

Bowie Spotlight

The Official Newsletter of the City of Bowie

March - April 2011

Take a Look at the New City Hall

Later this spring, Bowie will take a giant step forward as the headquarters of City government moves to a new location behind Bowie Town Center. This new building will be the first time in the 95 years that Bowie has been an incorporated municipality that a space has been designed and built specifically for the purposes of running City government. City Hall has been in the former Foxhill Elementary School since 1978. Prior to that time, government offices were located at Belair Mansion and in its earliest days, meetings of the Bowie Town Commissioners took place at the Knights of St. John Hall or at various homes in Old Town Bowie.

Current plans are for staff to move from City Hall on Kenhill Drive to the new location on a weekend in mid-April. Shortly after the move, the City Council will officially open the building with a dedication celebration. The event will take place on a Saturday morning and will be open to the public. Tours of the building will be offered to those who are interested on that day.

In designing the building, the architectural firm of Grimm + Parker aimed for a building that would represent the community spirit of Bowie and that would complement what was already in place nearby. The result is a three-level building that liberally uses stone and glass to convey a sense of openness, but also continuity and tradition.

The Bowie Police Department, with its current force of almost 50 officers, will be located on the lower level of the building and will have its own entrance and parking lot for employees and visitors. This will be a vast improvement over the trailers the Department currently occupies behind City Hall.

The main level will be visually appealing with a sundial that can be seen from Excalibur Road and an attractive lobby that will provide easy access to the services most needed by City residents. These include Animal Control, Code Compliance, Recreation, and water and sewer payments.

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Looking Back at Levitt Bowie

It's hard to believe 50 years have passed since Belair's first residents "settled in." Settle in again, in a comfortable seat at the Bowie Center for the Performing Arts on March 30 at 7 p.m., as Dr. James Jacobs of the National Park Service offers a retrospective on the 50-year evolution of a planned community – Belair at Bowie. Dr. Jacobs' interest in the Levitt product/concept is long-term – as a student at George Washington University he participated in the 2000 Belair at Bowie/Levitt Study. Take an armchair trip to the M Section – down Memory Lane! For information, call 301-809-3089 or email museumevents@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
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The new City Hall facility is expected to meet the space needs of City government for the foreseeable future in an inviting, modern and energy efficient manner. During the planning and design phase, City officials and the architects set out to incorporate as many green strategies into the building's design as were practical and cost effective. These include a living roof, use of natural lighting and recycled materials wherever possible, and energy efficient heating and air conditioning systems. These efforts should help the City achieve a Silver LEED certification for green technology. LEED certification is a nationally recognized process of rating structures for their use and commitment to environmentally friendly building practices.

Most City offices now located on Kenhill Drive will move to the Excalibur Road location. The only major exceptions are the television studio and Bowie Youth & Family Services. The family counseling operation will remain on Kenhill Drive and spread out a little to provide more privacy and counseling space for the counselors and their clients. The Comcast office will also be staying put in its present location at the rear of City Hall. Community meeting space will also be offered at the Kenhill Drive facility.

Phone numbers for City offices are expected to remain the same, despite the move. The address of the new City Hall is 15901 Excalibur Road, Bowie 20716. Look for details about the City Hall Dedication in local papers and on our website in the next few weeks.

Bowie Portal Sundial

If you've driven past the new City Hall building on Excalibur Road, you might wonder about the large circular concrete pad in the front driveway area. The 16-foot pad will be the location of the Bowie Portal Sundial, a piece of public art commissioned by the City of Bowie.

Sundials have been around since ancient Egypt and measure time by the position of the sun. Most people are familiar with small garden sundials that cast a shadow on a flat surface marked with the hours of the day. As the sun's position changes, the time change is indicated by a shadow on the sundial.

The Bowie Portal Sundial is a monumental, window-style, vertical sundial. The sundial is made of bronze and frosted glass. It stands over 15 feet high atop two stainless steel pillars which create a doorway, hence the word "Portal" in its name, because a portal is a doorway or gateway that's large. The space between the steel columns is approximately three feet wide which is enough for someone to walk through. At the base of the steel pillars there will be benches decorated with images of children playing and race horses. The height will allow the dial to catch sunlight above the long winter shadows of the City Hall building, while the glass will allow the dial to be read from both sides. The ground beneath the sundial will be a 16-foot compass rose created by hundreds of pieces of colored tile.

The sundial will be installed in late March and will take approximately seven to ten working days to put together. The Bowie Portal Sundial is the work of artists Gino and Judith Schiavone of Taos, New Mexico.

Do Not Fear! Spring Is Almost Here!

In a few short weeks, Spring will peek at us, things will start to get green, and the outdoors will get warmer and more appealing! Spring is always the time when most of us think about sprucing up the landscape with new plants and seasonal maintenance. So, if you want to get a head start, here's a checklist I often use:

Lawn/Turfgrass:

- Remove leaves and debris from all lawn and landscape areas as early as possible.
- Perform a soil test and follow recommendations for applying lime for correct pH adjustment and for a beneficial fertilizer formulation anytime when the ground is not frozen.
- Apply lime according to the soil test as early as possible when the ground is not frozen a week or two before fertilizing.
- Apply a slow-release lawn fertilizer with crabgrass control on the lawn in early Spring (between March 21st and April 15th).
- Apply a broadleaf weed control with or without fertilizer in May or June to control dandelions, clover, chickweed, etc.

Landscape Plantings:

- Prune deadwood and misshapen growth from landscape shrubs and trees.
- Edge planting beds and tree rings with a spade, remove debris, and apply shredded hardwood mulch to a depth of 2-3 inches, being careful not to overdo it and not to pile mulch up against the stem of any plants.
- If soil tests or plant appearance warrants plant fertilization, there are many options. Choose an organic slow-release material that is designed for the specified plant material in your yard.
- If weeds have been a noticeable problem in your mulched areas, consider the use of a specially designed "pre-emergent" herbicide to control the germination of new weed seeds while you are in the process of mulching your landscape areas. Apply this material after reading the product label before weeds begin to grow.
- Having thought through what, if any, plants and flowers you intend to add to the landscape in consideration of our geographical zone and your immediate environment, try to install hardy trees, shrubs, and perennials as early as possible (prior to bud break), and plant annual flowers after the threat of frost is generally over.

So, hope these thoughts move us all to work outside and enjoy the beauty. Spring is almost here! Don't forget **Arbor Day** in the City of Bowie will be **Saturday, April 16, 2011** at Acorn Hill Park. Please come join us. See you there! Rick Kellner, Community Forester

Art Gallery Exhibits for the Month of March

Young Person's Art Gallery - St. Pius X Regional School

City Hall Gallery - Retrospective of City Hall Artists

Both galleries are located at City Hall. The gallery hours are 8:30 a.m. to 9 p.m. Monday through Thursday, 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Friday, and 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. on Saturday. For more information about the galleries, contact Annette Esterheld at 301-575-5601 or aesterheld@cityofbowie.org.

Budget Review Begins in April

City Council begins reviewing the proposed **FY 2011-12 Budget and Capital Improvements Program** in April. This Budget will take effect on **July 1, 2011**. The public is invited to attend all of the Council Meetings, Public Hearings and Budget Worksessions on this Budget. All meetings begin at 8 p.m. in the Council Chambers at City Hall (April 11 meeting at Kenhill Drive, remainder at Excalibur Road).

April 11, 2011	Budget Introduction and Budget Worksession #1 - General Fund Revenues, CIP and Capital Projects Fund
April 18, 2011	Public Hearing
April 21, 2011	Budget Worksession #2 - Public Works, Water and Sewer Fund
April 25, 2011	Budget Worksession #3 - Community Services
May 2, 2011	Public Hearing
May 3, 2011	Budget Worksession #4 - City Manager's Office, Police, Finance and Nondepartmental
May 9, 2011	Budget Worksession #5 - Planning and Economic Development, Information Technology, Equipment Acquisition Fund, General Fund Summaries, Appendix and Wrap-up
May 16, 2011	Adoption of Budget and Capital Improvements Program

Bands4Cans: Music Can Feed the People

The City of Bowie through its Arts and Community Outreach Committees is joining with the local teen band, Eleven Thirteen, and the Charis Center for the Arts, to sponsor a concert of youth musicians on **Friday, April 15, 2011** at the Bowie Center for the Performing Arts, 15200 Annapolis Road, to provide funds and cans of food for the Bowie Food Pantry. Several bands and musicians will be performing during the evening. The house opens at 6 p.m. and the first band will perform at 7 p.m. Tickets are available at the door only. Nonperishable food donations will be accepted. All proceeds will go to the Bowie Food Pantry. For more information, contact Andra Berry at aberry@cityofbowie.org or 301-809-3080.

What's New at Bowie Access

TV? It Could Be You!

If you haven't looked at Bowie Access TV recently, give us a look on Comcast Channel 77 and Verizon Channel 11. The producers work hard along with the Bowie Studio staff to present quality local programming. There are a variety of shows on business, religion and education.

Most recently, we have added two new shows with great entertainment value. Love's Golden Age features classic old songs that make you want to sing long after the show is over. Rising Spivey pairs music with guests who have wonderful messages of empowerment. You will be inspired.

Future attractions for this year will be programs on cooking, pets, and computers. Have you always wanted your own show? Do you have a unique viewpoint to share? We are always looking for new producers. Are you ready to be the next star? Please contact Jan Butler, the Executive Director with Bowie Community Media Corporation, at 301-809-3057 and we will make it happen.

TV Judges Needed

Judges are needed for a Blue Ribbon Panel for the Dotty Awards, honoring local television productions for Bowie Community Television. If interested, contact Jan Butler at 301-809-3057.

Scholarships

The City offers scholarships through its Education and Arts Committees for high school students who live in the corporate limits of the City of Bowie. This year's deadline for scholarship applications is Monday, **March 28, 2011**.

Students interested in the Arts Scholarship can apply on their own, but schools are asked to nominate students who meet the eligibility requirements for the Excellence in Education Scholarships.

To be eligible for the Excellence in Education Scholarship, schools may nominate only students who have a minimum cumulative grade point average of 3.5. Students interested in this scholarship should contact the guidance counselors at their school to express interest in being considered for this nomination.

To be eligible for the Arts Scholarship, students must have a cumulative 3.0 grade point average and also have applied to college to major in a visual or performing arts field.

Scholarship applications have been sent to area high schools attended by Bowie students and the high school guidance departments have information regarding both scholarship programs. The Arts Scholarship application is also on the City's website, www.cityof-bowie.org, or at City Hall in the Department of Community Services. For more information on the two scholarships, contact Annette Esterheld at 301-575-5601 or aesterheld@cityofbowie.org.

Youth Photo Contest

"My Favorite Place in Bowie" is the theme for this year's Youth Photo Contest. Young people, ages 6 to 18, who live within the municipal limits of Bowie or who attend a school in Bowie, are eligible to enter the contest. Photo submissions are due June 3, 2011.

The contest is divided into two age divisions, youth, ages 6-12, and teens, ages 13 – 18. Both divisions will offer money prizes, \$100 for first place and \$50 for second place.

Photos can be black and white or color and should be 8 inch by 10 inch prints. All photos must be printed on photo paper and should not be digitally altered or enhanced. Photos will be judged on quality (composition, exposure, focus and lighting) and creativity.

More details about the contest will be available in the next *Spotlight* and on the City's webpage, www.cityofbowie.org. For more information, please contact Arts Specialist Annette Esterheld at aesterheld@cityofbowie.org or 301-575-5601.

What's Bouncing at the Bowie Gym?

Here are some events planned for the Bowie Gymnasium during the months of March and April 2011.

American Red Cross Blood Drive - Wednesday, March 30, from 2 - 8 p.m.

2011 Community Summer Camp Fair - Saturday, April 2, from 10 a.m. - 3 p.m. The Camp Fair is free and open to the public. It presents a great resource for parents providing information about programs and activities for their children during the summer recess. If your summer camp/program would like to reserve a space at this year's event or for additional information on the activity, please contact the Gym at 301-809-2384.

Washington Wizards/Mystics Basketball Camp - April 15 - 22, 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. for boys and girls ages 8-17 years. Registration is \$275 through 3/5/11, and \$300 after that date. Experienced staff will consist of former pro players, former and current college coaches, as well as local high school coaches. Each camper will receive professional instruction, an official camp T-shirt and a free ticket to a Washington Mystics home game. For more information, contact David Neal at 202-527-7503 or dneal@monumentalsports.com.



Teachers of the Month



If your child attends an eligible school and you feel he/she has a teacher deserving recognition, please complete a Teacher of the Month Nomination form. Forms, which provide the names of eligible schools, are available on the City website at www.cityofbowie.org or by calling 301-809-3013. Teachers selected will receive a \$100 U.S. Savings Bond and lunch with their Principal. Awards are provided by generous donations from BB&T Bank and Main Street Catering.

Karen Cain of Grace Christian School is the November

2010 Teacher of the Month. Come to Ms. Cain's class and you might see her in costume one day; have the opportunity to name newly hatched eggs "Black Beauty or Chick-Filet"; or possibly enjoy Igloo Day, whether or not there is snow. One of her second grade students nominated Ms. Cain for teacher of the month by saying "when I found out she was going to be my teacher, I screamed with excitement"! Her Principal enthusiastically responded to a request for comments by saying, "Ms. Cain is a wonderful teacher who loves her students and always finds creative ways of instruction. She is a "joy to work with". Thank you, Ms. Cain, for caring about the young people in our community.

Jonathan Jones of Whitehall Elementary School is the

December 2010 Teacher of the Month. The parent who nominated Mr. Jones said, "almost every student at Whitehall Elementary would say he is their favorite teacher but his impact goes far beyond just being fun and popular. He also teaches his students how important it is to eat healthy and exercise through his program 'Let's Get Moving'." A further example of his commitment to student fitness is his "Walking Club" which meets rain or shine several days a week before school starts. Whitehall's Principal was pleased to say that "Mr. Jones is an extraordinary teacher. He has revolutionized our Physical Education program. He takes pride in ensuring that both students and staff understand the importance of healthy living." We are fortunate to have Mr. Jones teaching in our community.

Youth Leadership Bowie

The Youth Leadership Bowie (YLB) program is designed to provide young people with experiential leadership opportunities while exposing them to career paths. Networking and relationship building are key components of this year-long program that motivates participants to get involved in their community. The program runs from September through May. Participants meet one day per month for a group activity and complete a community service project. Students who live in the City or attend Bowie High who will be sophomores and juniors in the Fall of 2011 are invited to contact Bowie City Hall at 301-809-3013 or the Greater Bowie Chamber of Commerce at 301-262-0920 for additional information or to request an application. All applications must be received at the Chamber office by 4 p.m. on Friday, **May 6, 2011.**

Memorial Day Parade

The City of Bowie Memorial Day Parade will take place on Saturday, **May 28, 2011** beginning at 11 a.m. There is still time to sign your organization up to participate in this fun and patriotic event! For more information or to download an application, go to the City's website, www.cityofbowie.org, click on "Leisure Activities" in the upper right-hand corner and scroll down to "Special Events" or contact Matt Corley at 301-809-3078 or mcorley@cityofbowie.org.

It's Spring Cleaning Time!

As spring cleaning begins in homes across the City, how about taking a much needed break to join a Stream Team and help clean your neighborhood streams? Each Spring and Fall, the City sponsors a stream cleanup where volunteers from across the City and beyond meet at various streams picking up trash and debris from the stream channel and buffer area. This year's cleanup will be held **April 2, 2011**, 9 a.m.-12 p.m., rain or shine. As we get closer to the event, visit the City's website for details on what streams will be targeted and where the meet-up places will be.

We invite schools, churches, civic groups, homeowners' associations, clubs and businesses to work in their local streams. It's only a few hours out of one Saturday in April, and the experience is wonderful! It's a great time to spend with your family outdoors enjoying the fresh air and teaching your children about the importance of protecting our environment. Prince George's County Public School students who work can earn Student Service Learning hours. Adult volunteers and the parents/guardians of minor volunteers must complete a release form prior to the cleanup. The City will provide all supplies (gloves, bags, hand sanitizer, etc.), water and either a handy, reusable grocery tote bag or aluminum water bottle as a thank you. You just need to bring sturdy shoes (or boots), long sleeves, and a desire to keep Bowie green!

We are always in need of leaders, as we would like to expand our efforts. The additional work of a leader is fairly minimal - meet once (maybe twice) in March to help identify what streams need to be cleaned and be the point of contact at your site the day of the cleanup. If there's a stream in your neighborhood that you want cleaned, this is your chance! To volunteer or for more information about any of the City's Green Bowie programs, contact the City's Watershed Manager, Tiffany Wright, at twright@cityofbowie.org or 301-809-3043 or visit www.cityofbowie.org/GreenBowie.

Green Expo

The Bowie Lions Club, City of Bowie and the Greater Bowie Chamber of Commerce are joining forces to sponsor a Green Expo.

The Green Expo is a three-hour, free admission, family-friendly event, featuring local environmental agencies, nonprofits, and local and regional businesses who offer green products or services. The Expo will take place at the Bowie Parks and Grounds building located at 3106 Mitchellville Road on **April 2, 2011** from 1 to 4 p.m.

Tour the Parks and Grounds building, the first green building built in Bowie, and see many of the features that will become standard in future construction and get some ideas that you can incorporate in your home. Learn about a greener lifestyle, while reducing your carbon footprint, from local businesses wanting to share their products and services.

Challenge Yourself With Our "Recycling Quiz"

You're about to get the kitchen of your dreams and replace your appliances. What do you do with them?

Answer: See www.cityofbowie.org/GreenBowie.

From the City's Environmental Advisory Committee:

Blackout Curtains Save Energy

Blackout curtains aren't just for blocking light. 33% of home heating and cooling energy loss occurs via your windows. Blackout curtains can help insulate your home, saving you money in heating and cooling and the energy savings can also assist in reducing greenhouse gas emissions associated with energy production. Additionally, as blackout curtains are much heavier than normal curtains, you can expect them to last a long time. To read more about this, visit http://www.cityofbowie.org/Committees/environmental_advisory.asp.



Animal Control

Spay/Neuter

Over breeding of pet animals has produced far more dogs and cats than there are homes available and the results are tragic. Millions of loveable pets must be euthanized simply because there are no homes available for them. To avoid adding to the tragic overpopulation problem, you should have your pet spayed or neutered.

Neutering has many benefits for you and your pet. Your pet will be more content at home and around people. Roaming and over aggressiveness are often linked to the desire to breed. Altered pets are calmer and more affectionate. Your pet will be healthier and less likely to become injured in fights with other animals. You won't have to put up with staining or spraying. If your pet is a female, you won't have to deal with males when it is in season, or find homes for the offspring should your pet become pregnant. Spay and neuter is a surgical procedure which prevents pets from reproducing. You can make an appointment with your regular veterinarian or check with the below listed agencies for information on low cost spay and neuter services.

Humane Society of Charles County	301-645-8181
Waldorf Well Pet Clinic	301-885-0263
Washington, DC Humane Society	202-88-ALTER (202-882-5837)
SPCA of Anne Arundel County (for neuter of male cats)	410-268-4388

Barking Dogs

What should you do if your neighbor's barking dog annoys you? Dogs bark for several reasons. They bark to be playful, to gain attention, to warn or alert you, or from boredom. Dogs can be heard from several hundred feet away and unnecessary barking can disturb the public peace. If your neighbor has a barking dog that disturbs the peace and serenity of your neighborhood, there are several actions you can take.

Contact your neighbor. Often dog owners are not aware their dog is disturbing others. Telephone the dog owner if you feel comfortable doing so. Be polite and do not threaten them. Voice your concerns and explain when you've heard their dog barking and how it is creating a nuisance to you and others. Keep a log of the date, time and duration of the barking dog. Contact the Bowie Animal Control Office at 301-809-3002; a nuisance warning letter can be delivered to the property.

Take additional steps if the barking continues. File an Affidavit with our Animal Control Office for the issuance of a Municipal Infraction. The responsible party will be issued a \$100 municipal infraction. You may also file a complaint with the Prince George's County Commission for Animal Control; the contact number is 301-883-6009.

For more information, contact the Bowie Animal Control Office at 301-809-3002 or tdodge@cityof-bowie.org, or visit our webpage at www.cityofbowie.org/Government/CommunityServices/animalcontrol.asp.

Code Corner

Building Permits, Contractors, the City Code and You

It is very important for any property owner to obtain a City of Bowie building permit prior to constructing, replacing or erecting any sign, building or structure. Some common projects which require building permits include: erecting a sign, building an addition, converting a garage into living space, enlarging a driveway or creating a parking pad for vehicles, building a deck, building or replacing a fence, and placing a second storage shed on your lot. Remember, you, the property owner, are responsible to ensure that proper building permits have been acquired.

If you use the services of a contractor, read your contract carefully. Often the contract will state who is responsible for getting the permit. Do not rely upon a contractor's word that a permit is not required. You need to verify this yourself.

Do not begin construction prior to obtaining the building permit! There is a significant burden placed upon the property owner when a permit has not been obtained. The owner may be subject to civil fines, a "Stop Work" order may be issued, and a costly court ordered abatement or injunction may be issued if the City must seek compliance in the District Court.

You may inquire whether a building permit is necessary by contacting the Prince George's County Department of Environmental Resources, Permits and Review Division at 301-883-5784, or the Bowie Code Compliance Office at 301-809-3008 or eedwards@cityofbowie.org. Please do not be negligent or take a chance when a simple telephone call is all that is required to prevent a costly mistake.

Trash Cans, Trash Bags and Trash Receptacles

Bowie City Code, Chapter 10, regulates the type, storage and placement of trash cans, trash bags, recycling containers and other trash receptacles. Here are some requirements:

- Refuse containers must be equipped with handles and "tight-fitting covers".
- Strong storage bags may be used.
- Refuse containers may not weigh more than fifty (50) pounds when filled.
- Refuse containers are to be covered at all times.
- The containers are not to be stored in front of the residence.
- Refuse containers may be placed at the curb no earlier than 5 p.m. the day before the regular scheduled pickup and must be removed by 10 p.m. the day of collection.

Please follow these regulations. No one wants to see your trash cans in front of your house, or at the curb for days, or to have your refuse blown onto a neighbor's property. Avoid a fine. Please handle your trash properly and keep Bowie clean and attractive. For more information, please contact the Code Compliance Office at 301-809-3008 or cransom@cityofbowie.org.

Prescription Drug Take Back

April 30, 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.

The Bowie Police Department and the U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration will host a *Prescription Drug Take Back* on Saturday, **April 30, 2011** from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. There will be two drop-off locations - **City Hall** located at 2614 Kenhill Drive and the **Senior Center** located at 14900 Health Center Drive. For information, contact the Bowie Police Department at 301-575-2480.

4th Annual Business Recognition Program

The City of Bowie, in partnership with the Greater Bowie Chamber of Commerce, is sponsoring the 4th Annual Business Recognition program. Nominations are sought in the following categories:

Small Business of the Year – This award is for a small business that has demonstrated the qualities that make for a prosperous and growing organization in Bowie. (2010 Honoree - Cetrone's)

Entrepreneur of the Year – This award is for the Bowie business entrepreneur who has demonstrated outstanding leadership and tenacity in managing all facets of business to include growth in profit and employee numbers coupled with such factors as degree of innovation, development of a creative and ingenious product or service, exceptional selling techniques, and extent of expansion into local markets. (2010 Honoree - Cindy Freland)

Business of the Year – This award is for a Bowie company that has demonstrated high-level accomplishments that are a benchmark for other businesses that include financial success, visible community involvement, professional employee work environment, and will excel in customer satisfaction, strategic planning, and business development. (2010 Honoree - Widmann Financial Services)

Community Service Award – This award is for the Bowie or vicinity business that has demonstrated a strong record of involvement in the Bowie community. (2010 Honoree - Walmart Store Bowie)

Members of the community are encouraged to submit the name of a local business, along with a one page narrative describing why the business is being nominated. Nominations may be submitted in a letter or on a form obtained from one of the contacts below. Nominations must be received no later than **Friday, April 8, 2011** and should be sent to City of Bowie, Department of Economic Development, 2614 Kenhill Drive, Bowie, MD 20715. Inquiries may be directed to the Economic Development Director, John Henry King, at jhking@cityofbowie.org or to the Greater Bowie Chamber of Commerce Executive Director, Kelly Pierce, at kelly@bowiechamber.org. Businesses selected will be honored at a luncheon on Friday, May 13, 2011. Tickets for the event will be available from the Greater Bowie Chamber of Commerce.

City Beautification Awards

The City, in cooperation with Soroptimist International of Bowie-Crofton, is now accepting nominations for the **16th Annual Beautification Awards**. Nominations can be made by anyone for a home or townhouse, business, school, or specialty garden that reflects the beauty of Bowie. You can nominate your home or business, or nominate anyone else that you think has gone the extra mile to make an area of Bowie stand out. All nominations must be for locations within the corporate limits of Bowie. For more information or to obtain a nomination form, visit the City's website at www.cityof-bowie.org, or contact Matt Corley at 301-809-3078 or mcorley@cityofbowie.org.

2011 Bike to Work Day

Friday, May 20, 2011

Two Bowie Pit Stops:

Bowie Town Center Food Court &

Old Town Bowie Fire Station, 9th Street

Gear up for Bike to Work Day 2011! It is a free event full of fun, food and prizes. Join thousands of area commuters and show your support for bicycling, by taking part in a clean, fun and healthy way to get to work. For more information, contact Frank Stevens in the City's Planning Department at 301-809-3053 or fstevens@cityofbowie.org.



Hydrant Flushing Begins in April

The Bowie Public Works Department will begin the annual fire hydrant flushing and testing program in areas served by City water. Hydrant flushing will occur during daylight hours from approximately 9 a.m. - 2 p.m., according to the following schedule:

April 11 and 12	Buckingham, Derbyshire and Forest Drive
April 13 and 14	Somerset and Bowie Forest
April 15 and 18	Tulip Grove
April 19	Foxhill and Long Ridge
April 20 - 22	Kenilworth
April 25	Heather Hills
April 26 - 29	Meadowbrook
May 2	Gradys Walk and Glenridge
May 3	Chapel Forge
May 4	Victoria Heights and Race Track Road Townhouses
May 5	Idlewild
May 6	Yorktown and Overbrook
May 9	Whitehall
May 10	Rockledge

Because some discoloration of your water may occur, clothes washing is discouraged on your scheduled day. If your clothes become discolored, keep them wet and rewash them using a rust remover. Free rust remover will be available at City Hall and the Public Works offices.

The water is safe for drinking and bathing, even though it may be discolored. The discoloration is a result of rust and sediment buildup in the water lines and is not harmful. The discoloration should clear in approximately 24 hours. However, since all the water mains are interconnected, when flushing of hydrants in adjacent sections is performed, it may affect your water.

For more information, please call the Public Works Department at 301-809-2336.



Bowie Ice Arena

301-809-3090

Group Lessons A four-week series of lessons will be held during the month of April. Classes will be offered for children ages 18 months of age through adults. Please call the Ice Arena for additional information.

Summer Camps Registration for summer skating camp begins March 15. Camps will be held during the months of July and August. Half-day camps will be offered for children ages 3 - 6, and full-day camps will be offered for children ages 6 - 13. Specialty camps will also be offered for hockey and figure skating. For a detailed listing of camp offerings, please call the Arena at 301-809-3090 or visit us online at www.cityofbowie.org.

Public Skating Schedule

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

Schedule is subject to change, so please call 301-809-3090 to confirm.

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

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

Admission Rates:

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

Bowie Youth & Family Services

301-809-3033

Counseling Services are offered to families with children in the home who are under 18 years of age and live in the City of Bowie or the greater Prince George's County area. Often concerns surface within families that can be eased with the help of a professional. Issues may include anger, bullying, depression, anxiety, family conflict, grief, decision making, school problems, social skills, suicidal thoughts, and the impact of separation/divorce. Families are encouraged to call to initiate services. We have highly qualified and experienced Master's level counselors that will work with you in developing appropriate solutions.

Groups - Groups are offered at various times throughout the year. There is a 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 the following:
My Family and Me Separation/Divorce Group – Two groups, one for the parent and the other for the children ages 6½-11. Exploring stressful life events using games, crafts, discussion for the kids and helping parents learn about listening and problem-solving techniques.

Girls Count! – For high school teen girls. Every girl struggles with complex issues in today's world. Teens discuss topics that matter to them and gain tools to cope and support each other.

Active Parenting - Parents focus on learning practical skills to help develop cooperation and responsibility in their child.

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.

Social Skills – Children, ages 8-11, benefit from extra practice with their social skills including making friends, initiating or joining conversations, and appropriate social body language (eye contact, etc.).

Happy Moms, Healthy Babies – Young mothers (ages 17-22) and their babies (up to 18 months old) meet weekly to discuss the joys and the difficulties of motherhood. Join other women in similar situations to share knowledge and provide support.

Teen Job Bank - **Bowie teens**, want some extra spending money? Go online or call 301-809-3033 for an application to sign up to help citizens with jobs like babysitting, snow shoveling, lawn and yard work, housework, etc. You must be 13-17 years old to sign up. **Need help, Bowie citizens?** Call us to get names of teens that are willing to help you for a fee.

Parents of Teens

Who is the most powerful influence in your child's life? You, that's who! Help your teen stay safe and make healthy choices by:

Talking and listening regularly. Spring is a great time to discuss upcoming social events, proms, graduation and what your teen is looking forward to, also to anticipate problem situations and to help your teen create a plan to navigate the risks they encounter.

Being directly involved in your child's everyday world. Like every other important role we play in life, "showing up" is the first big step. This doesn't mean never missing an event as much as being very present in the life of your teen. Make the effort to connect.

Making it clear that you do not want him or her drinking or using drugs. Be clear about your position and create safe boundaries for your teen.

Setting limits. Strategize to help your teen succeed. Don't wait for the consequence phase of parenting to let your teen know how important they are to you or how much you care about their safety as well as their happiness.

Don't be afraid to get help from others. Bowie Youth & Family Services has Family Counselors and a Prevention Coordinator with lots of educational and informational resources to help you to find success in communicating with your teen. For more information, contact Andra Berry at aberry@cityofbowie.org or 301-809-3080.

The Malcolm "Skip" Popp

Award

The Community Outreach Committee is currently accepting nominations for the Malcolm "Skip" Popp Award. Scouts and Scout Leaders of troops within the City who have performed "extraordinary and distinguished community service" are eligible. Nominations will be accepted only from an official scouting group. Individuals interested in nominating a scout or scout leader are encouraged to contact the appropriate scout unit to make a recommendation. Nominations are due no later than **Monday, April 11, 2011.**

Nomination forms, with the guidelines, may be obtained on the City's website at www.cityofbowie.org or at City Hall. Questions may be directed to eedwards@cityofbowie.org or 301-809-3013.

Picnic Season is Rapidly Approaching

Spring is just around the corner, so it's time to begin to think about planning that family reunion or picnic with old friends that you keep talking about. Both Allen Pond and Whitmarsh Parks offer excellent locations to host a picnic for groups of every size. Prime picnic dates are booking quickly, so stop by the Recreation office now to place a picnic reservation for the Spring, Summer, and Fall months.

The City's picnic reservation process allows residents to reserve picnic sites up to 1-year in advance of the picnic date, and non-resident picnic reservations to be placed up to 6-months in advance of the picnic date.

So don't delay if you plan to hold a picnic in either Allen Pond Park or Whitmarsh Park in the upcoming months, come to Bowie City Hall now and place that reservation. Reservations are accepted in person Monday through Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. at City Hall. For specific rental information and to check availability, visit the City's website at www.cityofbowie.org or call 301-809-3011.

Bowie Playhouse Presents



BE MY BABY -- 3/11 - 3/26

Take a rascally Scotsman and an uptight English woman, both in their late 50s, who have one thing in common – his ward marries her niece. Life gets interesting when the young couple decides to adopt a new born baby and John and Maude have to travel to California to get the child and bring her safely to Scotland to the young couple. There they learn some startling lessons about life and love. Presented by 2nd Star Productions, www.2ndstarproductions.com, 410-757-5700 or 301-832-4819.

THE COCKTAIL HOUR -- 4/1 - 4/6

John works as an editor in a New York publishing house, but aspires to become a full-time playwright. He has written a play called The Cocktail Hour. The only problem is the play portrays his parents Bradley and Ann, a couple who are very conservative and old school. John visits his parents to get their permission to produce his play and the ensuing discussion over dinner and, of course, cocktails soon turns into a shouting match and family skeletons come out of the closet.

Presented by Bowie Community Theatre, www.bcttheatre.com, 301-805-0219.



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

News of the City Museums



Mark Your Calendar

“18th Century Spy Stories - Espionage in the War for Independence” Second Tuesday Lecture - Tuesday, March 8, 7:30 p.m. at Belair Mansion. Take a look at undercover activities with Anne Caussin Henniger. Free.

“Sampler Samples” Brown Bag Lunch Lecture - Monday, March 14, 12 - 1 p.m. at Belair Mansion. Museums Curator Samantha Dorsey discusses 18th century needlework. Free.

Kids Kaboose - Tuesdays, March 15 and April 19, 10:30 a.m. - 12 p.m. at the Bowie Railroad Museum. Railroad fun at the Railroad Museum for ages 1 - 10. **Please Note: Kids Kaboose has moved to Tuesdays.**

Encampment - The Queen’s Own Loyal Virginians - Saturday and Sunday, March 19 and 20, 12 - 4 p.m. at Belair Mansion. Look around camp and discuss your loyalties with some 18th century soldiers. Free.

“According to the Ladies” - Saturday, March 26, 12 - 4 p.m. at Belair Mansion. Celebrate Women’s History Month with four ladies from Belair’s past. Discuss their different lives in the 18th, 19th and 20th centuries. Girl Scout patch available for \$1 per scout. Free.

“Looking Back at Levitt Bowie” - Wednesday, March 30, 7 p.m. at Bowie Center for the Performing Arts. See Page 1 for more information.

Teddy Bear Tea

Saturday, April 9, 4 p.m. at Belair Mansion. Honor America’s favorite furry friend at tea...bring your favorite bear! \$20 per person. Reservations and advance payment required.

Brown Bag Lunch Lecture - Monday, April 11, 12 - 1 p.m. at Belair Mansion. Munch your lunch and discuss a historical topic. Free.

Second Tuesday Lecture - Tuesday, April 12, 7:30 p.m. at Belair Mansion. Topic to be announced.

Remembering Bowie’s Religious Heritage - An Evening of Oral History - Wednesday, April 20, 7 - 8:30 p.m. at Belair Mansion. The Bowie Heritage Committee invites residents to share their memories about the community’s religious heritage. Feel free to bring photos and other memorabilia. Refreshments will be served. Free.

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

Intergenerational Event

**Tuesday, March 1
6:30 p.m.**

Grandparents and grandchildren, come and enjoy quiet story time, cookies and cocoa. Call the Center for more information and to register.

St. Patrick's Day Party

**Thursday, March 17
12:15 - 1:45 p.m.**

Lite refreshments will be served. \$3 for residents and \$4 for nonresidents. RSVP by March 12.

Healthy Heart

**Thursday, March 31
10:30 a.m.**

Cardiologist, Dr. Valeriani Bead will discuss "Healthy Heart, Healthy You" - understanding healthy lifestyles for heart disease prevention. All are welcome.



Computer Center Open House

Wednesday, March 23, 10 a.m. - 12 p.m.

The Computer Center has a brand new look! All of the computers have been replaced with new Dell XPS-9000 computers, with Microsoft Windows 7 installed as the operating system. The old CRT monitors have been replaced by new 20" HP LCD monitors. The upgrades are part of the City's continuous efforts to keep the Senior Center's facilities current and vital. If you want to take a look, join us at our Computer Center Open House. If you would like to register for the next class session which runs May 9 - July 1, sign up **April 5 at 10 a.m.**

AARP Driver Safety Program

The AARP Driver Safety Program is a classroom driver refresher course designed for motorists age 50 and older. The fee for AARP members is \$12; for non-AARP members the fee is \$14. The following are the scheduled dates: Wednesday, April 20; Thursday, April 21; Wednesday, May 25 and Thursday, June 2. Register at the Senior Center.

Amelia Earhart "Dreams Take Flight"

Friday, May 6, 12:30 p.m.

History Alive presented by actress Mary Ann Jung. Amelia Earhart was much more than just a courageous aviatrix. Join us as we explore her life. The cost is \$3 for residents and \$4 for nonresidents. Lite refreshments will be served.

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.

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ISAAC C. TROUTH
TODD M. TURNER

Upcoming Events

Education & Arts Scholarships

Deadline

*Monday, March 28, 2011
5 p.m., Bowie City Hall*

American Red Cross Blood Drive

*Wednesday, March 30, 2011
2 - 8 p.m., Bowie City Gym*

Arbor Day Celebration

*Saturday, April 16, 2011
10 a.m., Acorn Hill Park*

Prescription Drug Take Back

*Saturday, April 30, 2011
10 a.m. - 2 p.m., City Hall (Kenhill
Drive) and Bowie Senior Center*

Back to the 60's

Coming soon to a museum near you! Not the movie...the exhibit!

In celebration of the Golden Anniversary of Belair at Bowie, the Belair Mansion is planning to host an exhibit, "Back to the 60's", featuring memorabilia from Belair at Bowie's earliest days.

Do you have a high school yearbook – from any school in the Bowie region? Are your love beads or bell bottoms still in the drawer? How about your lovely melamine dishes or stainless tableware from the era? How about a psychedelic poster or a Beatles album cover? What do you have stored from the "Summer of Love"? What object do you have saved that takes YOU back to the 60's?

The City Museums Division is seeking items for a fun exhibit during the late Spring/early Summer of 2011. Help us get "back to the 60's" by loaning your objects to the exhibit. For further information, or if you've already got a loan in mind, please contact Samantha Dorsey, Museum Curator, at 301-809-3097 or museumevents@cityofbowie.org.

Alternate versions of this newsletter are available upon request.

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