

# Bowie Spotlight

The Official Newsletter of the City of Bowie

January - February 2011

*Dear Friends and Neighbors,*

*As 2010 slips into history to be replaced by an exciting, but as yet undefined 2011, it would seem that taking a moment to reflect on our past as well as our future might be in order. Many of our early residents did a tremendous job in building on our history and by converting the Bowie development into the Bowie community. We enjoy many things today because of their vision and their efforts.*

*Bowie is a special place. Our houses of worship are home to some incredible clergy that help fill and support our lives. Our schools are noted for some wonderful teachers and a student body that is simply outstanding. Our active parks and sports fields provide opportunity and joy for thousands of our friends and neighbors. Our passive parks offer time to reflect and enjoy a quiet moment to think, to read, or just to talk with friends. Our fraternal and social organizations offer warm and comfortable gathering places where service and growth are important blocks of community life. All these parts combine to make Bowie a great place to live and raise our families.*

*But, above all else, Bowie has a sense of community and service to each other that is the envy of the region; and that spirit is never more evident than when a family experiences crisis. Bowie folks know how to pull together and navigate the greatest of challenges. And that is a treasure.*

*We are a blessed community with a definable and evident sense of purpose that comes from wonderful folks that have chosen to live here and to build on a solid history and a future limited only by our imagination. So, thanks Bowie. Thanks for being a remarkable hometown.*

*When you have a moment to yourself in the new year, please give a thought and perhaps offer a short prayer for our neighbors serving in the military forces of the United States and for their families. They are great Americans and we owe them a great deal.*

*On behalf of the entire City Council, Happy New Year!*

*G. Frederick Robinson, Mayor*

## Get Ready, Get Set ... Start Celebrating!

Anniversaries come and go...weddings, reunions, special events...but Golden Anniversaries only happen every 50 years. With that in mind, it's Bowie's time to celebrate a Golden Anniversary.

Fifty years ago, in October 1961, the first Belair at Bowie "settlers" staked a claim on a homestead in Bowie. There were no wagon trains, however – only moving vans and station wagons. There were no roadless prairies to cross – although Route 197 might have seemed like a wagon trail. There were no trees to fell or cabins to build – William Levitt had taken care of that by the time the settlers arrived. But, there was a pioneering spirit, a fellowship, amongst those Belair settlers that still exists today.

Beginning this spring, with the dedication and opening of Bowie's new City Hall, a celebration will begin and continue for a full year. And, while this celebration will hold the Golden Anniversary of "Belair at Bowie" at its center, it will be a celebration of Bowie's long and colorful history – from the very beginning, in an 1870's railroad town called Huntington City to the modern suburbs of 2011.

As a preliminary event, the City's Historic Properties Division will host a Photo Fair at Belair Mansion on **Sunday, January 9, 2011**, from noon – 4 p.m. Bring your photos – of that station wagon train, the Belair Shopping Center Turtle, farms and trains, holiday celebrations, people, places, kids playing ball – from all parts of Bowie. Staff will scan them on the spot and return – and you can snack on hot chocolate and cookies while you wait. Help archive ALL of Bowie's past. For information, call 301-809-3089.

Plans are underway for a year's worth of fun – exhibits, concerts, lectures, oral history, a house tour – even fitness events! Don't miss any of them – watch this newsletter and the City website for the calendar. Join us as we look back AND move forward into the next fifty years!

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**



## A Few Thoughts About Trees and Storms

All of us are hoping for a less intense storm season this winter after the experiences of last winter. While snow was the biggest issue, wind was a close second. Not only did the wind produce enormous snow drifts, in conjunction with the snow, the wind also caused trees to uproot and topple over as well as damage the canopy of many trees causing dangerous and unsightly outcomes. We all know that the winter is not the only time storms cause this kind of tree damage. Our well-known thunderstorm and hurricane seasons are also likely to cause this kind of tree damage from the combination of rain, lightening, and wind. Why I am reminding us of all this? I want to simply say that City staff is on standby; we are ready and willing to address these storms and the resulting damage in cooperation with you, the residents. So, here are a few suggestions as these storms come our way.

As soon as you spot a storm-related tree situation that you believe is hazardous or dangerous, contact City Hall at 301-262-6200 or you can call directly to our Parks and Grounds office at 301-809-2353. It is always best to talk to a "live person" rather than leave a message in an emergency situation. Time is often a critical factor to prevent injury or property damage, and timely resident reporting enables our emergency personnel to do the best, most efficient job in response to difficult situations. If you call after normal business hours, you will be connected to the City's answering service that will in turn contact the appropriate emergency staff member as soon as possible.

As problems arise, our staff will address each tree problem according to the following parameters: 1) Any tree damage occurring in the City right-of-ways will be summarily taken care of by our personnel including tree trimming, tree removal, and cleanup as necessary. 2) Any tree that falls and is blocking a City roadway or sidewalk (including private residence trees) will be addressed as soon as possible to clear the public roadway and/or sidewalk in order to restore safety to the damaged area. The resident would then be responsible for any other necessary tree trimming, tree removal, and/or clean-up on their own private property.

Here is additional useful contact information:

- Tree/Power Line Issues – Call BGE at 1-800-685-0123
- Power Outage Issues – Call BGE at 1-877-778-2222
- Tree Issues on M-NCPPC Park Land – Call 301-218-6800
- Tree Issues on Prince George's County Roads – Call 301-499-8530
- Tree Issues on Maryland State Highways (numbered routes) – Call 301-513-7300

Our staff is thankful for your cooperation and concern along the way, and we look forward to serving the community in the season ahead.  
Rick Kellner, Community Forester

## Winter Weather Reminder

With winter coming, please remember to remove your vehicles from the street if snow or ice is in the forecast. This will allow plows and/or salt and sand vehicles to more thoroughly treat your street.

The accumulation of snow and ice on City streets in a depth of two (2) or more inches constitutes a snow emergency. Parking of vehicles on City streets is prohibited during snow emergencies. The snow emergency remains in effect until the snow accumulation has been cleared. All main drives, hills and collector streets are treated and/or plowed first.

In the event of a snowfall of less than two (2) inches, all main drives, hills and collector streets are treated with salt and/or sand. Streets and cul-de-sacs that are flat or have only slight inclines with limited intersections are only treated in extreme icing conditions. Extreme icing conditions exist when ALL areas are coated with ice. An example would be an extended freezing rain event that coats roads, trees and power lines – often referred to as ice storms. During a snow or ice event only, it is acceptable to park your vehicle on your grass.

Each resident is responsible for removing snow and ice from the sidewalk in front of their home. To report hazardous conditions within the City of Bowie, please call 301-809-2344. More information about the City's snow removal program may be found on the City's website - [www.cityofbowie.org/snow](http://www.cityofbowie.org/snow).



## Please Keep the Sidewalks Clean and Safe

With snow inevitable this season, though we hope nothing like the “snowmageddon of 2010”, please keep in mind shoveling the sidewalks so people can get to their destinations safely. Removal of accumulation of snow or ice on the sidewalks is required within 48 hours after the cessation of falling snow. If you have a sidewalk in front of your house, it is your responsibility to clear it. If you live on a corner lot, you may have sidewalks in the front of your house, on the side, or even along your back yard. Don't forget to clear them all!

If you know your neighbor is out of town or incapable of clearing the sidewalk, please assist them so schoolchildren and pedestrians can get through safely. We appreciate your hard work to keep the sidewalks clean and safe this winter season.

## Protecting Your Pet During the Cold of Winter

As the temperature dips, the Animal Control Division would like to remind pet owners of a few items that will help keep their animals safe during the cold months of winter.

Maryland law stipulates owners must provide necessary protection for their pets from the weather. What is necessary for one animal may vary from the next. You may be able to put your Siberian Husky out in the back yard for a few hours even while it is cold, but your Chihuahua may not be able to brave the cold. Watch your pet for signs of shivering or discomfort. Animals used to being inside and protected from the weather are generally not conditioned to be outside in extreme elements. Owners should be attentive to their pet's needs and use their knowledge of their pet's breed, temperament and history to determine when it is not appropriate for their animals to be outside.

If your pet can handle the cold and will be outside for an extended period of time, that animal must have access to proper shelter. The shelter should be weatherproof (from wind, ice, rain and snow). The shelter should be of adequate size for the animal to turn around and stretch out, but small enough to maintain body heat. The shelter must have four sides, a roof, and a floor raised two to four inches off the ground. During the winter, non-absorbent bedding such as straw or wood chips must be used and kept dry.

Access to clean water is mandatory. In the winter months, owners may want to consider a heated bucket if their pet is outside.

In Bowie, animals may not be continuously chained to stationary objects. They may only be chained when a responsible person is home to ensure cruel or nuisance conditions do not occur. This includes ensuring an animal is not improperly protected from cold or inclement weather.

Also, remember to have your pet spayed or neutered. And microchip your pet for only \$15.

For additional information, please contact Bowie Animal Control at 301-809-3002 or [tdodge@cityofbowie.org](mailto:tdodge@cityofbowie.org).

## Bowie Youth Chorus

Registration continues through mid-January 2011 for the Bowie Youth Chorus. The Chorus meets on Wednesday afternoons from 5 to 6:30 p.m. at Bowie City Hall, 2614 Kenhill Drive. The Chorus is under the direction of Eleanor Minor. Young people in grades five through nine who live in Bowie or who attend Bowie's public or private schools and young people who are homeschooled are all invited to join the Chorus. There is no audition. Just come one, come all.

The Bowie Youth Chorus ended a very successful fall season with five performances in December that included singing for the Holiday Tree Lighting, and performances at the Bowie Senior Center, the Bowie Center for the Performing Arts, Patuxent Nursery, and at the National Christmas Tree on the mall in Washington, D.C.

Registration forms are available online or parents can register their young people for the Youth Chorus at the Department of Community Services window at Bowie City Hall, 2614 Kenhill Drive, Monday through Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.

For more information, please contact Community Services at 301-809-3011 or Annette Esterheld at [aesterheld@cityof-bowie.org](mailto:aesterheld@cityof-bowie.org).



## Young Person's Art Gallery



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

### January

Benjamin Tasker  
Middle School

### February

Bowie High School

## Art Notes

### Art Galleries

Make plans to visit all the Art Galleries at City Hall, 2614 Kenhill Drive, during the months of January and February 2011. There's a special treat in January for the City Hall Artist features three artists who are members of the City's Arts Committee – Nichelle Fullen, Margaret Suddeth and George Tuggle. Their exhibit will include photography and paintings. In February, the Southern Comforters Quilt Club will hang quilts of all sizes along the walls of City Hall. Because of the anticipated move in early spring to the new City Hall building, the exhibits in the Conference Room Gallery and the Visions of Bowie Gallery did not change, but if you haven't visited those galleries plan to do so in January or February when you visit City Hall.

### Arts Grants

The Arts Committee recently awarded a total of \$4,000 in Arts Grants to three arts groups. The grant criteria include a stipulation that the winning grantees provide an arts opportunity for the Bowie community. The three are:

**Annapolis Shakespeare Company:** The monies requested are to help support a production of William Shakespeare's "Twelfth Night" at the Bowie Playhouse in August 2011. Despite the Annapolis name, over half of the high school students in the program are from Bowie. The Annapolis Shakespeare Company plans to provide the community with an opportunity to experience classic theater.

**Chesapeake Chorale** is celebrating its 30th year anniversary with a special concert in June 2011 at St. Matthew's United Methodist Church, where they hold many of their performances. The monies will be used to help with expenses for this concert.

**Northview Elementary School** is seeking funds for an elementary ballroom dance program called "A Touch of Class." The program is based on the very successful program "Mad Hot Ballroom" that started in New York City. It is a 10-week ballroom dance program for 5th grade students. After learning dances like the fox trot and tango, couples compete for trophies. There will be a total of eight schools participating and the program culminates in a competition at the Bowie Center for the Performing Arts in January 2011.

*For more information about these items, please contact  
 Arts Specialist Annette Esterheld at  
[aesterheld@cityofbowie.org](mailto:aesterheld@cityofbowie.org) or 301-575-5601.*

## New Zoning Height Regulations for Fences

If you own a corner lot in Bowie, you should be aware of a recent change to the Prince George's County zoning laws pertaining to fences. The County now limits fence height to no more than four (4) feet, if the fence is located in the "front yard" or "side yard" as defined in the County Zoning Ordinance.

On many corner lots, the house does not face the defined "front" of the lot, which is identified by the shorter of the two lot lines along the streets. (Residents usually consider the area to the side of the house as the side yard, even if it happens to be the zoning front yard.) Prince George's County will not issue a building permit for a fence higher than four (4) feet on a corner lot, if the fence is located within a zoning front yard or side yard, unless the owner obtains approval of a zoning variance from the City. This new rule also applies to the replacement of existing fences that do not conform to the new law.

If you are interested in learning more about this requirement, please contact the Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission's Permit Review Section at 301-883-5941 or the City's Planning Department at 301-809-3047.

### Please Continue to Donate to the Bowie Food Pantry

The Community Outreach Committee would like to thank everyone for donations to the Bowie Interfaith Food Pantry and Emergency Aid Fund. The number of individuals and families having difficulty in the current economy continues to increase. Supplies must be available for those who are seeking assistance. Your donations are making a difference in the lives of many people, and are very much appreciated!

Help to keep the shelves stocked by making donations regularly, and encouraging friends, neighbors, coworkers to join in your efforts. Of most importance right now is nonperishable food items. The Food Pantry also accepts toiletries (toothpaste, soap, deodorant), baby items (diapers, wipes) and paper goods (tissues, paper towels and bathroom tissue). Monetary donations and grocery store gift cards are always welcome, as they help to purchase needed items! Tax deductible contributions may be made throughout the year. Checks should be written to the Food Pantry and sent to their address, Bowie Interfaith Food Pantry, (located at Christian Community Presbyterian Church) 3120 Belair Drive, Bowie, MD 20715.

The Pantry is open Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 9 to 11 a.m., as well as the second Tuesday of each month from 6 to 7 p.m.; however donations may be accepted at other times. There are also collection containers at City Hall and the Senior Center where you may drop nonperishable food and other items.

For more information, please contact the Pantry at 301-262-6765 or [bowiefoodpantry@gmail.com](mailto:bowiefoodpantry@gmail.com).

## Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

### Art Contest

The City is sponsoring its annual contest for school-aged children to encourage them to learn about the life and work of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

There are three contest categories: kindergarten through second graders can compete in a coloring contest; third through fifth graders can enter a poster competition; and middle school and high school students (grades 6-12) can compete in a graphic arts and photography contest.

Contest details and rules are posted on the City's website - [www.cityofbowie.org](http://www.cityofbowie.org) - and were sent to local schools in December. Cash prizes of \$25, \$50 and \$100 will be awarded to the winners in each category.

Contest finalists will be honored at the City's Martin Luther King, Jr. Program on Tuesday, January 18 at 7 p.m. at City Hall. The deadline for submission of entries is Monday, **January 10, 2011**.

For more information about the contest, call 301-809-3032 or email [ucooper@cityofbowie.org](mailto:ucooper@cityofbowie.org).

## Education Grants Awarded

Congratulations to the winners of the 2010 - 2011 Grants for Education! Sixteen projects were selected to receive funding out of a pool of twenty-six (26) applications. This year's winners represent ten different schools and will receive funds totaling \$12,450. Projects vary greatly in their purposes, but all offer enrichment for student learning experiences at their schools. This year's winners are:

Grant Title	School
Gift for Gifted Education	Benjamin Tasker Middle School
Playmate, Come Out and Play With Me	Chapel Forge Early Childhood Center
Propping Up Language and Social Skills	Chapel Forge Early Childhood Center
Energy at Play	Grace Christian School
Let's Get Cookin'	Grace Christian School
Big Book Bonanza!	Heather Hills Elementary School
Building a Generation of Readers	Heather Hills Elementary School
Grappling With Graphic Novels	Heather Hills Elementary School
Bullies Beware	Holy Trinity Day School
Creative Learning	Holy Trinity Day School
Trout in the Classroom	Kenilworth Elementary School
Introduction to Ceramics	Northview Elementary School
Reaching Reluctant Readers	Rockledge Elementary School
Science Club	Tulip Grove Elementary School
AG (agriculture) in the Classroom	Yorktown Elementary School
We Love Books: School Book Club	Yorktown Elementary School



## 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 funded 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](http://www.cityofbowie.org), or at City Hall. For more information, contact the Department of Community Services at 301-809-3011.

### **Maria Smith, Kindergarten Teacher at Whitehall Elementary School, is the October 2010 Teacher of the Month.**

According to her nomination, submitted by parent Cheron Cooper, Mrs. Smith is "everything you want and need a kindergarten teacher to be." "Creative, energetic and thoughtful," is how she is described. Her "compassion for teaching fosters confidence in her students." She takes great care in giving students what they need to be successful, whatever their level.

In Mrs. Smith's class, learning is fun - from doing "Tiggy Tiger Dance," to learning the letter "T" to being given time needed to "get their wiggles out" (which includes some gig-

gles, of course). She maps out a plan of whatever it takes to help her students to succeed!

Mrs. Smith has an exceptional connection with her students and with their parents as well. She is willing to sit and discuss their questions and concerns for as long as it takes!

Mrs. Smith was recognized at a Bowie City Council meeting in November.

### **Karen Cain, Second Grade Teacher at Grace Christian School, is the November 2010 Teacher of the Month.**

Her nomination came from student, Noemi Joachim, who feels that she is "not only MY favorite teacher, she's the favorite to many kids and even grown-ups!

She helps everyone and you can tell how much she loves ALL of her students, even after they graduate!" She always has a story to help her students understand the concepts. She is creative and does crafts, brings in eggs for students to watch as they hatch, dresses in costumes and hats, and, overall, makes learning fun!

Ms. Cain will be recognized by Council at a January meeting.

## Christmas Trees

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

## Bowie's Hall of Honor

### Accepting Nominations

In 1991, the Hall of Honor was developed to recognize those citizens of Bowie who have made "major and lasting contributions" to the City. The first inductees were honored in 1994.

A nominee to the Hall of Honor must: be deceased for at least one year as of the nomination deadline; have made both a major and lasting contribution to the City of Bowie; have been a resident of the City of Bowie either during the time of their contribution or at the time of their death.

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

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

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

The deadline to submit nominations for the 2011 Hall of Honor induction is **5 p.m. Friday, February 11, 2011** at Room 203 in City Hall. Nominations may also be submitted by email to [mcorley@cityofbowie.org](mailto:mcorley@cityofbowie.org).

For more information, contact Matt Corley, Special Events Coordinator, at 301-809-3078 or [mcorley@cityofbowie.org](mailto:mcorley@cityofbowie.org). Nomination forms are available at [www.cityofbowie.org](http://www.cityofbowie.org).

## 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.

### New Law Concerning Traffic Citations

#### Goes Into Effect January 1

An important change in the law regarding traffic citations goes into effect on January 1, 2011. Currently if you receive a traffic citation and you do not pay the fine, the District Court automatically assigns you a court date. Under the new law, it is the driver's responsibility to submit a request for a court date. After January 1, when a driver receives a traffic citation, the driver must do one of the following within 30 days or risk suspension of their license by the MVA - pay the fine, request a trial, or request a hearing on the sentence.

### Bowie Safe Speed Program Expanding to

#### Include MD Routes 450 and 197

The **Safe Speed Program** utilizes speed cameras to reduce vehicle speeds in marked school zones from the hours of **6 a.m. to 8 p.m. Monday through Friday** on Northview Drive and Belair Drive. In January 2011, the Bowie Police Department will expand the program to include camera operations on Route 450 in the area of Bowie High School and on Route 197 in the area of Rockledge Elementary. Notifications will be made through various media outlets and school organizations prior to the cameras being activated. Future sites, following County approval, will include Race Track Road in the area of Yorktown Elementary and Old Chapel Road in the area of Whitehall Elementary and Samuel Ogle Middle School.

## Rain Gardens: An Alternative to Traditional Landscaping

It's the middle of winter, but it's time to give some thought to what you will be planting in your yard this spring. How about a rain garden? A rain garden is a shallow depression with native landscaping that collects the first inch or so of rain runoff from your roof downspout, walkway, driveway, or other hard surfaces. The water in a properly designed and functioning rain garden will slowly infiltrate into the ground instead of being delivered to the storm drain all at once. Complete drainage of a well-maintained rain garden takes about 24 hours, virtually eliminating any potential for mosquito breeding.

With their ever-growing popularity, rain gardens are among the easiest and most cost effective ways to reduce residential stormwater pollution. Rain gardens decrease the need for watering and fertilizing, create habitat for butterflies and birds, increase curb appeal, and can increase groundwater recharge by up to 30% more than the same area of conventional lawn. Of course they also decrease the amount of polluted runoff to the street and storm drain system, which is frequently delivered to local streams without treatment!

It is important to note that rain gardens are not suitable for every yard, and specific design, planting and maintenance requirements should be followed to ensure proper functioning. Various state, federal and private agencies provide grant funding that may cover up to the full cost of construction/installation. The City would like to start a rain garden program but needs to be sure there is interest from the community. If you would like to attend a rain garden workshop this spring to learn more or if you know you would like to install a rain garden, please contact the City's Watershed Manager, Tiffany Wright, at [twright@cityofbowie.org](mailto:twright@cityofbowie.org) (put "Rain Garden" in the subject line) or 301-809-3043.

## What Can A Rain Barrel Do For You?

We all know that when it rains, it pours, and with the right rain barrel(s), all that rainwater can be saved. This is called rainwater harvesting, and it is important because it decreases the high demand for domestic water. Residential irrigation can account for up to 40% of water consumption. By collecting rainwater and storing it in a rain barrel you'll have water for future use, whether it's for watering the garden or just keeping it handy for emergency situations. An easy way to conserve water and money is by using a rain barrel.

To read the rest of this article and to find out how you can purchase a rain barrel, visit [http://www.cityofbowie.org/Committees/environmental\\_advisory.asp](http://www.cityofbowie.org/Committees/environmental_advisory.asp).

## New Feature

### Learn More About Recycling

Each issue will have a "Recycling Quiz" question to help you learn more about recycling in Bowie. Visit the Green Bowie page at the City's website - [www.cityofbowie.org/GreenBowie](http://www.cityofbowie.org/GreenBowie) - to get the answer and learn how you can help us Go Green in Bowie by recycling.

## Challenge Yourself With Our "Recycling Quiz"

You've just finished a delicious carryout pizza from your favorite local restaurant. What do you do with the box?

**Answer:** See [www.cityofbowie.org/GreenBowie](http://www.cityofbowie.org/GreenBowie).



## National Anthem and "Voice of Bowie" Auditions

The City will hold open auditions for individuals or groups to perform the National Anthem at City special events and for those interested in being the stage announcer at the Memorial Day Parade, Bowiefest, 4th of July and the International Festival.

Auditions will be held in the Studio at City Hall on **Saturday, February 26, 2011** beginning at 10 a.m. for the National Anthem. Participants must be prepared to perform the National Anthem a cappella for a judging panel. Auditions for the Voice of Bowie will begin at approximately 12:30 p.m. Candidates will be asked to read from a prepared script for a judging panel. The chosen performer(s) will be asked to perform on the date of the special event and on the rain date that is scheduled for that event.

For more information or to schedule an audition, please contact Special Events Coordinator Matt Corley, at 301-809-3078 or [mcorley@cityofbowie.org](mailto:mcorley@cityofbowie.org).



## Bowie Ice Arena

301-809-3090

**Birthday Parties on Ice** Have your next birthday party on ice at the Bowie Ice Arena. Party package includes: admission, skate rental, pizza, soda and the private party room for a 2-hour public session. The fee for City of Bowie Residents is \$150 for up to 10 people. Parties book quickly, so please call the Ice Arena to check availability. For additional information, see the City's website at [www.cityofbowie.org](http://www.cityofbowie.org) (select Leisure Activities).

**Group Lessons** Series 3 Group Lessons will begin February 3, 2011. Registration will be held from January 27-February 2 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. There are special discounts for beginners, homeschool skaters and families. Space is limited so register early. Private lessons are also available. Please call 301-809-3090 for further information.

**Public Session Schedule** The Ice Arena offers daily public skating. Please call 301-262-6200 or view the calendar at [www.cityofbowie.org](http://www.cityofbowie.org) (select Leisure Activities) for the monthly schedules. Group rates, family session discounts and disc jockey sessions are offered monthly.

## City of Bowie Gymnasium 10th Anniversary Celebration Open House Friday, February 4, 2011 6 - 9 p.m.

Games, Music, Entertainment,  
Refreshments, Celebrity Guest Appearances  
and More!

Free and open to the public.

For more information, contact the Gym at  
301-809-2388.

### 2 For 1 Admission to a Regular Public Session

#### Bowie Ice Arena

Not valid with any other discount or offer.  
Not Valid during DJ Session.

Expires 2/28/11

### \$5 Off Series 3 Group Lesson Registration

#### Bowie Ice Arena

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

Expires 2/2/11

## Bowie Youth & Family Services

301-809-3033

Bowie Youth & Family Services (BYFS) is one of the State of Maryland's 19 Youth Services Bureaus and has been serving the City of Bowie since 1973. BYFS offers counseling for families with children living in the home who are under the age of 18. Groups are offered periodically for those who want guidance with parenting skills; social skills for young children; helping your children while you as parents are going through divorce or separation; and an ongoing group for high school girls.

### Counseling

Family counseling services are provided free to residents within the corporate limits of the City of Bowie and on a sliding fee scale to those residing outside these boundaries. No medical assistance or insurance is accepted. BYFS staff is composed of master's level clinicians with extensive training in family counseling. Families are encouraged to call to make an appointment. An initial intake will be done either by phone or in person. Call 301-809-3033 for more information and to be put on our call-back list for services.

### Groups

There is a small fee of \$50 for groups where there are separate parent and child sections, and \$40 for groups where only one section is required. Call for information on any of the following:

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

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

**My Family and Me Separation/Divorce Group** – Two groups, one for the parent and the other for the children ages 6½-10. Exploring stressful life events using games, crafts, discussion for the kids, and helping parents learn about listening and problem-solving techniques. Groups begin in February. \$50

**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. Begins in January. \$40

### Teen Job Bank

The TEEN JOB BANK is a valuable resource for teens residing within Bowie who are looking for a way to make a little extra cash. Teens between 13 and 18 years of age are critically needed. The winter season brings in lots of calls for snow shoveling. If you are a teen or know a teen who may be interested, please let them know of this opportunity. Forms can be found online at the City's website - [www.cityofbowie.org](http://www.cityofbowie.org) - or call 301-809-3033 for forms to be mailed.

## Mentors Needed for Teen Mentoring Program at Bowie High School

Volunteers, men and women, are needed for the City's Bowie Prevention Network, Teen Mentoring Program. Volunteers spend one hour weekly, usually during lunch, with a student at Bowie High School. Through this program, students receive the support of a caring adult and the mentors receive the satisfaction of helping students build personal confidence and strategies to navigate the challenges of the teen years and success in high school.

The Bowie Prevention Network and the Teen Mentoring Program have been helping teens at Bowie High School for more than eight years. The need for teens to experience and benefit from significant, positive adult relationships has never been greater. All Mentors complete an application (available on the City's website - [www.cityofbowie.org](http://www.cityofbowie.org)), participate in an interview, fingerprint and background checks, as well as training.

If you are interested, please contact Rhonda Simon, Mentor Program Coordinator at [mentor@cityof-bowie.org](mailto:mentor@cityof-bowie.org), or Andra Berry, Prevention Coordinator, Bowie Youth & Family Services at 301-809-3033.

## Bowie Playhouse Presents



### Sordid Lives -- 1/21 - 2/5

*This is an outrageous "black comedy about white trash" says playwright Del Shores. The show, winner of 14 drama league awards including best production brings a comedy that was nominated for over 30 awards during its long run in Los Angeles. The ensemble cast of Sordid Lives puts a comedic twist on a story of unconditional love and acceptance. The many characters' lives entwine as they converge on Texas for a funeral. This play is for ADULTS ONLY. The subject matter and language is for mature audiences. Produced by Bowie Community Theatre. Performances are at 8 p.m. on Fridays and Saturdays. Matinees are at 2 p.m. on Sundays. For tickets, visit [www.BCTheatre.com](http://www.BCTheatre.com) or call 301-805-0219.*

### HARVEY -- 2/11 - 2/26

*When Elwood P. Dowd starts to introduce his imaginary friend "Harvey," a six-and-a-half foot rabbit, to guests at a society party, his sister, Veta, has seen as much of his eccentric behavior as she can tolerate. She decides to have him committed to a sanitarium to spare his daughter, Myrtle Mae and their family from future embarrassment. The hilarious comedy is a classic. Many will remember the film version with Jimmy Stewart as the character Elwood P. Dowd. Produced by Prince George's Little Theatre. Performances are at 8 p.m. on Fridays and Saturdays. Matinees are at 2 p.m. on Sundays. For tickets, call 301-937-7458.*



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.

## News of the City Museums



### Mark Your Calendar

#### Bowie History Photo Fair

**Sunday, January 9, 12 - 4 p.m.** at Belair Mansion. As a preliminary event to the coming Belair 50 celebration, the Historic Properties Division is hosting a Photo Fair at the Mansion. Bring your photos – your 1961 station wagon, Boys Club, Banana Splits on the roof, Old Bowie people and places, the Belair Shopping Center Turtle, celebrations and special events – to the Mansion between noon and 4 p.m. We'll scan them while you enjoy cider, cookies and touring the Mansion! You'll get them back the same day – and we'll have the beginning of Bowie's new photo archive. Questions? Contact us at 301-809-3089 or [museumevents@cityofbowie.org](mailto:museumevents@cityofbowie.org).

#### “Twelfth Night and Other Celebrations” Brown Bag Lunch Lecture

**Monday, January 10, 12 p.m.** at Belair Mansion. Explore early American celebrations while you munch lunch! Bring a brown bag lunch, coffee and tea provided. Free.

#### “Project Lead Coffins” Second Tuesday Lecture

**Tuesday, January 11, 7:30 p.m.** at Belair Mansion. Dr. Timothy Riordan discusses the excavation and analysis of the 17th century lead coffins discovered in Saint Mary's City. No reservations required. Free.

#### Brown Bag Lunch Lecture

**Monday, February 7, 12 p.m.** at Belair Mansion. Topic to be announced. Bring your lunch, coffee and tea provided. Free.

#### Second Tuesday Lecture

**Tuesday, February 8, 7:30 p.m.** at Belair Mansion. Topic to be announced. No reservations required. Free.

*For information on these, or any museum program, please call 301-809-3089 or email [museumevents@cityofbowie.org](mailto:museumevents@cityofbowie.org).*

## Hours of Operation

#### Belair Mansion,

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

#### Belair Stable Museum,

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

#### Old Town Bowie Welcome Center, Tuesdays - Sundays,

10 a.m. - 4 p.m., 8606  
Chestnut Avenue, 301-575-  
2488. Free.

#### Bowie Railroad Museum,

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

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

#### 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.**

#### The Prince George's Genealogical Library,

Wednesdays 10 a.m. - 7 p.m.  
(first Wednesday of the  
month 10 a.m. - 1 p.m.),  
12219 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 of age and older.

## SAGE Registration

Through a partnership with the Prince George's Community College SAGE program, seniors can choose from a variety of over 70 classes held at the Senior Center each week. Classes include: Art, Finance, Health & Fitness, History/Social Studies, Humanities, Languages, Music, etc. It is time to register for the Spring Semester which will begin the week of February 7. A description of each class and registration information is available at the Senior Center.

## AARP Tax Preparation

Wednesdays,

February 2 - April 13

Volunteer tax preparers from AARP will be at the Center. Call the Center from 1 – 2 p.m., Monday – Friday to make an appointment.

# Active Adult 55+

## Trains On Display

Ted Tuck's train garden is back at the Center for all to enjoy. Grandparents are encouraged to bring their grandchildren to experience this delightful display!

## A Celebration of Friendship

Monday, February 14, 12:30 - 2 p.m.

Everyone is invited to the Center's "Membership Appreciation Day". This annual event is an opportunity to celebrate friendship and diversity. There will be live entertainment and light refreshments. Join us!

## Fireside Chat

Tuesday, February 15, 12:30 p.m.

In recognition of Black History Month, Information & Referral Specialist Gloria Gaddy will highlight the life and music of Mavis Staples. We will celebrate how this Rock & Roll Hall of Famer and soul/gospel legend's life has impacted the world. Through her new Anti-album, You Are Not Alone, she now emerges with new energy.

## Fashion Show

Tuesday, February 22, 12:30 p.m.

Models from the Center will showcase fashions right out of their own closets. Member Rose Foreman will coordinate the event. Inward beauty and charm will radiate outward during this enchanting show. Join us!

**Bowie Senior Center, 14900 Health Center Drive**

**301-809-2300, [www.bowieseniorcenter.org](http://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.

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BOWIE, MARYLAND 20715

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## Residential Customer Local

### CITY COUNCIL

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### Upcoming Events

#### **Bowie Historic Photo Fair**

*Sunday, January 9, 2011  
12 - 4 p.m., Belair Mansion*

#### **Martin Luther King, Jr.**

#### **Art Contest Deadline**

*Monday, January 10, 2011  
5 p.m., City Hall*

#### **City Gymnasium 10th Anniversary**

#### **Celebration Open House**

*Friday, February 4, 2011  
6 - 9 p.m. City Gymnasium*

#### **National Anthem and**

#### **"Voice of Bowie" Auditions**

*Saturday, February 26, 2011  
10 a.m. and 12:30 p.m., respectively, City Hall.*

## Applicant Interviews for City Council Vacancy Scheduled for January 8, 2011

The City Council will interview 25 applicants for its vacant At-Large Council seat on Saturday, January 8, 2011 beginning at 9 a.m.

Originally, the applicants were to be interviewed at a Special Meeting on the evening of December 13. However, given the unprecedented large applicant pool, the Council changed the date in order to avoid some candidates having to be interviewed at midnight or later.

The City Council vacancy was created on November 15 when Councilmember Geraldine Valentino-Smith resigned after being elected to the Maryland House of Delegates. The individual selected to fill the vacancy will serve until November 2011, when the next City election takes place. The City Council consists of a Mayor, two At-Large Councilmembers and four Councilmembers, each representing one of the four Council Districts. Councilmembers serve for two-year terms. Applicants for the vacancy had until Friday, December 3, 2010 at 5 p.m. to apply for the position.