



BOWIE SPOTLIGHT

The Official Newsletter of the City of Bowie

Phone: 301-262-6200

www.cityofbowie.org

May 2015

Celebrate Bowie Heritage in May

Bowie Heritage Day, on **May 17**, marks Bowie's rich history and horseracing legacy. With the first residents arriving in the early 18th century, Bowie's "people" history is long. With the arrival, in the 1750's, of our first famous race horses, history continued to be made. A railroad town was born in the late 19th century, and a modern suburb – which continues to grow today – brought excitement and new life in the 1960's! As we approach the City of Bowie's formal Centennial Celebration in 2016, visit a City Museum and discover our past! We're more than just 99 years!! Enjoy pony rides and music at Belair Stable, a puppet show at Belair Mansion, model trains at the Railroad Museum...all free...all fun...from **12 - 4 p.m.** at all sites on **Sunday, May 17**. For more information, please contact the Museums Office at 301-809-3089 or museumevents@cityofbowie.org.



Children's Mental Health Matters!

Bowie Youth and Family Services joins the State of Maryland in recognizing **National Children's Mental Health Awareness Week May 3 - 9**. Just as everyone needs to have healthy habits in order to maintain physical health, individuals and families can benefit from using healthy strategies to handle their emotions. Some tips for parents:

- 1) Take time to listen. Older children and teens often communicate best in informal settings, such as during car rides or while working together around the house.
- 2) Encourage your children to express their feelings.
- 3) Help your children learn how to solve problems. Let them know that you are there for support.
- 4) Regularly tell and show your kids that you love them.
- 5) Practice ways to manage your own stress. Children and teens are often troubled when they sense that their parents are overwhelmed.
- 6) Know when to seek assistance. If you are worried about how your child is coping, don't hesitate to consult with his/her guidance counselor or a mental health provider.

Bowie Youth and Family Services can help. Call us at 301-809-3033.

Code Corner - Building Permits

One of the most costly errors a homeowner can commit is the "failure to obtain a building permit." Besides the fines and fees associated when an illegally erected structure is discovered, the expense to correct the error will raise the total costs substantially. Both Prince George's County and City of Bowie permits are required for widening a driveway, converting a garage or basement, replacing a fence, building an addition, installing solar panels, adding a second shed and other home improvement projects. For more information, contact the Code Compliance Office, 301-809-3011, acrowley@cityof-bowie.org and visit our webpage, www.cityofbowie.org. Information on County building permits can be found at www.princegeorgescountymd.gov or by calling 301-636-2000.

Weed Warrior Work Day

5/3, 2 - 5 p.m. Bowie's Green Team is in need of volunteers to help remove English ivy from Whitmarsh 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 a great Student Service Learning activity. To participate, please register by contacting Kristin Larson at 301-809-3044 or klarson@cityofbowie.org. Children age 14 and younger must be under the direct supervision of a parent/guardian or troop leader at all times, and no volunteers under age 16 can use tools but may participate by pulling and bagging vines.

Bike to Work Day

Friday, **5/15**, 6:30 - 8:30 a.m. at two Bowie Pit Stops - Bowie Town Center Food Court and Old Town Bowie Fire Station. A free event full of fun, food and prizes. For more information, contact Frank Stevens at 301-809-3053 or fstevens@cityofbowie.org.



Mosquito Control Program

The mosquito control program began with spring larviciding in March and will continue into September. The program consists of larviciding (control of immature stages of the mosquito), public education about the Asian tiger mosquito, and adult surveillance with possible spraying on Tuesday (North Bowie) or Wednesday nights (South Bowie).

Larviciding involves the treatment of the immature stages of the mosquitoes in the stagnant water where they occur. Known breeding areas in the community will be checked approximately every three weeks and will be treated if necessary.

Each neighborhood has been scheduled for adult mosquito surveillance and possible spraying (see www.cityofbowie.org for schedule). This will begin

the end of June and continue through September.

The tiger mosquito has become a major pest in this area. Mosquitoes can breed in any standing water. To prevent breeding areas, water should be changed weekly in birdbaths and wading pools, and daily in pet dishes. Gutters should be cleaned at least twice a year. Other water-holding containers should be disposed of or stored upside down.

For help with identifying breeding areas around your home, or to report stagnant water near your property, contact the Public Works Department at 301-809-2336 or ebenkert@cityofbowie.org. More information is also available from the Maryland Department of Agriculture Mosquito Control Office at 301-422-5080 or at www.mda.state.md.us.

Prescription Drug Take Back Saturday, May 16, 2015, 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. at the Bowie Police Department, 15901 Excalibur Road. Dispose of unused/unwanted prescription drugs in a safe manner. For more information, call 301- 575-2480.

Memorial Day Parade

5/23, Begins at 11 a.m. at the Bowie High School Annex (3021 Belair Drive), turns right on Belair Drive and continues right onto Sussex Lane, then makes another right onto Stonybrook Drive. The parade then turns left onto Sage Lane. Sussex Lane and Acorn Hill Park, are great locations to view the parade. The reviewing stand will be located on Stonybrook Drive at Acorn Hill Park, along with the concession stands and restrooms. For more information, 301-809-3078 or www.cityofbowie.org.

Farmer's Market

Opens! **5/17**, 8 a.m. - 12 p.m. in the Bowie High School Parking Lot (15200 Annapolis Road), each Sunday through October 25, 2015. For more information, 301-809-3078 or mcorley@cityofbowie.org.

June Jam Skate

Competition 6/14, All day at Bowie Skate Park at Allen Pond Park. For information: www.cityofbowie.org, 301-809-3076 or mreno@cityofbowie.org.

Sunday Sunset Concert Series Begin

5/24, 7 - 8 p.m. at Allen Pond Park. Concerts every Sunday through 8/30. Canceled in inclement weather. For information: www.cityofbowie.org, 301-809-3078 or mcorley@cityofbowie.org.

Saturday Concerts

4 - 6 p.m. at Town Green Park in Old Town Bowie. First concert **5/2** (Spring Street Festival), next one **6/20**. For information: www.cityofbowie.org, 301-809-3078 or mcorley@cityofbowie.org.

MUSEUMS

301-809-3089 or museumevents@cityofbowie.org

TODDLER TIME TRAVELERS

Monday, 5/11
10 - 11 a.m., Belair Stable
Ages 2-5 Free

BROWN BAG LUNCH LECTURE - THE GOVERNOR'S QUILT PROJECT

Wednesday, 5/13
12 - 1 p.m., Belair Mansion. Free

CITY MUSEUMS-GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY WORKSHOP - THE HANDWRITING'S ON THE WALL

Saturday, 5/16,
10 a.m. - 2 p.m., Belair Mansion
Reservations required. Free.

KIDS KABOOSE

Tuesday, 5/19
10:30 a.m. - 12 p.m.
Bowie Railroad Museum
Ages 1-10 Free

CITY GYM

4100 Northview Drive
301-809-2388

RECREATIONAL VOLLEYBALL

Fridays, 11 a.m. - 1 p.m.

PICKLEBALL

Tuesdays & Thursdays, 10 a.m. - 12 p.m. Offered in partnership with the Senior Center. Similar to tennis, but with a lower net and a plastic whiffle-type ball.

NIKE BASKETBALL CAMPS

GIRLS CAMP

6/22 - 6/26 Ages 6-17

BOYS CAMP

7/20 - 7/24 Ages 6-17

Information: www.ussports-camps.com/basketball or 1-800-NIKECAMP.

5 STAR BOYS BASKETBALL CAMP

7/13 - 7/17 Ages 9-15

Information: info@5starbasketball.com or 301-762-2121

ROOM RENTALS

The Gym has rooms available for rent for parties or meetings. \$25 per hour.

ADULTS 55+

Bowie Senior Center

14900 Health Center Drive
301-809-2300

DAYS & TIMES

M/W/F 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
T/TH 8:30 a.m. - 7 p.m.
SAT 8:30 a.m. - 12 p.m.

SENIOR CHORALE CONCERT

Thursday, 5/14, 1 p.m. at Senior Center
Wednesday, 5/20, 7:30 p.m. at Bowie Center for Performing Arts
Contact Center for tickets.

GET INTO THE ACT: INFORMATION AND REFERRAL FAIR

5/27, 5/28 and 5/29 Contact the Center for more details.

AARP SMART DRIVER CLASS

5/27, 6/2, 6/4 Contact the Center to register.

CITY COUNCIL

Mayor G. Frederick Robinson
Mayor Pro Tem Isaac Trouth
Dennis Brady
Henri Gardner
James L. Marcos
Diane M. Polangin
Dufour Woolfley

CITY MANAGER

David J. Deutsch
301-809-3030

Suite Surrender 5/1 - 5/16 at the Bowie Playhouse. For ticket information, contact Prince George's Little Theatre at 301-937-7458 or visit www.pglt.org.

Flora and Fauna City Hall Art Gallery exhibit. Show runs through June 19. Free and open to the public (during City Hall hours).

New and Gently Used Children's Books Needed The Bowie Education Committee is collecting books to be given to children at Bowiefest on June 6. For more information, please contact Community Outreach Specialist Annette Esterheld at aesterheld@cityofbowie.org or 301-575-5601.