

# Bowie News Flash

**June 2015**

## News

### **Bowiefest is Saturday, June 6<sup>th</sup>!**

Join your neighbors and CELEBRATE BOWIE at Bowiefest on Saturday, June 6, 2015 from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. at Allen Pond Park, located at 3330 Northview Drive. Bowiefest is a long-standing tradition in the City bringing the best of Bowie's civic organizations, entertainers, and businesses to one place for one day.

There will be rides, performances, a rib eating contest, and a host of food and drink options throughout the park. There's also an Arts and Crafts fair, a Home and Health Expo in the Ice Arena, and local organizations of every size and interest will be on hand to introduce you to what they do and perhaps entice you to get involved. For more information, visit [www.cityofbowie.org/bowiefest](http://www.cityofbowie.org/bowiefest) or contact Special Events Coordinator Matt Corley at [mcorley@cityofbowie.org](mailto:mcorley@cityofbowie.org) or 301-809-3078.



### **Jim Morehouse to Receive 2015 Popp Award**

The Popp Award is presented annually to an individual involved with Scouting in the City of Bowie who demonstrates “extraordinary and distinguished community service”. This year’s award will be presented to Jim Morehouse on Monday, June 1<sup>st</sup>. There will be a reception in his honor at City Hall at 7 p.m. followed by presentation of the award at the Council Meeting at 8 p.m. Scouts and leaders are invited to attend both the reception and the meeting. Attendance at the event can be confirmed by calling 301-809-3014.

### **Plastic Bags Are No Longer Accepted with Bowie’s Residential Recycling Program**

Due to a recent change at the facility where the City takes its recyclables, plastic bags are no longer on the list of acceptable items for the City’s Residential Recycling Collection Program.

The City of Bowie takes the recyclable materials it collects to a materials recycling facility in Capitol Heights. The facility no longer accepts plastic bags for recycling because the bags become tangled and cause problems with the recycling equipment and blow away easily, causing litter around the facility.

While plastic bags can no longer go in your recycling bin or cart, there are some good alternatives for residents. Most grocery stores in Bowie and other retailers like Best Buy, Home Depot, Kohl’s, Lowe’s, Macy’s, Target, and Walmart will accept plastic bags for recycling. Or, perhaps this is just the incentive you need to start using reusable bags when you go shopping. Check out our page about plastic bags and reusable shopping bags at [www.cityofbowie.org/plasticbags](http://www.cityofbowie.org/plasticbags). At the bottom of that page there is a list of local businesses that accept plastic bags. You can also visit [www.plasticfilmrecycling.org](http://www.plasticfilmrecycling.org), which allows you to look up places that recycle plastic bags by Zip Code.

The City will be doing an education campaign over the next several weeks to make residents aware of this major change in our recycling policy. Look for a mailing soon to all Bowie households that summarizes all of the “dos and don’ts” when it comes to the City’s Household Trash and Residential Recycling Programs, as well as how to dispose of electronics, hazardous waste, and metal items. For more information about this change or any of our curbside collection services, please call 301-809-2344.

### **Low Cost Rabies Vaccination Clinics**

Maryland State law requires that all dog, cat, and ferret pet owners must get their pets vaccinated against rabies by four months of age and that the vaccinations must be kept current throughout the life of the pet. To assist in this regard, the Prince George’s County Health Department will be hosting two low cost vaccination clinics at the County Animal Management Facility in Upper Marlboro. The first is this Saturday, May 30<sup>th</sup> and the second clinic takes place on June 13<sup>th</sup> from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. The facility is located at 3750 Brown Station Road in Upper Marlboro and the cost is \$10 per vaccination. For more information, see the flyer on our website at [www.cityofbowie.org/rabiesclinics](http://www.cityofbowie.org/rabiesclinics) or call 301-583-3757 for more information.

### **Backyard Habitat Tour - Saturday, June 13**

Are you familiar with the Backyard Habitat program in Bowie? Have you wanted to certify your yard, but you're just not sure where to begin? Come to the fourth annual Bowie Gardens 4 Wildlife Backyard Habitat Tour. Each year, a few residents open their yards and habitats to the public to show how they are providing food, water and shelter for wildlife. They are available to talk about what has and has not worked for them and are happy to provide guidance on how to get started in your own backyard. Also, if you haven't certified your yard as a National Wildlife Federation (NWF) Wildlife Habitat yet, now is a great time. Usually, it costs \$20 to certify your yard, but the City is reimbursing the certification fee for up to 50 homeowners. Visit [www.cityofbowie.org/habitat](http://www.cityofbowie.org/habitat) for a map of tour stops and the times each resident is available, and to obtain details about NWF certification reimbursement. For more information, contact Watershed Manager Tiffany Wright at [twright@cityofbowie.or](mailto:twright@cityofbowie.or) or 301-809-3043.

### **City Beautification Awards**

The City, in cooperation with Soroptimist International of Bowie-Crofton, is accepting nominations for the Annual Beautification Awards. Anyone can nominate a home or townhouse, business, school, or specialty garden that reflects the beauty of Bowie. All nominations must be for locations within the corporate limits of Bowie. The 2015 nomination deadline is June 19, 2015. For more information or to obtain a nomination form, visit the City's website at [www.cityofbowie.org/beautification](http://www.cityofbowie.org/beautification) or contact Matt Corley at 301-809-3078 or [mcorley@cityofbowie.org](mailto:mcorley@cityofbowie.org).

### **Paper Shredding and Styrofoam Recycling Event**

The Public Works Department has scheduled a paper shredding and Styrofoam recycling event at the Bowie High School parking lot on Saturday, June 20, 2015, from 8 a.m. - 2 p.m. Residents can bring up to five tall kitchen bags or five archive boxes for shredding. Documents may be observed while they are being shredded. Styrofoam must be free of any debris (glue or tape) and must be only the hard type used in packaging of electronics. For information, contact the Public Works Department at 301-809-2344.

### **Support the Bowie Pantry**

The Bowie Interfaith Pantry and Emergency Aid Fund provides food and help to those in need in our community. They are always seeking food and monetary donations and the help of volunteers. Learn more about their work by visiting [www.bowiefoodpantry.org](http://www.bowiefoodpantry.org) or their new Facebook page at [www.facebook.com/bowiefoodpantry](http://www.facebook.com/bowiefoodpantry).

### **Visit the Bowie Farmers' Market Sundays, 8 a.m. - 12 p.m.**

The Bowie Farmers' Market is open for the 2015 season. Market vendors offer fresh locally grown produce, fruit, cut flowers, plants, breads, pastries, jams, jellies and more. The market operates in the parking lot of the Bowie Center for the Performing Arts at Bowie High School, 15200 Annapolis Road on Sundays, 8 a.m. - 12 p.m., through October 25, 2015. For more information, contact Matt Corley at 301-809-3078 or [mcorley@cityofbowie.org](mailto:mcorley@cityofbowie.org).

### **Become a Mentor**

Bowie Youth and Family Services Teen Mentoring Program is accepting Mentor applications for the 2015-2016 school year. For more information or to apply, please contact Rhonda Simon at 301-809-3033.

### **No City-sponsored Fireworks this Fourth of July**

In 2012, the City of Bowie teamed up with the Bowie Baysox organization to bring what we hoped was a new Fourth of July tradition to Bowie, when City-sponsored fireworks were moved to the Prince George's Stadium and the fireworks display was combined with a fun and entertaining concert by the Fabulous Hubcaps.

The change of venue was necessary because Allen Pond Park, which had been the scene of Fourth of July celebrations for decades, had become too small and too difficult to manage from a crowd perspective.

Unfortunately, the Bowie Baysox organization informed the City earlier this year that due to conflicts with games this Fourth of July weekend, the Baysox would be unable to offer their stadium to the City for a Fourth of July celebration and fireworks display. This was an extremely disappointing turn of events for City officials who have hosted a Fourth of July celebration in Bowie for more than 40 years and who had been assured that the annual game schedule could accommodate a night for the City-sponsored celebration. After evaluating potential alternative sites and finding them lacking, the City has reluctantly made a decision to forego City-sponsored fireworks in 2015.

Bowie's Mayor Fred Robinson and other City officials are unhappy and disappointed about what has happened, but it could not be helped. "This is not a conclusion that was reached easily. Bowie fireworks have been a long-standing Bowie tradition and one of those special hometown events that we have treasured as a way to celebrate the founding of our great nation. We will miss hosting the celebration this year and are very sorry to disappoint our residents."

City staff has compiled a list of fireworks displays taking place in the area, which can be found on the City website at [www.cityofbowie.org/fireworks](http://www.cityofbowie.org/fireworks) and they are already exploring alternatives for 2016 and beyond, including going back to Prince George's Stadium, but for 2015 there will be no City-sponsored fireworks in Bowie.

### **Flora and Fauna**

The current City Hall Art Gallery exhibit, entitled *Flora and Fauna*, runs through June 19. It is free and open to the public. Gallery hours are City Hall hours: Monday - Thursday 8:30 a.m. - 9:30 p.m., Friday 8:30 a.m. - 5 p.m. and Saturday 8:30 a.m. - 12 p.m.

### **City Election 2015 Information**

Summer may not have officially arrived yet, but it's not too early to start thinking about Bowie's next election, which takes place on Tuesday, November 3, 2015. In fact, several candidates have already filed for office. You can see the list of candidates to date and obtain other election information, including details about voter registration, absentee voting, and polling places, by visiting [www.cityofbowie.org/elections](http://www.cityofbowie.org/elections).



### **Office Space Available for Nonprofits at Kenhill Center**

The Kenhill Center, located at 2614 Kenhill Drive, is home to a number of City government offices as well as nonprofit organizations serving residents of the City. A limited number of office suites are available for lease to nonprofit organizations located within the incorporated limits of the City of Bowie or that serve residents of the City. Applications, along with additional information and rental rates, can be obtained by contacting Sally Cannon Hein, Assistant Director of the Department of Community Services at [shein@cityofbowie.org](mailto:shein@cityofbowie.org) or 301-809-3014.

### **Support Special Olympics and Bowie Police**

Have a ball at Special Olympics Awareness Day Sunday, June 21 at Prince George's Stadium. Following the 2:05 p.m. Bowie Baysox vs. Trenton Thunder game, watch the Prince George's County All-Star Softball team take on the Bowie Police All-Stars at 4:30 p.m. Cost is \$10 per ticket (includes both games) and benefits the Special Olympics of Prince George's County. For more information, please contact Sergeant Henderson at 301-575-1824 or email [bhenderson@cityofbowie.org](mailto:bhenderson@cityofbowie.org).

### **Cop for a Day**

The Bowie Police Department is teaming up with the Bowie Baysox for another fundraising event for Special Olympics on June 27<sup>th</sup> between 10 a.m. and 2 p.m., when the Department hosts its first ever "Cop for a Day" event at Prince George's Stadium. Participants, ages 9 and older, will have the opportunity to experience a day in the life of a Police Officer, by being involved in a vehicle pursuit, a foot chase, conducting a traffic stop, searching for evidence, and more. The registration fee is \$20 and includes a t-shirt, access to all of the events in any 45-minute time slot chosen by the registrant, and light refreshments. All proceeds go directly to Special Olympics. Please call 301-575-1824 for more information or visit [www.bowiecopforaday.com](http://www.bowiecopforaday.com) to register.

### **Walk Wednesday Events**

The Bowie Green Team's Food, Health and Wellness Subgroup will be hosting weekly community walks on Wednesday evenings at 7 p.m. starting Wednesday, June 3<sup>rd</sup>. Walks will be a fun and social opportunity for the citizens of Bowie to get together for light to moderate exercise. They also will highlight nature and many beautiful local walking trails. The following walks are planned for June:

- **June 3<sup>rd</sup> at Allen Pond Park (3330 Northview Drive)** - The group will meet at the edge of the parking lot at the start of the walking path and it will be approximately a 30 - 40 minute walk.
- **June 10<sup>th</sup> at David Kerr Nature Trail (Kinderbrook Lane)** - Make a left onto Kinderbrook Lane from Kembridge Drive. Follow Kinderbrook Lane for about a half mile. The trail is on the left side of the road and is marked by a sign. Park on the street. The group will meet by the sign for the trail. The walk is expected to take approximately 30 minutes.

- **June 17<sup>th</sup> at Governor Bridge Trail (7600 Governor Bridge Road)** - The group will meet by the sign in the parking area before proceeding onto the trails. The walk will take 30 - 40 minutes at this location.
- **June 24<sup>th</sup> at Whitemarsh Park (6300 Crain Highway)** - The group will park in the parking lot by the head of the trail and will plan to walk for approximately 40 minutes.

The group will convene at the specified locations at 7 p.m. sharp. Please wear appropriate attire, bring water and arrive no later than 7:05 p.m. if you would like to walk with the group. Look for the group leader decked out in green attire, in honor of the Bowie Green Team, and who also will have a Walk Wednesdays sign to help participants locate the starting point for the walk. If you have questions about these events, please contact Kristin Larson at 301-809-3044 or [klarson@cityofbowie.org](mailto:klarson@cityofbowie.org).

## Events

**5/29 - 6/27 – Kiss Me Kate at Bowie Playhouse** For tickets and information, [www.2ndstarproductions.com](http://www.2ndstarproductions.com) or call 301-832-4819.

**6/1 – City Council Meeting** 8 p.m. at City Hall.

**6/6 – Bowiefest** 11 a.m. - 6 p.m. at Allen Pond Park. See details above.

**6/7 – Sunday Sunset Concert Series – Bowie State University Community Jazz Band** 7 - 8 p.m. at Robert V. Setera Amphitheater, Allen Pond Park. These concerts offer relaxing entertainment for the entire family. All concerts are free. They are canceled in case of inclement weather. For more information, please contact Special Events Coordinator Matt Corley at 301-809-3078 or [mcorley@cityofbowie.org](mailto:mcorley@cityofbowie.org).

**6/13 – Backyard Habitat Tour** For more information, contact Watershed Manager Tiffany Wright at [twright@cityofbowie.org](mailto:twright@cityofbowie.org) or 301-809-3043.

**6/14 – June Jam Skate Competition** All day at Bowie Skate Park at Allen Pond Park. For more information visit [www.cityofbowie.org/skatepark](http://www.cityofbowie.org/skatepark) or call 301-809-3076 or email Matt Reno at [mreno@cityofbowie.org](mailto:mreno@cityofbowie.org).

**6/14 – Sunday Sunset Concert Series – Bowie Elks Flag Day Program - The Baywinds Band** 6 p.m. (note special time) at Robert V. Setera Amphitheater, Allen Pond Park. These concerts offer relaxing entertainment for the entire family. All concerts are free. They are canceled in case of inclement weather. For more information, please contact Matt Corley, Special Events Coordinator, at 301-809-3078 or [mcorley@cityofbowie.org](mailto:mcorley@cityofbowie.org).

**6/15 – Anniversary Celebration and Open House at the Senior Center** 12:30 p.m. The Bowie Senior Center celebrates 15 years at its present location this month. For more information, please contact the Senior Center at 301-809-2300.

**6/15 – City Council Meeting** 8 p.m. at City Hall.

**6/16 – Kids Kaboose** 10:30 a.m. - 12 p.m. at Bowie Railroad Museum. Railroad fun and games for youngsters ages 1-10. Free. For more information, please contact 301-809-3089 or [museumevents@cityofbowie.org](mailto:museumevents@cityofbowie.org).

**6/16 – Hot Topics: Summer Fun Facts** 5:45 p.m. at the Senior Center. For more information, please contact the Senior Center at 301-809-2300.

**6/18 – Senior Center Anniversary Dance** 6:30 - 8 p.m. at the Senior Center. \$8/residents and \$10/nonresidents. For more information, please contact the Senior Center at 301-809-2300.

**6/20 – Paper Shredding and Styrofoam Recycling Event** 8 a.m. - 2 p.m. in the Bowie High School parking lot. For information, contact the City's Public Works Department at 301-809-2344.

**6/20 – Saturday Concert Series – Off Track** 4 - 6 p.m., Town Green Park, 9<sup>th</sup> Street (MD Route 564), Old Town Bowie. Concerts are held Saturdays until August 8<sup>th</sup> and are canceled in case of inclement weather. For more information, please contact Matt Corley, Special Events Coordinator, at 301-809-3078 or [mcorley@cityofbowie.org](mailto:mcorley@cityofbowie.org).

**6/21 – Special Olympics Awareness Day** Following the 2:05 p.m. Bowie Baysox game at Prince George's Stadium, the Bowie Police Department All-Stars will take on the Prince George's Police All-Stars in a softball game. Tickets are \$10. For more information, please contact Sergeant Henderson at 301-575-1824 or email [bhenderson@cityofbowie.org](mailto:bhenderson@cityofbowie.org).

**6/21 – Sunday Sunset Concert Series – Back Pages Band** 7 - 8 p.m. at Robert V. Setera Amphitheater, Allen Pond Park. These concerts offer relaxing entertainment for the entire family. All concerts are free. They are canceled in case of inclement weather. For more information, please contact Matt Corley, Special Events Coordinator, at 301-809-3078 or [mcorley@cityofbowie.org](mailto:mcorley@cityofbowie.org).

**6/22 – Toddler Time Travelers** 10:30 a.m. - 12 p.m. at Belair Mansion. Ages 3 - 5. Free. For more information, please contact 301-809-3089 or [museumevents@cityofbowie.org](mailto:museumevents@cityofbowie.org).

**6/24 – School's Out Drop-in History Fun and Games** 12 p.m. at Belair Mansion. Free. For more information, please contact 301-809-3089 or [museumevents@cityofbowie.org](mailto:museumevents@cityofbowie.org).

**6/25 – Intergenerational Magic Show** 12:30 p.m. at the Senior Center. All welcome. For more information, please contact the Senior Center at 301-809-2300.

**6/27 – Saturday Concert Series – Greydog** 4 - 6 p.m., Town Green Park, 9<sup>th</sup> Street (MD Route 564), Old Town Bowie. Concerts are canceled in case of inclement weather. For more information, please contact Matt Corley, Special Events Coordinator, at 301-809-3078 or [mcorley@cityofbowie.org](mailto:mcorley@cityofbowie.org).

**6/27 – At the Sign of the Horse & Saddle – Tavern Night At Belair with *Bedlam*** 7 - 9 p.m. at Belair Mansion. Reservations required \$25 per person. For more information, please contact 301-809-3089 or [museumevents@cityofbowie.org](mailto:museumevents@cityofbowie.org).

**6/28 – Sunday Sunset Concert Series – *US Air Force Airmen of Note*** 7 - 8 p.m. at Robert V. Setera Amphitheater, Allen Pond Park. These concerts offer relaxing entertainment for the entire family. All concerts are free. They are canceled in case of inclement weather. For more information, please contact Matt Corley, Special Events Coordinator, at 301-809-3078 or [mcorley@cityofbowie.org](mailto:mcorley@cityofbowie.org).

**6/29 – Show Stoppers Variety Show at the Senior Center** 10:30 a.m. at the Senior Center. For more information, please contact the Senior Center at 301-809-2300.

**6/29 – Time Travelers** 10:30 a.m. - 12 p.m. at Belair Mansion. Ages 5 - 11. Free. For more information, please contact 301-809-3089 or [museumevents@cityofbowie.org](mailto:museumevents@cityofbowie.org).

**7/3 – Fourth of July Holiday** City offices are closed in observance of the Fourth of July holiday on Friday, July 3<sup>rd</sup>. There will be no trash and recycling collection on the holiday.