



# BOWIE SPOTLIGHT

The Official Newsletter of the City of Bowie

Phone: 301-262-6200

www.cityofbowie.org

October 2015

## City Election - November 3, 2015

As of **November 3, 2015**, City elections will take place every fourth year in November. The offices of Mayor and six Councilmembers will be up for election. Residents who are registered voters can file for elected office in the Office of the City Clerk. Please call the City Clerk at 301-809-3029 in advance to verify filing eligibility requirements and to arrange a filing date and time. Filing forms can be downloaded from the City website, [www.cityofbowie.org/elections](http://www.cityofbowie.org/elections). Prior to the next City election, registered voters will receive Voter Notification Cards from the County with their polling locations. In the meantime, visit the City website, [www.cityofbowie.org/elections](http://www.cityofbowie.org/elections) to view a City map with all the polling locations.

**Absentee Ballots** Section 6-30 of the City Code provides that any qualified voter of the City may make application for an absentee voting ballot for the City's election on November 3rd. The application may be obtained from the City Clerk's office or on the City's website, [www.cityofbowie.org/elections](http://www.cityofbowie.org/elections).

### Dates to Remember:

- 10/2** Last day to register to vote at City Hall or County Board of Elections in order to vote in City Election. Last day to file for elected office.
- 10/13** Last day for candidate to withdraw from candidacy for office.
- 11/2** Last day to present application for Absentee Ballot to City Clerk (5 p.m.).
- 11/3** Election Day - Polls open 7 a.m. - 8 p.m.



In late October, the City will mail a special election edition of the Bowie Spotlight to all City households; it will include a sample ballot and other election details. For more information, contact the City Clerk at 301-809-3029 or [ahernandez@cityofbowie.org](mailto:ahernandez@cityofbowie.org).

## 2015 Bowie International Festival

The City will hold its annual International Festival on **Saturday, October 3rd** from 11 a.m. – 5 p.m. Entertainers, artists, crafters, food, and children's activities will overflow at Allen Pond Park for the Bowie experience that will take you "Around the World in Just One Day." Bring your family and join friends and neighbors for entertainment and food from the far reaches of Asia to right here in our own backyard. Enjoy children's activities such as stories, international dance, sports and games from around the world. Shop vendors of crafts, clothing, jewelry and many other offerings, representing a variety of countries and cultures. The International Festival Planning Committee is seeking sponsors to help cover the cost of activities and entertainment at the festival. If interested, please contact the City at 301-809-3011 or [mcorley@cityofbowie.org](mailto:mcorley@cityofbowie.org). For more information, please visit [www.cityofbowie.org](http://www.cityofbowie.org).

## Code Corner

Homeowners, thinking about renting out your basement? Beware, converting a basement into a separate apartment with permanent provisions for living, sleeping, eating, cooking and sanitation will create a "two-family" dwelling and two-family dwellings are prohibited in single-family zones. However, if basic facilities are shared, a basement may be used as a rental dwelling unit, pending compliance with other housing, zoning, fire and property maintenance codes. So before you rent out your basement, contact the Code Compliance Office for more information at 301-809-3008.

**Top Bowie Gardens Honored** The lovely yard of Carel Gibbs captured the top award for the 2015 Distinguished Yard at the 20th Annual Bowie Beautification Awards. The event was cosponsored by the Soroptimist International of Bowie-Crofton. The City and the Soroptimist thank all the nominees, whose hard work and creativity help to make Bowie a more beautiful place to live, and the sponsors who provided the prizes and decorations for the program. The sponsors were Patuxent Nursery and Frank's Garden Center. To view the full list of winners, visit [www.cityofbowie.org](http://www.cityofbowie.org).

**Bowie Farmers' Market "Octoberfest"** **10/25**, 8 a.m. - 12 p.m., Bowie High School, 15200 Annapolis Road. Scarecrow making (bring long-sleeved shirt and pants). Pumpkin painting (pumpkin available for purchase). Fun begins at 10 a.m.

## New Youth & Family Services Groups Starting Soon

**Active Parenting Program for Parents** Focus on practical skills to help develop cooperation and responsibility in children, ages 5 - 16. Offered on four consecutive Mondays, beginning October 5, 2015 at 7 p.m. Huntington Community Center. Cost \$60\*

**Calm Confident Kids** The goal of this group is to help return some of the fun of childhood for kids, ages 7-10, who worry too much. We will talk about various worries and anxieties and practice strategies to help overcome fears and maintain calm. Beginning in October. Cost \$60\*

**Girls Count** Weekly group for high school girls, ages 14-18. Participants will learn to nurture themselves, share issues they face each day, and find their inner strengths. Beginning in October. Cost \$60\*

For registration and more information, please call 301-809-3033. \*Financial aid available.

## Plant a Tree this Fall

Tree rebates of \$50 and \$100 are available for City of Bowie residents to purchase up to two trees to plant on their property. Trees must be purchased at Patuxent Nursery (2410 Crain Hwy, Bowie, MD). There are 11 species of trees eligible. Details can be found at [www.cityofbowie.org/treerebate](http://www.cityofbowie.org/treerebate) or applications are available at the nursery. Call 301-809-3044 for more information.

## Weed Warrior Work Day 10/17, 9 a.m. - 12 p.m. at Whitmarsh Park

The City's Green Team is in need of volunteers to help remove invasive English ivy from trees at Whitmarsh Park. To participate, please register by contacting Kristin Larson at 301-809-3044 or [klarson@cityofbowie.org](mailto:klarson@cityofbowie.org). This is a great Student Service Learning opportunity.

## Compost Workshop for Beginners 10/17, 10-11 a.m. at City Hall

Learn how to compost at this free workshop. Notify Kristin Larson at 301-809-3044 or [klarson@cityofbowie.org](mailto:klarson@cityofbowie.org) if you plan to attend. Discounted \$20 compost bins will be available for Bowie residents to purchase after the workshop. **Two bins are allowed per Bowie address.**

## 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.

**Thank You!** from the Community Outreach Committee and the Bowie Pantry, to those who donated to the Pantry at the Sunday Sunset Concerts this summer. Donations may continue to be made at locations around town including the City Gym, the Senior Center and at the Kenhill Center.

**The Music Man 10/16 - 11/14 at the Bowie Playhouse.** For ticket information, contact 2nd Star Productions at 410-757-5700 or 301-832-4819 or visit [www.2ndstarproductions.com](http://www.2ndstarproductions.com).

**CityScapes** City Hall Art Gallery. 9/28 - 11/13. Free and open to the public.

**Calling All Artists** Next Art Gallery Exhibit "Seasons." Painting/sculpture/photographs wanted that reflect the four seasons. Entry deadline 10/16.

**Education Grant Applications** - Entry deadline 10/23.

For more information, contact Annette Esterheld, [aesterheld@cityofbowie.org](mailto:aesterheld@cityofbowie.org) or 301-575-5601.

## MUSEUMS

301-809-3089 or [museumevents@cityofbowie.org](mailto:museumevents@cityofbowie.org)

### PICTURES OF BOWIE - PAST AND PRESENT

9/20-11/15, 12 - 4 p.m. Tuesday - Sunday Belair Mansion Mixed media art exhibit. Free

### WE ALL SCREAM FOR ICE CREAM ... AGAIN!

10/2, 1 p.m. Belair Mansion Learn about, make and eat ice cream. Ages 5-12. Reservations required. Free

### THE DEVIL HATH BEEN RAISED: WITCHCRAFT IN COLONIAL NEW ENGLAND - SECOND TUESDAY LECTURE

10/13, 7:30 p.m. Belair Mansion

### SO SERVE IT UP: WHAT'S ON THE 18TH CENTURY TABLE

10/19, 12 p.m. Belair Mansion

### KIDS KABOOSE

10/20, 10:30 a.m. - 12 p.m. Bowie Railroad Museum Ages 2-10. Free

## Ice Arena

3330 Northview Drive 301-809-3090

### GROUP LESSONS

Begin October 8. Classes for children 18 months of age to adults. Special beginner and family discounts available. Classes meet Thursday afternoons and Friday and Saturday mornings.

### HALLOWEEN ON ICE

10/31, 1 - 3 p.m. Wear a costume or bring a canned good for free admission. Music, games, skating, costume contest and treat bags for all in costume 13 years of age and under.

For information on public skating, pickup skating, birthday parties and more, call the Ice Arena or visit [www.cityofbowie.org](http://www.cityofbowie.org).

## 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.

### BONSAI SHOW

10/4, 9 a.m. - 12 p.m.

### HARVEST FESTIVAL

10/30, 12:30 p.m. Celebrate Fall with music and refreshments. Registration and fee required.

### ELECTION DAY TRANSPORTATION

Transportation will be provided to the polls for seniors 55 and older, and for disabled adults, 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. on 11/3. Call 301-809-2300 by 10/30 to schedule. Shuttle service will be provided to the Pin Oak, Evergreen and Willows communities 10 a.m. - 1 p.m.

## 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