



BOWIE SPOTLIGHT

The Official Newsletter of the City of Bowie

Phone: 301-262-6200

www.cityofbowie.org

August 2015

Wanted: City Election Chief Judges and Judges

Chief Judges, Judges and Alternate Judges are needed for the City of Bowie Election on **Tuesday, November 3, 2015**. Judges must be registered to vote in City elections. Preference will be given to persons having experience. All judges who are selected to serve must attend a training session (date to be determined). Polls are open from **7 a.m. to 8 p.m.** and judges will be on duty from approximately **6 a.m. to 10 p.m.** One Chief Judge will supervise the Judges at each polling place. The Chief Judges will receive \$150 and Judges will receive \$120 for their duties on Election Day. In addition, all Judges will receive \$10 for the training session and for any additional meetings they are required to attend.

Interested Bowie residents must fill out an application found on the City's website, www.cityofbowie.org/elections, or collected at City Hall. To submit an application, you can send it to the City Clerk, Bowie City Hall, 15901 Excalibur Road, Bowie, MD 20716 or via email to ahernandez@cityofbowie.org. For information, call the City Clerk at 301-809-3029. The application deadline is **September 30, 2015**.

Is Your Trash Safe?

Safety is a top priority for the City of Bowie and it is a shared responsibility that starts right at your trash can and recycling cart. A properly filled, maintained and serviced can/cart is crucial in keeping residents and City employees free from harm. Objects such as metal strips, wooden stakes, nails, screws, broken bottles and glass all pose safety hazards to your neighbors and to refuse collectors. These items should be secured in closed containers with lids before being put out for trash or recycling. Before you discard anything, think about the health and safety of the person who will be handling that material at pickup time. Remember that if a discarded item poses a hazard to you personally, it also poses that same hazard to your neighbors and to City employees.

The City prohibits the discarding of oil based paint, used motor oil, and hazardous chemical containers, among other things, in the regular trash. These items and other hazardous waste may be dropped off at the Prince George's County Household Hazardous Waste Acceptance Site at Brown Station Landfill in Upper Marlboro. Please call 301-957-7625 for the schedule of operations, location and other details. For more information, visit the City's website at www.cityofbowie.org.

Code Corner- Sign Permits

Did you know that most signs placed on private property, whether residential or commercial, require sign permits from the City and the County? There are only a few categories of signs exempt from a sign permit. For more information on sign permits, contact the Prince George's County Department of Permitting, Inspections and Enforcement at 301-636-2000 or the Bowie Code Compliance Office at 301-809-3008 or dmichelle@cityofbowie.org.

County Fence Regulations

If you own a corner lot or any lot that backs up to a public street in Bowie, you should be aware that Prince George's County limits the height of fences located anywhere between your house and the street to no more than four feet. Although the regulations were approved in 2008, many homeowners find out about this rule when they apply for a building permit to construct a new fence or replace an old fence. A zoning variance must be approved by the City before a building permit can be issued for a fence higher than four feet if it is located between the house and the street. Also remember that the City Code prohibits fences between the front building line and the street. For more information, call the City Planning Department at 301-809-3047.

Animal Control - Keep Pets Safe

Bowie Animal Control picked up 107 dogs running-at-large in 2014. Most dogs escaped from their yards through a gap in the fence. To keep your pets safe, inspect your fence and ensure the fence is flush with the ground and eliminate any gaps in the fencing or gate. Reduce your dog's desire to escape by increasing "play time" and taking the dog on walks. For more information about these and other tips, contact the Animal Control Office at 301-809-3002 or visit the Humane Society of the United States web page at www.humanesociety.org/animals/dogs/tips/escaping.

Imagine An Hour that Impacts a Lifetime, Imagine Mentoring

If you are at least 21 years of age, you have the ability to positively influence the life of a teen by becoming a friend, listener, guide, supporter and confidante. The Bowie Youth & Family Services (BYFS) Teen Mentoring Program can help you do just that. When you volunteer to mentor a Bowie High School student you will spend one hour a week building a positive relationship with a student supporting their success in school, in their family and in the community. For information, contact Rhonda Simon, Volunteer Coordinator, at mentor@cityofbowie.org or call BYFS at 301-809-3033 or visit www.cityofbowie.org.

Energy Audit Program

Save money and improve the comfort of your home with a no cost BGE comprehensive energy audit (valued at \$100) available for Bowie homeowners. Complete an application online at www.cityofbowie.org/eap or in the Planning Department at City Hall Monday-Friday, 8:30 a.m.-5 p.m. Contact Kristin Larson at 301-809-3044 or klarson@cityofbowie.org.

Saturday Concerts 4 - 6 p.m. at Town Green Park in Old Town Bowie. For information: www.cityofbowie.org, 301-809-3078 or mcorley@cityofbowie.org. Concerts: 8/1, Bottle of Blues and 8/8 (TBA).

Sunday Sunset Concert Series 7 - 8 p.m. at Allen Pond Park. Canceled in inclement weather. For information: www.cityofbowie.org, 301-809-3078 or mcorley@cityofbowie.org. Concerts: 8/2, The Winstons; 8/9, Annapolis Bluegrass; 8/16, US Air Force Max Impact; 8/23, US Navy Commodores; 8/31, US Army Blues; 9/6, Bowie State University Concert Band Salute to America Concert.

Bowie Ice Arena Is Open for Summer Skating!

It's a great place to beat the heat, offering summer camps, group lessons, public sessions, birthday parties, pickup hockey, pickup figure skating and stick & puck sessions. For a calendar of activities or to view a brochure with registration information, visit us at www.cityofbowie.org or call 301-809-3090.

Veterans Corner

Need help with benefits - Service Officer available every Tuesday 7 - 9 p.m. at the DAV.

Need general information - American Legion (301-464-9814), 9605 Old Laurel-Bowie Road, Bowie MD 20715. Meets monthly, fourth (4th) Wednesday at 7:30 p.m.

The following organizations meet at the DAV Post (8205 Laurel-Bowie Road, Bowie MD 20715):

- Marine Corps League (301-706-2491) - Meets monthly, second (2nd) Wednesday at 7:30 p.m.
- VFW Post 8065 (301-464-3730) - Meets monthly, first (1st) Thursday at 7:30 p.m.
- DAV Post #7 (301-464-8899) - Meets monthly, second (2nd) Tuesday at 7:30 p.m.

For information on legislation, benefits and programs, tune to the Veterans Forum on Bowie Cable TV Channel 11 (Verizon) or 77 (Comcast). Consult the guide for airing time.

Calling All Artists! The City's Arts Committee will jury two shows in August for upcoming exhibits - **Bowie: Past and Present** (entry forms and digital submissions due August 15) and **City Scapes** (entry forms and digital submissions due August 28). Entry forms and requirements for exhibiting are on the City's website under Arts. For more information, contact Annette Esterheld at 301-575-5601.

Arts & Education Grants Applications are due in September. Forms will be on the City's website after August 10, 2015. For more information, contact Annette Esterheld at 301-575-5601.

MUSEUMS

301-809-3089 or museumevents@cityofbowie.org

DROP-IN HISTORY FUN
8/12, 12 - 4 p.m. Belair Mansion
Ages 4 and up. Free

KIDS KABOOSE
8/18, 10:30 a.m. - 12 p.m.
Bowie Railroad Museum
Ages 1-10 Free

FUN ICE CREAM HISTORY & SCIENCE FOR KIDS 8/21, 1 - 3 p.m. Belair Mansion Free
Reservations please!

60TH ANNIVERSARY OF NASHUA'S MATCH RACE VICTORY 8/30, 12 - 4 p.m. Belair Stable Free

CITY GYM

4100 Northview Drive
301-809-2388

12TH ANNUAL BACK TO SCHOOL BASH

8/22, 10 a.m. - 1 p.m. Enjoy games, moon bounces, face painting, music, entertainment and more for elementary age school children. Also, a parent resource area with information on programs and activities for the upcoming school year. The first 300 children will receive a backpack filled with school supplies. Free with a donation to the Bowie Food Pantry (item or monetary).

MORNING WALKING PROGRAM

Weekdays, 7:30 - 9 a.m. Enjoy the benefit of an air-conditioned facility for exercise.

DROP-IN VOLLEYBALL

Wednesdays, 6 - 8 p.m. through 8/19.

The City Gym will be closed for annual maintenance 8/24 - 9/7. The Gym will reopen 9/8.

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.

LABYRINTH WALKS

8/10 and 8/24, 10 a.m.

FIRESIDE CHAT: STRETCH YOUR SPACE

8/11, 11 a.m. Now is the time to eliminate excess stuff. Get tips from the pros.

SUDOKU WORKSHOPS

8/17, 10 and 11 a.m. Learn strategies for this popular number puzzle.

HOT TOPICS: EXPLORE DATING

8/18, 5:45 p.m. ..

HEARING LOSS: CAN LOSING YOUR HEARING IMPACT YOUR MEMORY?

8/27, 10:30 a.m.

Contact the Center for a complete list of programs, classes, trips and services.

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

