

Bowie News Flash

March 2015

News

County Meeting on New Regional Medical Center and Primary Healthcare Plan

County Executive Rushern L. Baker, III and the Prince George's County Planning Department will host a community-wide meeting on the new Regional Medical Center and the final report on the Primary Healthcare Strategic Plan. The meeting will take place on Saturday, March 7, 2015 from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. in the Largo Student Center at Prince George's Community College, located at 301 Largo Road, Largo. Registration and refreshments are from 9 to 10 a.m. Register today at 301-952-4487 or www.pgplanning.org/Projects/PHCSP.

Daylight Saving Time Arrives on March 8th

Don't forget to change your clocks on March 8 when we "spring forward" to Daylight Saving Time. It's also a great time to check your smoke detectors and carbon monoxide detectors to make sure they're working properly!

Bowie Solar Co-op Information Session

Thinking about solar? Attend an information session on Saturday, March 14 at 10 a.m. to learn more about joining a MD SUN Solar Co-op in Bowie. Based on the same principle as buying in bulk, the co-op will purchase solar systems together. The group will select a single contractor to install systems, but each participant owns his or her system. By going solar as a group, members can typically save 20% to 30% off the cost. Members also have the support of the co-op throughout the process instead of having to go it alone. The co-op is being organized by the City of Bowie, Community Power Network (CPN), and CPN's project MD SUN. Anyone located in Bowie or a neighboring community in MD is welcome to join. The session will take place at City Hall in Room 243.

Education and Arts Scholarship Deadline Approaches

Monday, March 16 is the deadline to submit applications for City-funded college Education and Arts Scholarships. Details about the scholarships are available in the Guidance Departments of high schools attended by City residents and also on the City's website at www.cityofbowie.org/scholarships. For more information, contact Annette Esterheld at aesterheld@cityofbowie.org or 301-575-5601.

Use Water Wisely Workshop

On Monday, March 23 from 7 - 9 p.m. at City Hall, come learn how you can help the environment by saving water at home both indoors and outdoors. This event is being held by Bowie's Green Team. For more information, contact Kristin Larson at klarson@cityofbowie.org or 301-809-3044.

Malcolm “Skip” Popp Award

In 1971, Bowie resident Malcolm “Skip” Popp, lost his life while rescuing Scouts on a troop outing. In his honor, an award is given by the City to recognize Scouts and Scout leaders who have performed “extraordinary and distinguished community service, within scouting organizations located in the City of Bowie.” To learn more about this award or to obtain a nomination form, go to www.cityofbowie.org/popp or contact Sally Hein at 301-809-3014 or email shein@cityofbowie.org. The deadline for nominations is Friday, March 27, 2015.

Nominate an Outstanding Bowie Business

The City of Bowie and the Greater Bowie Chamber of Commerce are celebrating the Seventh Annual Business Recognition Awards program on Wednesday, May 13, 2015. The Awards program was created to recognize and celebrate those businesses in the Bowie community that exhibit exemplary efforts to provide outstanding services, products and facilities to all its customers. Nominations are sought in the following categories: Business of the Year, Small Business of the Year, Green Business of the Year, Incubator Business of the Year, Entrepreneur of the Year and Community Service Award. Nomination forms can be found at www.cityofbowie.org/bizawards. Please mail nominations to City of Bowie, Attention: John Henry King, Economic Development Director, 15901 Excalibur Road, Bowie, MD 20716 or fax to 301-809-2315 or email jhking@cityofbowie.org. The nomination deadline is Friday, March 27, 2015.

Perfect Time to Plant a Tree - \$50 and \$100 City Rebates Available!

Tree rebates of \$50 and \$100 are available on a first come, first served basis for City residents who would like to purchase up to two trees at Patuxent Nursery (2410 Crain Hwy, Bowie). There are 10 species of trees eligible for rebates as well as reduced delivery/planting rates for program participants. For more information, see www.cityofbowie.org/treerebate. Applications are available at the nursery.

BGE Offers Billing Options in Response to Record Cold Temperatures

BGE is offering customers budget billing and other payment options to help better manage winter bills. BGE offers immediate enrollment in its Budget Billing program, which spreads payments out over a 12-month period, making larger bills from increased energy usage more manageable. BGE is also offering customers with higher-than-normal bills the option of enrolling in the company’s retroactive budget billing option, which will incorporate their current winter bills (up to \$500) into their budget billing amount. For more information, contact BGE at 1-800-685-0123 or www.bge.com or email MyHomeRep@bge.com.

It's Time to Register for Summer Ice Skating 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/icearena.

Annual Drinking Water Quality Report

The 2014 City of Bowie Water Quality Report is now available. Please go to www.cityofbowie.org/wqr to view it and learn more about the source and quality of your City of Bowie drinking water. If you would like a paper copy of the report mailed to you, please call 301-809-3060.

Teen Mentoring Program

A mentor is an adult volunteer who spends time with a child in a supportive and friendly environment. If you are at least 21 years of age and reside in the Bowie area, you have the power to change your life and the life of a teen. The Bowie Youth and Family Services (BYFS) Teen Mentoring Program can help you do just that. For more information, contact Rhonda Simon, Volunteer Coordinator, at mentor@cityofbowie.org or call BYFS at 301-809-3033.

Volunteers Needed for City Committees

Volunteers are needed for the following City Committees: Administrative Review Board, Arts Committee, Community Outreach Committee, Diversity Committee, Board of Elections, Environmental Advisory Committee, Ethics Commission, Information Technology Committee and the Board of Personnel Appeals. For more information, visit the City's website at www.cityofbowie.org/committees or call the City Clerk at 301-809-3029.

Community Recreation Committee Seeks Youth Member

The CRC seeks a youth member for a one-year term. Must be a high school-aged Bowie resident. For more information, please contact the City Gym at 301-809-2388.

Art Gallery at City Hall

The current City Hall Art Gallery Exhibit features the work of talented Bowie students artists until March 20th. Visit the exhibit during City Hall open hours: Monday - Thursday 8:30 a.m. - 10 p.m., Friday 8:30 a.m. - 5 p.m. and Saturday 8:30 a.m. - noon.

Events

3/2 – Regular City Council Meeting 8 p.m. at City Hall.

3/2 – Hall of Honor Nomination Deadline. The Hall of Honor recognizes those individuals who have made a major and lasting contribution to Bowie. Read about the nomination criteria at www.cityofbowie.org/hallofhonor.

3/10 – Second Tuesday Lecture at Belair Mansion – Restoration of the Old Maryland Senate Chamber 7:30 p.m. For more information, please contact 301-809-3089 or museumevents@cityofbowie.org.

3/12 – Diabetes Self-Management Workshop at the Senior Center – 9:30 a.m. - 12 p.m. For more information, call the Center at 301-809-2300.

3/14 – Solar Co-op Information Session at City Hall, Room 243 – 10 a.m. Learn how this Co-op organized by the City of Bowie and others can help you start saving money with solar energy.

3/16 – Regular City Council Meeting 8 p.m. at City Hall.

3/17 – Kids Kaboose - 10:30 a.m. - 12 p.m. at Bowie Railroad Museum. Railroad fun for ages 1 - 10. Free. For more information, please contact 301-809-3089 or museumevents@cityofbowie.org.

3/17 – BGE Savings Tips at the Senior Center – 12:30 p.m. For more information, call the Center at 301-809-2300.

3/18 – American Red Cross Blood Drive – 1 - 7 p.m. at the Bowie Gymnasium. To register, please contact the Red Cross at 1-800-Red Cross or www.redcross.org/Donation.

3/21 – Weed Warrior Work Day – 9 a.m. - 12 p.m. at Whitemarsh Park. As an invasive, non-native plant, English ivy spreads quickly and easily, and is very destructive to native ecosystems. The City of Bowie's Green Team needs volunteers to help remove English ivy from Whitemarsh Park. This is an outdoor activity that requires cutting the ivy vines at eye-level and foot-level, then pulling them back about two feet from the base of the tree to bag them. This is a great Student Service Learning activity. Visit www.cityofbowie.org/weedwarriors for more information. To participate, register by contacting Kristin Larson at 301-809-3044 or klarson@cityofbowie.org.

3/21 – A Day for the Ladies – 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. at Belair Mansion. Spend a day in the 18th century. \$30/\$25 for the Friends of Belair Estate. Reservations required. For more information and reservations, please contact 301-809-3089 or museumevents@cityofbowie.org.

3/23 – Use Water Wisely Workshop – 7 - 9 p.m. at City Hall. Learn tips for saving water at home at this free workshop. For more information, contact Kristin Larson at klarson@cityofbowie.org or 301-809-3044.

3/26 – Health Presentation at the Senior Center: Obesity & Cancer – 10:30 a.m. For more information, call the Center at 301-809-2300.

3/26 – Capital Reeds Performance at the Senior Center – 6 p.m. Enjoy this premier reed trio! For more information, call the Center at 301-809-2300.

3/27 – Popp Award Nomination Deadline. The Popp Award recognizes Scouts and Scout leaders who have performed “extraordinary and distinguished community service, within scouting organizations in the City of Bowie”. Visit www.cityofbowie.org/popp for more information.

3/27 – Bowie Business Awards Nomination Deadline. Nominate your favorite Bowie business for recognition in one of six categories. Visit www.cityofbowie.org/bizawards for more information and nomination form.

3/28 – Stream Team Cleanup – Volunteer to help cleanup streams around Bowie. Contact Tiffany Wright for more information at twright@cityofbowie.org or call 301-809-3043.

3/28 – Kids’ Passport to Maryland History Program at the Bowie Library – 11 a.m. - 3 p.m. Play games, churn butter and meet Revolutionary War soldiers. For more information, please contact 301-809-3089 or museumevents@cityofbowie.org.

3/30 – Toddler Time Travel – 10 - 11 a.m. at Belair Mansion. Young time travelers ages 2 - 4 are invited for a trip to the past. For more information, please contact 301-809-3089 or museumevents@cityofbowie.org.