Mansion

Saturday, November 28, 12 - 4 p.m. Sample holiday foods from the past. Free.

Black Friday on Saturday at Belair Mansion Museum Shop

Saturday, November 28, 12 - 4 p.m. Shop offers a 20% discount.

Trainspotting Day at Bowie Railroad Museum

Sunday, November 29, 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. Watch unusual cars fly by on AMTRAK'S busiest day of the year. Free.

Snowflake Tea at Belair Mansion

Saturday, December 5, at 4 p.m. A three-course tea in the beautifully decorated Mansion. Reservations & advance payment required. \$24 per person.

Belair Mansion and Belair Stable by Candlelight

Sunday, December 6, 4 - 7 p.m. Visit Bowie's two most historic spots, decorated for the holidays. Donations gratefully accepted at the door.

“Santa's Big Broadcast” at Radio and Television Museum

Saturday, December 12, 1 - 5 p.m. Holiday radio fun for all ages! Free.

Kids Kandlelight at Belair Mansion

Saturday, December 12, 4 - 7 p.m. Special holiday evening for youngsters includes a take-home craft. Please bring a **nonperishable** food item for the Bowie Food Pantry.

Winter Wonderland Tea at Belair Mansion

Sunday, December 27, at 4 p.m. A three-course tea in the beautifully decorated Mansion. Reservations & advance payment required. \$24 per person.

Kristmas Kaboose at Bowie Railroad Museum

Wednesday, December 30, 10:30 a.m. - 12 p.m. Holiday fun at the Railroad Museum for ages 1-10. Free.

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

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, 1 - 5 p.m., Tulip Grove Drive. Free. *For information, 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.

Veterans Day Salute

**Thursday, November 5
12:30 p.m.**

A special program honoring veterans. Music provided by the Bowie Senior Chorale.

Health Awareness Program

**Monday, November 9
12:30 p.m.**

Dorotea Gonzalez, R.N., from Capital Hospice will present a series of health topics the second Monday of each month. This month's topic will be "Understanding Alzheimer's, Dementia, Hospice, and Palliative Care". Please call the Center to register.

Bay Winds Band

**Tuesday, November 10
7:30 p.m.**

This 50-60 member group will perform at the Center. Donations are appreciated. Open to the public.

Active Adult 55+

Christmas Traditions

**Thursday, November 19
10:30 a.m.**

Our American holiday season today is the blending of history, culture, and ancient traditions. Join Historic Properties Manager Pam Williams as she explores the American holiday past and explains why we send those cards, deck those halls, and do all that shopping.

Holiday Bazaar

**Friday, December 4
10 a.m. - 1 p.m.**

A welcome part of the holiday season. Members only can rent a table for \$5 - reserve by 11/25/09. Event open to the public.

Bowie Senior Chorale

Holiday Concerts

**Thursday, December 10
1 p.m.**

at the **Senior Center**

**Friday, December 18
7:30 p.m.**

at the **Bowie Center for the
Performing Arts**

The theme for the concerts is *Seasonal Treasures*. The program will contain holiday favorites, pieces from other countries, and some humorous selections with unexpected twists. Food and monetary donations for the Bowie Pantry will be accepted at the December 10 performance. Tickets for the December 18 performance are \$5 per person. Call the Center for more information.

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.

Coffee with the Council

**Tuesday, December 15
10 a.m.**

Join City Councilmembers for free coffee and an hour of lively discussion at the Center. This is your opportunity to talk about senior issues and other concerns.

CITY OF BOWIE
2614 KENHILL DRIVE
BOWIE, MARYLAND 20715

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ISAAC TROUTH
GERALDINE VALENTINO-SMITH



Upcoming Events

Veterans Day

Wednesday, November 11, 2009
City offices closed. No refuse or recycling collection.

Thanksgiving

November 26 and 27, 2009
City offices closed. No refuse or recycling collection.

Christmas Day

Friday, December 25, 2009
City offices closed. No refuse or recycling collection.

New Year's Day

Friday, January 1, 2010
City offices closed. No refuse or recycling collection.

2010 City Holidays

New Year's Day	Friday	January 1, 2010
Martin Luther King, Jr. Day	Monday	January 18, 2010
Presidents Day	Monday	February 15, 2010
Memorial Day	Monday	May 31, 2010
Independence Day	Monday	July 5, 2010
Labor Day	Monday	September 6, 2010
Veterans Day	Thursday	November 11, 2010
Thanksgiving Day	Thursday	November 25, 2010
Day after Thanksgiving	Friday	November 26, 2010
Christmas	Friday	December 24, 2010

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

Alternative versions of this newsletter are available upon request.

Call the Public Information Office at 301-809-3032 or TTY/TDD 301-262-5013