

Bowie Spotlight

The Official Newsletter of the City of Bowie

September - October 2009

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

Thrill to the sounds of steel drums, watch a puppet show or tap your feet to lilting Celtic melodies. Eat a bowl of noodles or have some barbecue or a funnel cake while you travel "Around the World in Just One Day" at the City's International Festival on **Saturday, October 3** (rain date Sunday, October 4) from **11 a.m. to 5 p.m.** at Allen Pond Park.

In its sixth year, the International Festival promises to be a day of exciting sounds, sights, smells and tastes as you travel around the Park. For the children, the Bob Brown Puppet Company's show "The World on a String," takes you on a rollicking adventure around the world using marionettes. There are also children's activities such as international stories, opportunities to learn about international flags, and the chance to play strategy games from around the world and more. As the children visit and participate in the various activities, they can have their "passports" stamped (available at the Information Booth) and win small prizes for participating.

Entertainment this year will include groups representing the cultures of Ireland, Estonia, Indonesia, Bolivia, India, Africa, and the Caribbean. Sample foods from different countries. Along with entertainment and food, arts and crafts vendors will be selling crafts, clothing, jewelry and many other items that represent a variety of countries and cultures.

The International Festival Committee, coordinator of the International Festival, is inviting everyone, particularly young people, to bring or wear articles of clothing from their cultural heritage. If you like, write down a brief description of your special clothing and visit one of the two entertainment stages while you're at the Festival and the Master of Ceremonies will tell the audience about your attire.

Join us for a day of celebration and exploration. For further information, please go to www.cityofbowie.org, (Click on Leisure Activities in the upper right-hand corner and scroll down to Special Events). You can also contact City Hall at 301-809-3011 or mcorley@cityofbowie.org.

Beautification Awards

It's official! All of this year's entered yards have been judged, scores have been tallied, and the winners are...

Well, you'll just have to attend the City's Beautification Awards ceremony on **Thursday, September 24, 2009** at the Bowie Senior Center where the results will be revealed! A slide presentation and refreshments will begin at 7 p.m. and the awards presentation will begin at 7:30 p.m.

The City would like to thank all those who beautified their yards this year and who chose to enter this wonderful City-wide program. For additional information, please contact Matt Corley at 301-809-3078 or mcorley@cityofbowie.org.

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

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

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

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

City of Bowie
2614 Kenhill
Drive
Bowie, MD 20715

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



Code Corner

Please Keep the Sidewalk Clear. Now that children are back in school, it is important for parents and homeowners to ensure their safety and well-being as they walk to and from school. The width of the average City street sidewalk is four feet. This permits school children and other pedestrians to walk side by side upon the pavement and not upon the grass or dirt adjacent to the sidewalk, nor in the street. If sidewalks are present, the City Code, Chapter 22, requires the property owner abutting the sidewalk to ensure there is no overgrowth of grass and weeds over the sidewalk surface. The City Code also prohibits any obstruction over and above the sidewalk surface to a height of nine feet, such as tree limbs and shrubbery branches.

Please edge and clear the entire four-foot wide sidewalk surface abutting your property and maintain a nine-foot clearance above the sidewalk. The school children, joggers, dog walkers and other pedestrians will truly appreciate your attention.

Don't Deposit Fallen Leaves and Other Yard Waste in the Street. Fall is fast approaching and leaves will soon be falling from the trees. As residents rake, collect and dispose of these leaves, it is very important for all to remember not to rake or deposit fallen leaves and other yard waste into streets and gutters, as prohibited by the City Code, Chapter 10. Sweeping the leaves into the streets creates a hazard to motorists and pedestrians. A pile of leaves can cause school children to walk further into the street when there is no sidewalk available. Wet leaves become very slippery and can cause a loss of solid footing for pedestrians and traction for automobiles. Leaves can also clog storm drains and interfere with City street sweeping efforts.

Please properly bag leaves for Wednesday yard waste pickup, or during the leaf collection program, pile the leaves atop the curb and on the grassy areas of the public rights-of-way adjacent to the pavement.

The New Prince George's County Animal Services Facility

Prince George's County recently opened a new 37,000 square foot "state-of-the-art" Animal Services Facility. The facility is located at 3750 Brown Station Road, Upper Marlboro, MD 20772. The new building will house up to 350 dogs and 150 cats. It has a community room; a counseling room; a quiet room for potential adopters; and a spay/neuter clinic. Tours of this new facility may be arranged by contacting the Volunteer Coordinator at 301-780-7200. We encourage all Bowie residents to visit the facility and consider adopting a loving pet from the shelter. The Animal Services Facility is open Mondays, Tuesdays, Fridays and Saturdays, 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.; Wednesdays, 11:30 a.m. - 7:30 p.m. The facility is closed Thursdays and Sundays. For more information, contact the Prince George's County Animal Management Group at 301-780-7200 or visit the website at <http://www.princegeorgescountymd.gov/Government/Agency-Index/DER/AMG>.

Call for Artists

The City is looking for artists to be involved in two public art projects for the new City Hall that will be located at the intersection of Evergreen Parkway and Excalibur Road. One of the art pieces is a kinetic mobile that will be located in the rear portion of the lobby. The three dimensional artwork can be as high as 10 feet and as wide in diameter as 12 feet and must be contained on a single load point with a weight of 1,000 pounds or less.

The second proposed artwork will be a working sundial that will be located in the front circle of the new City Hall. The sundial can be of any working dial type. The central dial area is a 12-foot diameter circle and the surrounding area, out to a diameter of 24 feet, can be a combination of green landscaping, earth-toned paving, and can be used for embedding lines and markers for the sundial.

The City's *Call for Artists* for the two projects is a national call open to artists across the country and the application deadline is **October 1, 2009**. The *Call* is asking for artist qualifications. Semi-finalists will be chosen in November and the City expects to choose the artists for the two projects by February 2010. The artists will have until January 2011 to finish the projects that will then be installed in the new City Hall early in 2011, when the building is completed.

For more information on the *Call for Artists*, contact Annette Esterheld, Arts Specialist, at 301-575-5601 or aesterheld@cityofbowie.org. The *Call for Artists* is also available on the City's website - www.cityofbowie.org.

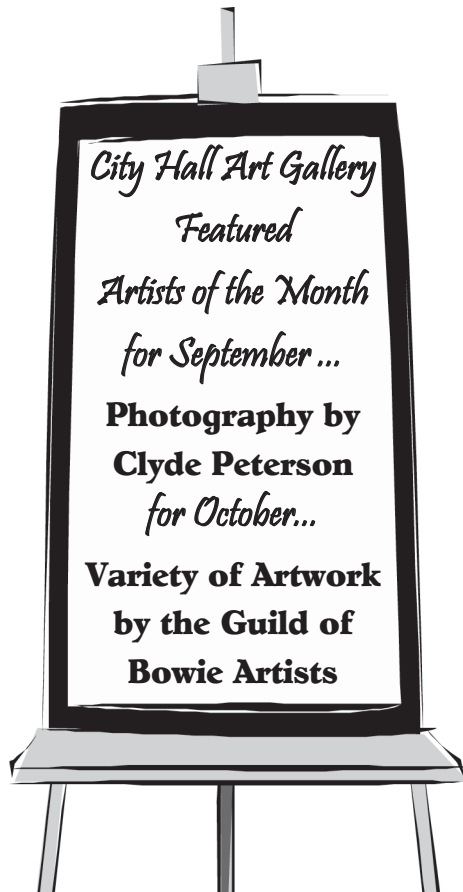
Election Signs

The next City election will be held on **November 3, 2009**. Candidates will soon be asking residents to place campaign signs to promote their candidacies. The City Code Compliance Office would like to remind residents of the rules related to the placement of these signs:

- All signs must be placed on private property and then only with the permission of the property owner.
- Signs may not be placed in any right-of-way (ROW). **This includes the areas bordering all City, County and State roads in residential and commercial areas.**
- Residents should remember the first approximately eleven and one-half feet of grass and/or side walk closest to the curb in front of their home is a ROW and no signs may be placed in that area.

Signs placed illegally will be removed. Each sign represents a cost to the candidate and is valuable. You can help your candidate best by abiding by the laws of the City and making sure you have permission to place each and every campaign sign.

When in doubt, please call the City Code Compliance Office at 301-809-3008 to check on a location before placing a campaign sign.



Young Person's Art Gallery



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

September
Benjamin Tasker
Middle School

October
Whitehall
Elementary 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 or Visions of Bowie, they first must submit their work and be approved by the City 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 provide five photographs of their work that represent their style. The Arts Committee meets monthly and reviewing artist's work is on the agenda monthly.

The fourth gallery is the **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 this gallery is the option to host a monthly reception. The featured school sets up a reception and, 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 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.

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

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**.

Grants Information Meeting The Education Committee encourages people interested in applying for a grant to attend the Education Grants Information Meeting that will be held Thursday, **September 17, 2009** at 7 p.m. at City Hall. Information shared during the session will assist applicants in completing a grant application and having an understanding of the grants, including the criteria and selection process. For more information, please contact Leni Stern at 301-809-3068 or lstern@cityofbowie.org.

Fall Education Forum

The City is pleased to invite all to attend a Community Education Forum sponsored by the Bowie Education Committee. The Forum will take place on Wednesday, **September 30, 2009** at 7 p.m. at City Hall.

Prince George's County School System's new Deputy Superintendent, Dr. Bonita Coleman Potter will be the featured speaker. She will address a variety of topics, including: Start of school year; school system changes being implemented this year, such as reorganization of schools into "Areas"; changes in schools due to budget limitations and how these will affect the schools and students this school year; and, Phase Two Boundary Review including schools located in Bowie. There will be a question and answer period following the presentation.

This is a public forum and all are invited to attend. It is an excellent opportunity for teachers, parents, grandparents and others to meet the Deputy Superintendent, gain information about the school system and programs being implemented, and to ask questions. For additional information, please contact the Education Committee at 301-809-3068 or lstern@cityofbowie.org.

Neighbors Helping Neighbors

Can you help a senior citizen or a disabled resident? Are you in need of help?

There are numerous adults and young people in the City who regularly volunteer their time to civic organizations, places of worship and schools. Countless hours are spent helping elderly residents and families or individuals with a disabled family member who may be in crisis or just in need of a temporary helping hand.

If you have always wanted to help but didn't know how to get involved, please consider joining with your fellow residents and signing up for the City's Neighbors Helping Neighbors program. This program is open to individuals 18 years of age and older and groups (Scouts, men's groups or youth organizations) who want to volunteer to help elderly or handicapped residents needing assistance with home maintenance or related items. This program is not designed to help those who can afford to hire a contractor but for those who because of economic concerns are unable to pay to have necessary work done such as minor painting, yard debris removal, shrub trimming, etc. Each person who requests assistance is paired with a volunteer who has expressed a willingness and ability to address the concern brought forward.

Applications to volunteer for this program are available by email request at shein@cityofbowie.org, by calling 301-809-3014, or through the City's website - www.cityofbowie.org.

If you are disabled or a senior citizen (65+) in need of assistance, please contact us as well for an application and inclusion in the program.



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.

Alicia Utterback, Middle School Math Teacher at Grace Christian School, was the June 2009 Teacher of the Month.

Ms. Utterback's nomination describes her as an individual who takes her time with her students to ensure that they understand the concepts, and that "she really cares about them." In addition to math, she engages students in discussion about themselves (such as what they did over the weekend), in order to develop and show their respect for one another. Roeshell Matthews,

the parent who nominated Ms. Utterback, finds this to be a great way to "build the kind of positive bridges" needed between teachers and students. Ms. Utterback is "firm and fair" with her students and they "appreciate her."

This past school year, when students did not do well with a new math concept, she was willing to find out the reason and adjust lesson plans to help them catch up. She made herself available during study hall (her planning time) for those

needing additional help. Her time was also offered to students for afterschool tutoring, 3-4 days a week.

Ms. Utterback was recognized by the Bowie City Council, at their meeting on July 6th.

Thank You for Donating to the Food Pantry!

The Community Outreach Committee (COC) would like to extend a huge THANK YOU to those who donated items to the Bowie Interfaith Food Pantry during their collections at the Sunday Sunset Concert Series. Your generosity is greatly appreciated!

Please continue to donate to the Food Pantry and Emergency Aid Fund located at the Christian Community Presbyterian Church, 3120 Belair Drive. It is open Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 9 to 11 a.m. There are also collection containers at City Hall and the Senior Center where you may drop nonperishable food, school supplies, paper goods, personal items and baby items.

For more information, contact the Pantry at 301-262-6765 or BowieFoodPantry@gmail.com.

Parking On City Streets

On September 4, 2007, the City Council passed an ordinance establishing additional parking regulations on City streets. The Ordinance, which became effective October 4, 2007, established **Section 14-10A** of the City Code. **This section of the Code requires vehicles to be parked right wheels to the curb or in the case of a one-way street, parallel to the curb in the direction of authorized traffic movement.** This means that your vehicle must be in the same direction as the flow of traffic. If a vehicle is facing the incorrect way, then the assumption is that the driver must have traveled on the wrong side of the road to get into that position. Additionally, the driver will travel on the wrong side of the road again when it is time to depart. While this may not be a big risk on a quiet side street; it can be extremely dangerous on a regular thoroughfare.

If you would like to view this section of the City Code, please visit the City's website at www.cityof-bowie.org, select Government from the top of the home page, then select City Code and View City Code, then select Chapter 14, "Motor Vehicles and Traffic", and view Section 14-10A. For additional information, please contact the Bowie Police Department at 301-575-2480.

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.

Friendly Reminders From the Animal Control Office

- Dogs, cats and ferrets over the age of four (4) months must have a rabies vaccination.
- The owner of a dog, cat or ferret which is four (4) months of age or older must be licensed with Prince George's County. Licensing does not apply to any animal belonging to a nonresident of Prince George's County kept within the boundaries of the County for not longer than 30 days.
- No owner or custodian may allow or fail to prevent an animal (cat, dog, or other domesticated animal) from being "at large". "At large" includes any animal off the real property of the owner/custodian and **not under restraint**.
- Every pet owner must provide adequate care for their animal, appropriate for the age, size, species, condition and type of animal. Adequate care shall include food, water, shelter, space, exercise, care, proper and appropriate treatment, transportation, adequate veterinary care and veterinary care when needed to prevent suffering or disease transmission.

For more information, please contact the City's Animal Control Office at 301-809-3002 or visit our website - www.cityofbowie.org, select Government, Departments, Community Services, and then Animal Control.

Bowie Volunteer Fire Department Opportunities

The Bowie Volunteer Fire Department and Rescue Squad, Inc. (BVFD) is looking for new members to join its elite firefighting and Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) teams. Recent budget cutbacks by the Prince George's County Fire/EMS Department have made the work of local volunteers even more critical to our community's public safety. A wide variety of emergency and non-emergency support activities are available for qualified volunteers.

Minimum requirements include being at least 16 years old, a background investigation, physical evaluation and completion of basic training courses. For a full list of requirements and an online interest application, visit the BVFD website at www.bowievfd.org.

Community Outreach Grant Awarded

Additional Grants to be Offered

A wide variety of projects were proposed in this year's Grant applications. The purpose of the grants is to assist in funding programs or projects developed to meet one or more needs of City residents.

Selection Committee members spent many hours reviewing applications. One grant was awarded to the **Bowie Therapeutic Nursery Center** to assist them in providing parent training. This project will involve family fun nights, at which "healthy family relationships and communication" will be emphasized for the client families.

As many of the applications submitted seemed to be incomplete or did not fit with the purposes of the grant, it was decided to offer the opportunity again this fall. Applications have been revised for additional clarity. Grant packages are due by Friday, **October 2, 2009**.

Applications may be found on the City's website - www.cityofbowie.org (under Government/City Committees/Community Outreach Committee), or in the Department of Community Services at City Hall. For more information, please contact Leni Stern, Community Outreach Committee Liaison at lstern@cityofbowie.org or 301-809-3068.

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 Salute to America Concert featuring the United States Naval Academy will remember those lost on September 11, 2001. We will also honor the members of the Armed Forces who protect our freedoms each day of the year.

Bring your flags, candles, friends and family 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.

International Festival Sponsors

Sponsoring the Bowie International Festival at Allen Pond Park on October 3, 2009 is a wonderful opportunity for local businesses to have their name listed with a City activity that showcases the diversity and talents in and around our community. Last year's Festival drew an estimated crowd of 10,000. Names of sponsoring businesses will be mentioned in press releases, and listed on event programs and signs. So far, this year's major sponsors include Comcast and Belair Engineering and Service Company, Inc. Other sponsors are Stu Stern and Wes Winter of Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage.

If you are a business owner, or work for a business that would be interested in being a sponsor of the Bowie International Festival, contact Special Events Coordinator Matt Corley at mcorley@cityofbowie.org or 301-809-3078.

Bowie Budget in Brief

July 1, 2009 - June 30, 2010

Activity	Highlights of Adopted Budget
Revenues and Other Changes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • City real and personal property tax rates unchanged from last year. • County tax rate decreases by \$.043 due to the tax differential program. • State shared revenues (Income Tax and Motor Fuel Tax) down by \$1.5 million. • Operating expenditures are less than the previous year by \$348,300. • City plans to issue general obligation bonds to finance the new City Hall. • Community Development Block Grant (\$576,700) to provide financial assistance to qualified seniors for home repair.
Public Safety	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sworn police officers will total 47 for Fiscal Year 2010. • Purchase two new police vehicles and replace one code compliance vehicle. • Support for Bowie Volunteer Fire Department increased by \$9,500 to \$110,500, which includes annual operating support plus \$35,100 toward purchase of needed equipment. • Emergency preparedness presentations scheduled for seniors, families and local businesses.
Community Services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Closing cost assistance to teachers, police officers and City employees moving to Bowie. • Matching grant for not-for-profit organization to improve infrastructure. • Continued commitment of \$80,000 to the Bowie Center for the Performing Arts.
Recreation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Renovation of ballfield lighting at Murtagh soccer field (\$600,000). • Hiker/Biker Trail System - \$40,000 to complete trail on MD 197 between Evergreen Parkway and Mitchellville Road. • Church Road Park - cost of design and engineering of concession stand and restroom facility (\$30,500). • Belair Mansion – engineering survey of the HVAC system and replacement of low voltage lighting (\$36,700).
Planning and Economic Development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • \$90,000 in continued support for business incubator. • \$10,000 additional funding for revolving loan/grant program in Old Town Bowie and West Bowie Village.
Public Works	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • \$1,010,000 for street resurfacing. • Construction of vehicle bay and wash station for Solid Waste division - \$170,100; and \$55,000 for insulation and siding for the Public Works main facility building.
Water and Sewer	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Water rate increased \$.37 and sewer rate increased \$.53 per thousand gallons. • Improvements to the water and wastewater treatment plants - \$8,087,600; includes \$6,087,400 of State grants and \$1,261,000 in State loans.

Bowie Budget in Brief

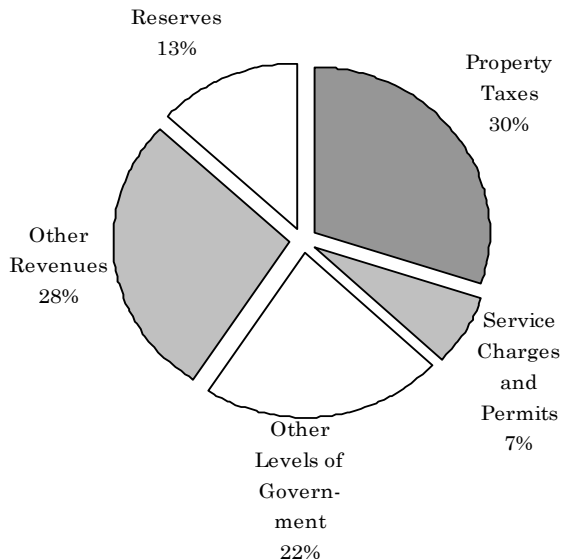
July 1, 2009 - June 30, 2010

The Big Picture

For the period July 1, 2009 through June 30, 2010, City Council authorized \$91,172,900 in total spending from all funds. This number includes some amounts that are simply transferred from one fund to another. Governments use fund accounting to keep different types of revenue and expenditures separate from each other.

Excluding transfers, the total is \$82,783,800 compared to last year's total of \$75,826,900. The \$6.96 million increase is mostly attributed to the cost of capital construction of City-owned projects.

Where the Dollars Come From



Property Taxes include both real property tax and business personal property tax. City Council sets the tax rates each year as part of the budget process, while the State Department of Assessment and Taxation determines the value of property to be taxed. This year's real property tax rate is \$.380 per \$100 value, and

business personal property tax rate is \$.950 per \$100 value, both unchanged from last year.

The majority of revenue from **Other Levels of Government** consists of the City's share of State income and motor vehicle taxes. It also includes State grants for youth services and police protection, federal grants for urban development, County rebate of part of the landfill fees paid by the City, and many other smaller amounts. It also includes capital grants such as the State Program Open Space allocation.

Service Charges and Permits include such items as building permits, park use fees, and Ice Arena revenues. However, the majority of this revenue refers to water and sewer charges. These charges are paid only by customers of the City of Bowie Water and Sewer System and are used only for costs of operating and maintaining that system. This year's water rates increased from \$2.47 to \$2.84 per thousand gallons, and the sewer surcharge increased from \$3.53 to \$4.06 per thousand gallons.

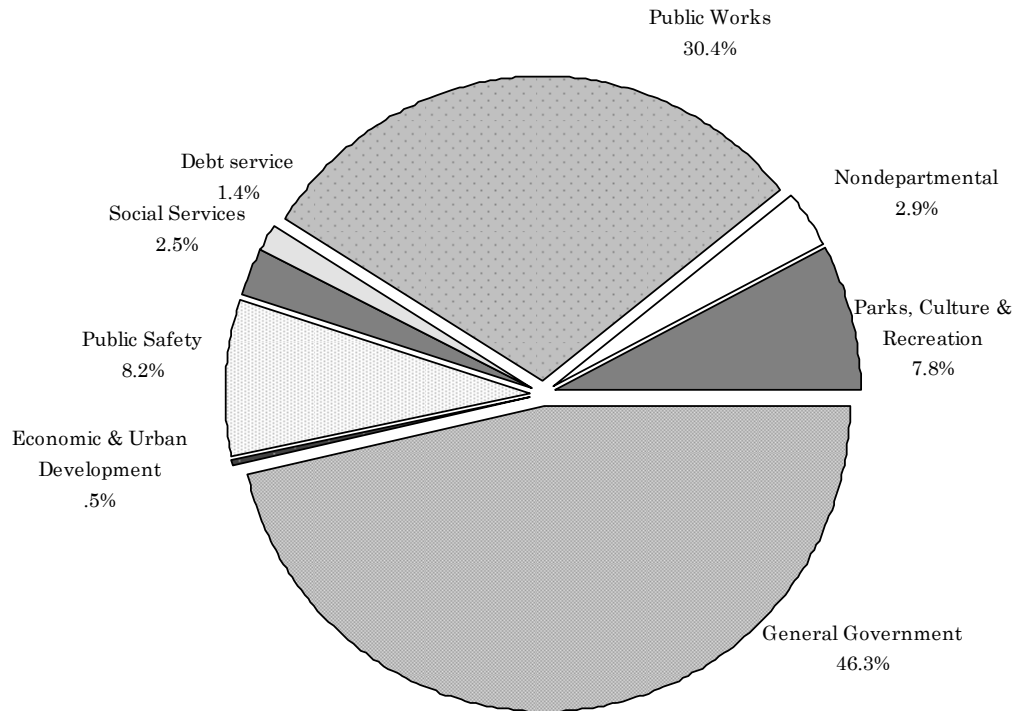
Other Revenues include interest earnings, rents, donations, sales of recyclable materials, the CATV franchise fee, and other miscellaneous items not classified elsewhere.

Reserves being used to provide funding for the current Budget have accumulated over all years of the City's existence, when revenues have exceeded expenditures. In any year, a surplus can occur from unexpected windfall revenues; from a level of expenditures less than budgeted, such as when projects are canceled or delayed; or from funds that have been reserved for a special purpose.

Bowie Budget in Brief

July 1, 2009 - June 30, 2010

Where the Dollars are Spent



General Government includes those functions that relate to the overall business of government: City Council, City Clerk, elections, legal services, public information, planning, etc. It includes administrative functions such as personnel, finance, information technology, maintenance and security of public buildings and grounds.

Economic Development involves efforts to improve the City's business climate. **Urban Development** refers to infrastructure improvements using federal Community Development Block Grant funds and other State and County funding sources. **Public Safety** includes police services, municipal code compliance, animal control, and support for the Bowie Volunteer Fire Department. **Social Services** include both the Senior Center and the Youth Services Bureau.

Public Works includes trash collection and disposal, street maintenance and snow removal, storm water control and maintenance of vehicles

and mobile equipment for all City departments. It also includes the water and wastewater plants, which serve users of the City of Bowie Water and Sewer System, and are funded only by water and sewer service charges.

Parks, Culture and Recreation includes the City's parks, ball fields and recreational buildings such as the Ice Arena, Bowie Playhouse, and Gymnasium. It also includes coordination of City celebrations and special events, planning and scheduling of recreational offerings, restoration of historic buildings, operation of all City museums, as well as a contribution to support operations at the Bowie Center for the Performing Arts.

The term "**Nondepartmental**" refers to those annual costs that benefit all other City functions. Such items as liability and property insurance and allowances for unexpected contingencies are budgeted under this description, rather than being allocated among the operating departments.

Bowie Budget in Brief

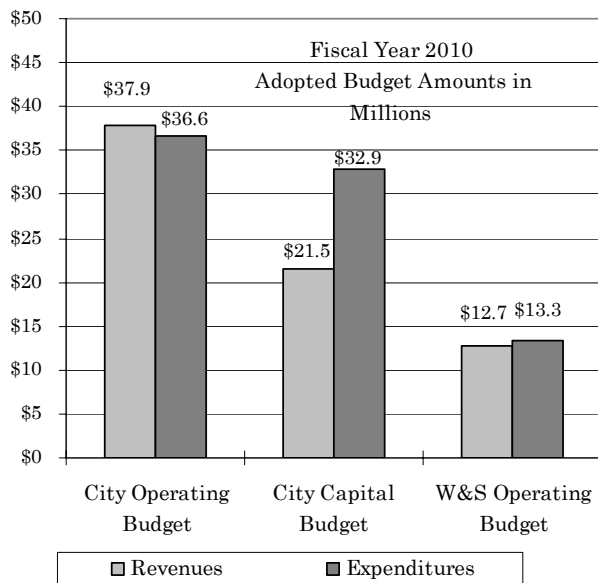
July 1, 2009 - June 30, 2010

The Budget Process

During the period of January through mid-April 2009, the City Manager and staff prepared the FY 2010 Proposed Budget, taking into account various master plans, Council policy statements, long-term studies, user group requests, volunteer committee recommendations, and staff observations in the field.

Council held five Budget Worksessions and two Public Hearings during April and May. The FY 2010 Adopted Budget Ordinance and the companion Capital Improvements Program Resolution were passed on May 18, 2009. The Budget is effective for the period July 1, 2009 through June 30, 2010.

Operating Budget vs. Capital Budget



Note: Differences between expenditures and revenues are to be funded using reserves accumulated in prior years.

The Operating Budget covers day-to-day delivery of City services. It provides for the hours worked by City employees, contract services by non-employees, supplies, minor equipment and other operating costs. In the graph, it also includes the cost of vehicles, other operating equipment, and annual debt service requirements.

The Capital Budget is for the improvement, construction or purchase of major City assets such as buildings, parks, roads or trails. The City uses a six-year Capital Improvements Program (CIP) to prioritize and plan for these major projects. The current year's portion of the CIP amounts to \$32,907,800.

Operating Budget Detail

Staffing - The approved Budget provides for 341 full-time equivalent positions (FTE's). One FTE is equal to one or more employees working a total of 2,080 hours (or 1,950 hours, depending on the job classification). The work hours are budgeted in the General Fund (311.3 FTE) or the Water and Sewer Fund (29.7 FTE).

Types of Expenditures - The General Fund is the largest and most important fund, because it accounts for the delivery of basic municipal services and receives all general-purpose City revenues. General Fund budget expenditures are summarized here by object of expenditure.

Object	Amount	Percent
Salaries & Wages	\$21,955,800	51%
Contractual Services	8,298,600	19%
Commodities	2,626,300	6%
Other Charges	1,488,500	4%
Capital Outlay	34,400	--
Debt Service	800,000	2%
Transfers	7,796,300	18%
Total	\$42,999,900	100%

Budget Document

The City's detailed Budget is available online at the City's website, www.cityofbowie.org.

Fun at the City Gym

30 and Over Men's Night - Every Tuesday, 8 - 10 p.m., beginning September 8.

Women's Recreational Volleyball - Fridays, 11 a.m. - 1 p.m., beginning September 11.

Bowie Gymnasium Blood Drive - The Gymnasium is proud to sponsor a blood drive on Tuesday, September 29, 2 - 8 p.m. Please join us on this date and give someone the gift of life.

Please Note: The Gym will be closed for routine maintenance September 1 - 7. The Gym will reopen on September 8 at 10 a.m.

For more information, please contact the City Gym at 301-809-2388. The Gym is located at 4100 Northview Drive.

Fun in the City Parks

The Park Rangers have a few fun activities planned for the fall. Programs are designed for children of all ages. Activities are free but registration is required. All activities require adult chaperones.

Things That Go Bump in the Night - A full moon walk on Friday, September 4 at 8:30 p.m. at Whitemarsh Park.

In the Park After Dark - Campfire stories on Saturday, September 26 at 7:45 p.m. at Allen Pond Park.

Campfire Stories at Whitemarsh Park - Saturday, October 10 at 6:45 p.m.

Halloween Happening at Belair Mansion - Saturday, October 24 at 7:30 p.m. at the Belair Mansion Garden. Wear a costume, hear a scary story, roast marshmallows, play games and get a treat!

For more information, contact the Ranger Office at 301-809-3086 or rangerdesk@cityofbowie.org.

Bowie Farmer's Market

The Bowie Farmer's Market is 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 and bedding plants.

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 15200 Annapolis Road.

A full-color market brochure is available online at www.cityofbowie.org or at City Hall. For more information, please call 301-809-3078.

Upcoming Special Events

September 20 "Farm Days"

Visit the farm animal petting zoo, 9:30 - 11 a.m. And try the cow milking game, 9:30 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). Live music. Activities begin at 10 a.m.



Bowie Youth & Family Services

Bowie Youth & Family Services offers counseling services to families with children in the home who are under 18 years of age and live within Prince George's County. Counseling services are free to Bowie residents. The staff is professional and responsive with extensive training and experience in child and family issues and concerns. Services are confidential and offered in a caring and supportive environment. An intake counselor is available during normal business hours and will complete an intake form with you. Appointments are held in the office usually on a weekly basis at a time determined by you and your counselor. Please call **301-809-3033** for more information or to begin the intake process.

Back to School Ideas for Parents

The last few weeks have been busy ones for parents. Shopping for school supplies and arranging before or after school care are primary agenda items. This is also a good time to begin building goodwill with your child's school. Getting to know your child's teacher, principal, and counselor are steps to reaching a good working relationship with those adults involved in your child's education. Parental involvement with the school is a good investment in your child's educational experience. Some strategies include:

- Early in the academic year develop open relationships with your child's teachers by sharing any concerns, problems or issues that could impact your child's performance.
- Ask your child's teachers to feel free to call you at anytime with their concerns.
- Attend the back-to-school night events. Talk with each of the teachers.
- Offer a little of your time. Bake cookies, offer a few hours every month or so to help the teacher, help with fundraisers, book fairs, etc.
- Join the PTA. Share your ideas with other parents and teachers.
- Schools are strapped for dollars and teachers cannot afford many extras from their own paychecks, so be sure to bring in the requested supplies.

2009 Fall Groups

These groups have proven popular in the past so in order to secure a space, interested persons are encouraged to sign up early. Each group assesses a small fee for all of the sessions. If you have questions or are interested, call 301-809-3033.

Active Parenting – A popular group for parents that focuses on learning practical skills to develop self-esteem, cooperation and responsibility in your children ages 10 – 16. Fee: \$40.

Girls Count! – Sharing the pressures of being female in today's complex society, teen girls support each other as they participate in activities that are fun and meaningful. Fee: \$40.

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

Teen Job Bank

Teens between 13 and 18 years of age are critically needed to help residents with jobs like babysitting, snow shoveling, lawn and yard work, and housework. Costs and fees are arranged between the teen and resident requesting the service. If you are a teen or know a teen who may be interested, please let them know of this opportunity. Please go to the City's website, www.cityofbowie.org, to download the required forms, or call 301-809-3033 for forms to be mailed.

Working Together Works

Bowie's slice of the national average for car crashes involving teens looks like this:

- About 3200 teens have a driver's license.
- One in four will end up in a car accident.
- Three hundred of those will result in injuries.
- The cost to parents and taxpayers will be \$26 million.

Parents and teens can help beat this national average and avoid tragedy by making the most of prevention resources in our community. One such partner of the Bowie Prevention Network, Safety Driven, is a local nonprofit with research-based prevention tools for parents and teens. They also are enlisting community help in getting the word out to all Bowie parents by National Teen Driver Safety Week, October 18 - 24, 2009. Check out www.driventowalk.org. Together we can help teens meet these life passages with fewer tragedies. Working together works!

The Bowie Prevention Network is made up of individuals and agencies concerned about the health and safety of youth and their families. For more information or to volunteer, contact Bowie Youth and Family Services, Prevention Coordinator, Andra Berry at 301-809-3033 or aberry@cityofbowie.org.

Mentoring Makes a Difference

Bowie Youth & Family Services and the Bowie Prevention Network look forward to another successful year for the Teen Mentoring Program at Bowie High School. Our mentors and students are a fantastic group of volunteers who are making a difference in each others' lives. The transition back to school marks the recruitment and preparation process for the upcoming program year. Caring adult mentors are needed to meet the requests by students for participation. Please consider serving as a mentor to a high school student. You may be surprised to find that your contribution of time and caring significantly impacts your life as well as the success of a local teen.

For information and to apply, please see the City's website - www.cityofbowie.org (Departments, Community Services, Youth Services Bureau), email Rhonda Simon, Volunteer Coordinator at mentor@cityofbowie.org, or call Andra Berry, Prevention Coordinator at 301-809-3080.

Bowie Ice Arena



Group Lessons

Back to School Group Lessons will be held during the month of September. Classes are offered for children 18 months of age through adults, at all levels.

Registration for **Series 1 Group Lessons** will begin **September 26**. Classes will start in October. If you are interested in being placed on the mailing list to receive the detailed schedule and registration information, please contact the Ice Arena at crobertson@cityofbowie.org or 301-809-3090.

For more information on group or private lessons, public sessions, birthday parties, group rates, pickup hockey or pickup figure skating, please visit us online at www.cityofbowie.org or call 301-809-3090.

\$5 Off Group Lesson Registration

(Must present coupon when registering.)

Bowie Ice Arena

Not valid with any other discount.

Coupon Expires October 1, 2009.

Free Skate Rental

With Paid Public Session Admission

Bowie Ice Arena

Not valid with any other discount.

Coupon expires October 1, 2009.

News From the City Forester

“When should I call in a tree expert?” Now that’s a pretty important question coming from a Maryland DNR Tree Expert and an ISA Certified Arborist! I have encountered many customers (while I was a businessman) and now many Bowie residents who have a wide spectrum of knowledge regarding trees and tree health. That spectrum varies from very little to very informed regarding trees and landscaping. That said, let’s address the question at hand.

Our trees have a high value quotient in the landscape. Trees contribute to real estate value, trees promote environmental and mental health, and trees can be an energy-saving mechanism. It is also important to remember that trees are organisms, so there are many considerations, and there is a lot at stake in terms of how they are cared for. I often get calls asking about the health of a specific tree concerning whether or not the tree is in trouble, as well as whether or not the tree is a danger/hazard and therefore should be removed. That is where the tree expert’s assessment is most critical. So, here are a few points to consider about tree assessment and calling in a licensed tree expert:

- Does the tree show signs of stress, insect infestation, disease infestation, and/or dieback?
- Does the tree show any signs of obvious lean and/or progressive root exposure or upheaval?
- Does the tree have noticeable cracks or splits in the trunk or other stems?
- Does the tree have any physical/mechanical damage on the main stem from vehicles or other equipment?
- Are there any other obvious changes in the condition of the tree?
- When in doubt, don’t wait! Call in a licensed tree expert!

While part of my job is to interact with City residents about tree issues, this should not substitute for a full assessment of a tree. If the tree in question is a City tree, then I will do the assessment. If the tree issue is a private one, then I will recommend that the resident contact a tree expert to assess the tree(s). While I can’t recommend specific contractors, I always tell residents to engage only licensed and insured businesses; to call three contractors to get competitive pricing; and to ask for references for work performed. These parameters will promote fair pricing and quality work performance.

I hope these thoughts are helpful. Contact me anytime regarding your tree issues at rkellner@cityofbowie.org or 301-809-3061. Rick Kellner, Community Forester

Bowie Health Fair

“Neighbors Caring for Neighbors” is the theme of this year’s Bowie Health Fair. The event scheduled for **Saturday, October 10** will offer free health screenings and host more than 40 exhibitors. It will run from **11 a.m. to 3 p.m.** at the Bowie Health Campus located on Health Center Drive.

Free Health Screenings (no appointments

needed) Blood pressure, cataract screening and LASIK evaluation, cholesterol and glucose, glaucoma and visual acuity, heart disease, HIV/AIDS, osteoporosis, peripheral vascular disease, prostate cancer, and more.

Free Consultation With Healthcare Professionals

Diabetes/nutrition, mental health, prescription analysis, podiatry, and plastic surgery, to name a few.

Free Wellness Services Acupuncture, chiropractic, massage therapy, Reiki, plus more.

Exhibits by Area Health and Wellness

Participating organizations are not members of or endorsed by the sponsors.

Entertainment and Food Moonbounce, petting zoo, Louie from the Baysox, face painting, labyrinth walk, demonstrations, and food from Applebee’s Restaurant.

Sponsored by Bowie Health Center, Bowie Physical Medicine, Dimensions Surgery Center, Larkin Chase Caring and Restorative Center, and the City of Bowie. For more information, please call 301-618-6123.

The Bowie Stream Clean-up Needs You!

Hundreds of volunteers turn out each spring and fall to help clean streams across the City. This fall, on Saturday, **October 17, 2009**, the City will hold its 4th stream clean-up. Bowie's volunteer Stream Teams walk along specific stream segments and pick up trash and litter. The three completed clean-ups have removed 4,500 pounds of trash and 4,400 pounds of recyclables from Bowie streams. Some of the more interesting items found were a riding lawnmower, a car door, a television set, a rusted box spring embedded in a tree, and a pink flamingo (the plastic kind).

Clean-up days are a good time for Bowie residents to get out into the environment and experience nature while working to protect Bowie's important natural resources. We will provide volunteers with all supplies and a commemorative T-shirt. You just need to have sturdy shoes (or boots), long sleeves, water, and fun!

We encourage schools, churches, civic groups, homeowners' associations, and businesses to work in their streams. Students who volunteer could earn Student Service Learning (SSL) hours. Adult volunteers and the parents/guardians of minor volunteers must complete a release form prior to doing any work.

The clean-up will go forward rain or shine. To volunteer or for more information, visit www.cityof-bowie.org/GreenBowie, or contact the City's Watershed Manager Tiffany Wright at twright@cityof-bowie.org or at 301-809-3043. We look forward to seeing you out in Bowie's streams!

Bowie Playhouse Presents



THE DINNER PARTY -- 9/4 - 9/19

A serious comedy from the master of American comedy, Neil Simon. Six people are individually invited to dinner in a fancy French restaurant by a mutual friend. They do not know who the other guests will be, or why they have been invited. Turns out that each of the three couples are divorced (one couple twice), and the person who invited them (who never appears) thinks they should have a chance at reconciliation.

Directed by Charles W. Maloney. Produced by 2nd Star Productions. Performances are at 8 p.m. on Fridays and Saturdays, with one performance on Thursday, September 17, and matinees are at 3 p.m. on Saturdays and Sundays. For tickets, call 410-757-5700 or 301-832-4819 (Note: new phone number)

KITCHEN WITCHES -- 9/25 - 10/10

Isobel Lomax and Dolly Biddle are two "mature" rival cable-access cooking show hostesses who have hated each other for 30 years, ever since Stephen Biddle dated one and married the other. After an unpleasant confrontation puts them together in front of a live audience, the network decides to give them their own cooking show called "The Kitchen Witches." Dolly's long-suffering TV producer son tries to keep them on track, but it proves to be a losing battle. What ensues are insults and food fights and a secret from their past revealed. You become the studio audience in this dysfunctional cooking show.

Directed by Estelle Miller. Produced by Bowie Community Theatre. Performances are at 8 p.m. on Fridays and Saturdays and matinees are at 3 p.m. on Sundays. For tickets, call 301-805-0219.



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.

News of the City Museums



Mark Your Calendar

A-Peale-ing Art: Charles Wilson Peale

Tuesday, September 1, 12 p.m. at Belair Mansion, 12207 Tulip Grove Drive. Brown Bag Lunch Lecture. Free.

18th Century Samplers - Second Tuesday Lecture Series

Tuesday, September 8, 7:30 p.m. at Belair Mansion, 12207 Tulip Grove Drive. Textile historian Samantha Dorsey will discuss the needlework of 18th century women. Free.

19th Century Fun and Games at the Mansion

Saturday, September 12, 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. at Belair Mansion. Civil War era folks DID smile – no matter what the photos show! Enjoy a day of fun and games, for children and adults, from the 1850's and 60's. Board games, table games, toys and parlor games will be presented by the Atlantic Guard Soldiers' Aid Society. Free.

Kids Kaboose

Thursdays, September 17 and October 15, 10:30 a.m. - 12 p.m. at Bowie Railroad Museum, 8614 Chestnut Avenue. Stories, tours, trainspotting and a craft to take home for children ages 1 - 10. Free.

On the Way to Yorktown

Saturday, September 26, 11 a.m. - 4 p.m. at Belair Mansion. Visit members of the First Maryland Regiment and the First Virginia Regiment encamped at Belair Mansion on their way to Yorktown to help General Rochambeau defeat the British! Free.

Fall Fest in Old Bowie

Sunday, September 27, 11 a.m. - 6 p.m. in Old Town Bowie. Antiques, food and fun! For information, call 301-809-5880.

Brown Bag Lunch Lecture

Tuesday, October 6, 12 p.m. at Belair Mansion, 12207 Tulip Grove Drive. Free.

Tears and Laughter - Second Tuesday Lecture Series

Tuesday, October 13, 7:30 p.m. at Belair Mansion. Join 18th century poet Philippe Freneau as he reads his works. Free.

Children's Halloween Happening at Belair Mansion

Saturday, October 24, 7:30 p.m. at Belair Mansion Garden, 12207 Tulip Grove Drive. Wear a costume, hear a scary story, roast marshmallows, play games and get a treat! Free. For more information about this event, please contact the Ranger Office at 301-809-3086 or rangerdesk@cityofbowie.org.

For information on these, or any museum program, contact 301-809-3089 or 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.

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

Old Town Bowie Welcome Center, Tuesdays - Sundays, 10 a.m. - 4 p.m., 8606 Chestnut Avenue, 301-575-2488. Free.

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

The Prince George's Genealogical Library, Wednesdays, 10 a.m. - 7 p.m. (first Wednesday of the month 10 a.m. - 1 p.m.); and last Saturday of each month by appointment only, Tulip Grove Drive. Free. *For information or to make an appointment, please call 301-262-2063 during open hours. 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.

Computer Class Sign-Up

**Tuesday, September 8
11 a.m.**

Sign-up continues until classes begin on September 14. The session runs through November 6. Classes include Introduction to Computers, Beginners I, Beginners II, Email & Internet, Word Processing and Open Office.

Prince George's Community

College SAGE Program

**Tuesday, September 8
10 a.m. - 12 p.m.**

Sign-up for classes. The Center is fortunate to host an exciting variety of non-credit educational opportunities for adults age 60 and older. The State of Maryland sponsors this program through Prince George's Community College known as SAGE (Seasoned Adults Growing Educationally).

Active Adult 55+

Attention Grandparents

Bowie Youth & Family Services offers a six-week seminar series for grandparents beginning September 22, at 1:30 p.m. The one-hour weekly seminars will give grandparents the opportunity to share experiences, ideas and possible concerns. Advance registration is required. Space is limited.

Community Yard Sale

**Saturday, September 26
8:30 a.m. - 12 p.m.**

The Center hosts an outdoor community yard sale open to the public. Cost is \$10 per space. Bring your own table or sell items out of your trunk. Advanced registration required. Rain date, 10/3.

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.

"Neighbors Caring for Neighbors" Health Fair

**Saturday, October 10
11 a.m. - 3 p.m.**

This event hosted by Bowie Health Center, Bowie Physical Medicine, Dimensions Surgery Center, Larkin Chase Caring and Restorative Center and the City of Bowie will offer free health screenings and host more than 40 health-related exhibitors. The Fair will take place on the Bowie Health Campus located off Northview Drive. The event will have activities for the entire family. For more information, please call 301-618-6123.

Pep Rally Halloween Party

**Friday, October 30
11 a.m. - 2 p.m.**

Join us in your favorite sports team outfit. Or dress as a mascot, pompom or cheerleader. Lunch and entertainment is included. Sign up by Tuesday, October 20. Cost: resident - \$8, and nonresident - \$9.

CITY OF BOWIE
2614 KENHILL DRIVE
BOWIE, MARYLAND 20715

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Dr. Barbara Kunkle Receives the 2009 Popp Award

In June 1971, the Bowie City Council established an award to memorialize Mr. Malcolm “Skip” Popp, Jr. for his act of heroism in saving a Scout from flood-swollen waters while on a camping trip. The purpose of this award is to “foster a tradition and spirit for the kind of service to Scouting and love of neighbor” exemplified by Malcolm “Skip” Popp. The first medal was awarded to the Popp family in memory of Mr. Popp, who was also placed in the Bowie Hall of Honor on May 21, 2000.

Dr. Barbara Kunkle serves in the role of Chaplain for Troop 403, sponsored by Holy Trinity Episcopal Church, in which she has enthusiastically given far more time than expected to the boys and families of the troop. As a trained physician, she has served the local Order of the Arrow Lodge as Health and Safety Officer during weekend camping events, in spite of recurring health problems. As Youth Director at Grace Lutheran Church in Bowie she saw a need for Girl Scouts to be trained in First Aid and took on this responsibility by providing weekly sessions for several months. (Graduates of her training have put their skills to work on a number of occasions, assisting other students and an adult involved in a car accident.) Through these efforts, she has directly served many Boy and Girl Scouts in Bowie, and certainly serves as a role model for local young people.

Dr. Kunkle will be recognized by the City Council on Monday, **October 5, 2009**. A reception in her honor is planned for 7 p.m., prior to the 8 p.m. Council Meeting, in Room 204. For more information, please contact lstern@cityofbowie.org or 301-809-3068.