



BOWIE SPOTLIGHT

The Official Newsletter of the City of Bowie

Phone: 301-262-6200

www.cityofbowie.org

November 2015

City Election - November 3, 2015

The City Election will take place on Tuesday, November 3, 2015. Polls will be open from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m. The offices of Mayor and six Councilmembers are up for election. The final list of candidates for City offices can be found at www.cityofbowie.org/elections. Visit the City website, www.cityofbowie.org/elections to view a City map with all the polling locations.

ABSENTEE BALLOTS In accordance with Section 6-30 of the City Code, 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. Completed absentee ballots must be received by the Board of Elections by the close of polls at 8 p.m. on November 3, 2015.

SENIOR BUS SERVICE will be available for seniors 55 and older, and for disabled adults, on Election Day. Shuttle service will be provided to the Pin Oak, Evergreen and Willows communities from 10 a.m. - 1 p.m. For others, service will be provided by appointment from 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. Call the Senior Center at 301-809-2300 by October 30th to schedule.



FOR MORE INFORMATION, contact the City Clerk at 301-809-3029 or ahernandez@cityofbowie.org.

Leaf Collection Begins November 2

The City's leaf collection service begins **November 2**. Each neighborhood will have two collection dates. Residents should rake leaves into piles at the edge of their grass for pickup. Do not rake leaves into the street. Also, please do not park cars or place trash in front of the leaves as this makes it difficult for City crews to maneuver equipment to reach the leaves. Collection will take place 7:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. according to a schedule found on the City's website, www.cityofbowie.org. Crews will work rain or shine. In the event of snow or ice storms, leaf collection will be temporarily suspended, as the trucks and crews will be redeployed to salt or plow City streets. For information, please call 301-262-6200 and select the prompt for Leaf Collection Hotline or call Public Works at 301-809-2344.

Senior "Green" Housing Rehabilitation Program

The Bowie Senior Citizen "Green" Housing Rehabilitation Program is now accepting applications. This is a grant program funded by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) and the Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development. Applications will be accepted until **November 16, 2015**. There are a limited number of grants available and the maximum grant amount is \$10,000. Eligible improvements include roofing, siding, insulation, windows/doors, HVAC systems, Energy Star appliances, mobility installations, electrical upgrades and plumbing repairs. For more information, visit the City's Office of Grant Development & Administration at City Hall or contact Grants Manager George Jones at 301-809-3051 or bowiehsg@cityofbowie.org, or visit the City's website at www.cityofbowie.org, select Government, then Grants, then Senior Housing Rehab Program.

New Phone Numbers Beginning **October 21**, City telephone numbers that begin with 301-575-xxxx will change to 240-544-xxxx. The change affects all Police Department numbers and some numbers in other City Departments. The change will improve the call information that the Prince George's County 911 Center sees when a 911 call originates from a City line. The new number for the administrative office of the Bowie Police Department will be 240-544-5700. For information, visit www.cityofbowie.org or call 301-262-6200.

Snow Removal Do you have a limitation that may prevent you from removing ice and snow from the public sidewalk or driveway? The City provides additional time for people with factors such as age, physical handicap or disability but you must submit a waiver application and be approved. The application is located on the City's webpage, www.cityofbowie.org/DocumentCenter/Home/View/190. For more information, please contact the Code Compliance Office at 301-809-3008 or dmichelle@cityofbowie.org. Have a great winter!

Driver Beware Fall marks the start of deer breeding season, the time of year when deer are most active and much more likely to dart into traffic without warning. The danger of colliding with deer is greatest during the early morning or evening hours, and especially on streets with wooded areas of limited visibility. Drivers should be aware of their surroundings and slow down if they see deer. It is recommended that drivers consider purchasing a deer whistle for each vehicle owned. These small devices are inexpensive, very easy to install, and have helped to reduce the number of deer vehicle collisions. For more information, contact Bowie Animal Control at 301-809-3002.

It Pays to Be Green In Bowie

Save money with a no-cost home energy audit. Plant a tree and get up to \$100 back. Start composting with a \$20 discounted bin. All program details can be found at www.cityofbowie.org/greenbowie. Questions? Contact Kristin Larson at klarson@cityofbowie.org or 301-809-3044.

Weed Warrior Work Day - November 8, 2 - 5 p.m. at Whitemarsh Park. Bowie's Green Team is in need of volunteers to help remove invasive English ivy from trees at Whitemarsh Park. To participate, please register by contacting Kristin Larson at klarson@cityofbowie.org or 301-809-3044. This is a great Student Service Learning opportunity.



Need Help with Odd Jobs?

Bowie Youth & Family Services sponsors a Teen Job Bank, where residents can find hard-working and eager Bowie youth who are looking for opportunities to make extra money, either on an occasional or a regular basis. Residents may use this service to find teens who can help with tasks such as yard work, babysitting, tutoring, shopping or other chores. The particulars of the job and the fees per hour are determined by you and the teen. Access this program by completing the Teen Job Bank resident application found on the City's website, www.cityofbowie.org, or call us at 301-809-3033.

Become a Teen Mentor A mentor is an adult volunteer who spends time with a teen in a supportive and friendly environment. If you are at least 21 years of age and reside in the greater Bowie area, you have the power to change your life and the life of a teen. When you volunteer to mentor a Bowie High School student, you will spend one hour a week building a positive relationship with that student. We welcome you as a mentor if you are willing to make a commitment to a teen for the academic year; meet once a week for lunch; participate in mentor training; and, agree to security screening and fingerprinting. To apply, contact Bowie Youth & Family Services at 301-809-3033 or Volunteer Coordinator Rhonda Simon at mentor@cityofbowie.org or visit the City's website, www.cityofbowie.org (select Community Services/Youth & Family Services).

A New Look For Allen Pond

The City is about to embark on designing several significant improvements at Allen Pond Park. The first phase will include the replacement of the existing restroom building and the stage, an increase in paved parking spaces and the redesign of the amphitheater lawn area. If you have suggestions to share with the consulting team or have seen a similar park used for concerts and special events in a location you have visited, please share the information with us. We want this Park to reflect your wishes and serve your needs. Comments can be forwarded to Matt Reno, Project Manager at mreno@cityofbowie.org or 301-809-3076 or Bowie City Hall, 15901 Excalibur Road, Bowie, MD 20716. The deadline for submitting suggestions is November 16, 2015.

City Outreach Grants Awarded The Community Outreach Committee (COC) is pleased to announce the following winners of the 2015-2016 Grant Program: "Women Who Work - A Workforce Development Initiative" designed by the Institute for Creative Community Initiatives and "Understanding the Importance of Mental Health" by the National Alliance for Mental Health (NAMI) of Prince George's County. Funding is available for additional projects. Applications are available on the City's website, www.cityofbowie.org. For more information, please contact Committee Staff Liaison Sally Hein at shein@cityofbowie.org or 301-809-3014.

MUSEUMS

301-809-3089 or museumevents@cityofbowie.org

SLEEP TIGHT, DON'T LET THE BEDBUGS BITE: THE BED!

11/2, 9:30 a.m. - 4 p.m. Belair Mansion Annual History Lecture Historic beds, bedroom accessories and more. Four speakers, lunch and fun. \$75 (FOBE \$70)

TO GO A-SOLDIERING

11/7, 12 - 4 p.m. Belair Mansion Commemorate America's first veterans - the soldiers of the American Revolution. Free

CORDIALLY YOURS 11/14, 2 - 4 p.m. Belair Mansion The art of making cordials. Reservations required. \$20 (\$15 FOBE)

KIDS KABOOSE

11/17, 10:30 a.m. - 12 p.m. Bowie Railroad Museum Ages 1-10 Free

TRAINSPOTTING DAY

11/29, 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. Bowie Railroad Museum Lots of different trains on AMTRAK's busiest day of the year! Santa visits the Museum too! Free

CITY GYM

4100 Northview Drive
301-809-2388

THANKSGIVING DRIVE for Bowie Food Pantry through 11/20. Donation bin in lobby.

RECREATIONAL VOLLEYBALL Fridays, 11 a.m.

PICKLEBALL

Tuesdays and Thursdays, 9 - 11 a.m. Offered in partnership with the Senior Center. Similar to tennis, but with a lower net and a plastic whiffle-type ball.

WALKING PROGRAM

Monday - Friday, 8:30 - 10 a.m.

ROOM RENTALS

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

RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE

11/25, 2 - 8 p.m. Information: 1-800-REDCROSS or www.redcrossblood.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.

HONORING OUR VETERANS

11/5, 12:30 p.m.

ARTIST RECEPTION

11/10, 12:30 p.m.

PREVENTING AND TREATING HEART DISEASE: LOVE YOUR HEART 11/12, 10:30 a.m.

RECIPE EXCHANGE

11/18, 10 a.m.

MANAGING GRIEF THROUGH THE HOLIDAYS

11/30, 9:30 - 11:30 a.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