

# Bowie News Flash

**May 2017**

## **News**

### **This Weekend in Bowie**

Don't miss these popular events this Saturday, April 29:

- Plant Sale in the Bowie Library parking lot (on 450), 8 a.m. to noon.
- Arbor Day celebration at Acorn Hill Park on Stonybrook Drive, 10 a.m.
- Prescription Drug Take Back event at the Bowie Police Department, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

More information on these events is provided in the Events section below.

### **Centennial Finale & Family Fun Fair – May 6**

Bowie's yearlong centennial celebration concludes on Saturday, May 6, with a very special event at City Hall. Join us as we celebrate the past 100 years of Bowie history and march forward into the next 100 years! The festivities kick off at 11 a.m. with a short closing ceremony and the burial of a time capsule that will be opened in 2117. Then, beginning at noon, the Family Fun Fair will feature rides and games for kids, a DJ with music from the last 100 years, a display of big trucks from the Fire Department and the Public Works Department, an Open House at the Police Department, critters from Bowie's Big Purple Barn - and more! Admission and kids' rides are free. Food will be available for purchase from vendors at the Fair.

### **Hydrant Flushing Ends May 2**

The Bowie Public Works Department wraps up its annual fire hydrant flushing and testing program next week. The final neighborhoods on the schedule are:

April 28 - Yorktown & Overbrook

May 1 - Whitehall

May 2 - Rockledge

Hydrant flushing takes place from approximately 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. The flushing may cause some discoloration of your water. The water is safe for drinking and bathing even though it may be discolored. The discoloration is a result of rust and sediment buildup in the water lines and is not harmful. It should clear in approximately 24 hours. However, since the water mains are all interconnected, flushing of hydrants in adjacent sections could affect your water as well. Clothes washing is discouraged when flushing is scheduled in your neighborhood or nearby. If your clothes do become discolored by the water, keep them wet and rewash them using a rust remover once the water has cleared. Rust remover is available at City Hall and Public Works offices. For more information, please call the Public Works Department at 301-809-2344.

### **City Council Continues Fiscal 2018 Budget Deliberations**

The City Council will continue its annual review of the Proposed Budget for the coming fiscal year and the Capital Improvement Plan for FY 2018 - 2023. The sessions take place at City Hall at 8 p.m. on the dates listed below. They are open to the public. The public is invited to comment on the proposed budget at a public hearing on May 1.

- **City Council Meeting, Public Hearing and Budget Worksession #4 – May 1** Residents may comment on the budget at a Public Hearing during the Council meeting. The worksession that follows the Council Meeting will focus on the budgets of the City Manager’s Office, the Police Department, the Finance Department and the Nondepartmental budget.
- **Budget Worksession #5 – May 8** This final Budget Worksession will include a review of the budgets for the Department of Planning and Economic Development, the Information Technology Department, the Equipment Acquisition and Replacement Fund, General Fund Summaries, and the Appendix, which includes the Plan of Compensation.

### **SCMAGLEV High Speed Train Proposed**

Studies are underway to evaluate the feasibility of bringing very high speed train travel to the Washington, DC/Baltimore corridor. Some of the routes under consideration would pass through or very near Bowie. Visit [www.cityofbowie.org/scmaglev](http://www.cityofbowie.org/scmaglev) to view a map of the proposed routes. Detailed information about the project is at <http://baltimorewashingtonscmaglevproject.com>.

### **Business Appreciation Awards Breakfast – May 10**

The Business Recognition Breakfast is Wednesday, May 10, from 7:30 to 9:30 a.m. at the Bowie Comfort Inn. Cost per person is \$35. Please RSVP by May 5, 2017 at 301-262-0920. For additional information, visit the Greater Bowie Chamber of Commerce website at [www.bowiechamber.org](http://www.bowiechamber.org).

### **Being a Considerate Neighbor**

Summer is a great time to be outdoors. We ask residents and their guests to respect everyone’s right to a peaceful and quiet environment. Please refrain from making any loud or raucous noise that unreasonably disturbs your neighbors. Lawn maintenance equipment may be operated Monday to Friday, from 7 a.m. to 10 p.m., and Saturday and Sunday, from 9 a.m. to 10 p.m. The same hours apply for playing music, and for parties and other events. For more information, contact the Code Compliance Office at 301-809-3008.

### **Green Bowie Programs**

- **Free Trees.** The City of Bowie is offering 250 free trees to residents through Energy-Saving Trees, an Arbor Day Foundation program that helps conserve energy and reduce energy bills through strategic tree planting. City residents can reserve their free trees at [www.arborday.org/bowiemd](http://www.arborday.org/bowiemd). An online tool helps residents estimate the annual energy savings that will result from planting trees in the most strategic location near their homes. Residents can reserve up to two trees and are expected to care for and plant them in the location provided by the online tool. The types of trees offered include: *Bald Cypress, Eastern Redbud, Flowering Dogwood, Northern Red Oak, Red Maple, and Shadblow Serviceberry*. The program will continue until all 250 trees are reserved. The two-to-four-foot tall trees will be delivered

directly to participants at an ideal time for planting. For more information, please contact Kristin Larson at [klarson@cityofbowie.org](mailto:klarson@cityofbowie.org) or 301-809-3044.

- **Certified Backyard Habitat Tour.** On Saturday, May 20, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., the Green Team Gardens for Wildlife group will host its sixth Annual Certified Habitat Tour. Visit six homes that have been certified by the National Wildlife Federation as Backyard Wildlife Habitats to learn how your neighbors welcome birds, butterflies, and other wildlife to their yards. This year's tour features the 2016 Distinguished Yard winner, which is the top honor in Bowie's annual Beautification Awards. More information and a map of the sites is available at [www.cityofbowie.org/habitat](http://www.cityofbowie.org/habitat) or by contacting Kristin Larson at 301-809-3044 or [klarson@cityofbowie.org](mailto:klarson@cityofbowie.org).
- **\$20 Compost Bins Available at City Hall.** City residents may purchase up to two compost bins per household. Payment is by cash or check at the Finance window during the City's business hours (Monday to Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.) and by check only at the reception desk during City Hall's night and Saturday hours (Monday to Thursday until 10 p.m., Saturday, 8:30 a.m. to 12 p.m.). Details at [www.cityofbowie.org/compost](http://www.cityofbowie.org/compost).
- **\$50 and \$100 Tree Rebates.** Purchase certain trees at any Maryland nursery or store this year and receive a rebate. There are 11 species of trees eligible for rebates. Applications and program details can be viewed at [www.cityofbowie.org/treerebate](http://www.cityofbowie.org/treerebate).
- **\$50 Lawn Mower Rebates.** Buying a new mower? City residents who purchase a new mulching, electric, or manual reel mower are eligible to receive a \$50 rebate from the City of Bowie. To obtain your cash rebate, bring proof of City residency and the receipt for a mulching, electric, or manual reel mower to the Finance Department at City Hall. Questions? Call 301-809-3020.

### **Bowie Solar Co-op Deadline is May 31**

Neighbors in Bowie and surrounding Prince George's County can now join the MD SUN Bowie Solar Co-op to get assistance with going solar. The Solar Co-op is based on the same principle as buying in bulk, and registration for the co-op itself is not a commitment to install panels. By going solar as a group and choosing a single installer, each participant generally saves up to 20% off the cost of their system. For more information and to register for the co-op, visit [www.mdsun.org/bowie](http://www.mdsun.org/bowie).

### **Bike to Work Day – Friday, May 19**

If you ride your bike to work on Bike to Work Day, we hope you will stop by one of two Bowie pit stops at Bowie Town Center Food Court and Old Town Bowie Fire Station between 6:30 and 8:30 a.m. for snacks and giveaways. Join thousands of area commuters and show your support for bicycling by taking part in a clean, fun and healthy way to get to work. Register at [www.biketoworkmetrodc.org](http://www.biketoworkmetrodc.org) or by calling 1-800-745-7433. Register by May 12 for a free t-shirt and bike raffles. Contact Frank Stevens at 301-809-3053 or [fstevens@cityofbowie.org](mailto:fstevens@cityofbowie.org) for more information.

### **Farmers' Market Opens Sunday, May 21**

Join us for the Bowie Farmers' Market Opening Day on Sunday, May 21 from 8 a.m. to 12 p.m. Market vendors will 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) through October 29, 2017. For more information, contact Matt Corley at 301-809-3078 or [mcorley@cityofbowie.org](mailto:mcorley@cityofbowie.org). Keep up with news of the Bowie Farmers' Market on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/BowieFarmersMarket](http://www.facebook.com/BowieFarmersMarket).

### **Celebrate Heritage Day on May 21**

On Sunday, May 21, from 12 to 4 p.m., enjoy free pony rides, balloon hats, hands-on-fun and crafts at Belair Stable. There will also be tours at the Mansion; the NTrack Modelers at the Railroad Museum; and an open house at the Genealogy Library on that date. Admission to all venues is free. For more information, contact the Museums Office at 301-809-3089 or [museumevents@cityofbowie.org](mailto:museumevents@cityofbowie.org).

### **Memorial Day Weekend Parade is Saturday, May 27**

The Parade begins at 11 a.m. at the Bowie High School Annex (3021 Belair Drive). Participants will march along Belair Drive to Sussex Lane, then onto Stonybrook Drive to Sage Lane. The reviewing stand, along with concession stands and restrooms, will be located in Acorn Hill Park on Stonybrook Drive. For more information, visit [www.cityofbowie.org/parade](http://www.cityofbowie.org/parade) or call 301-809-3078 to participate.

### **Summer Concerts Begin May 28**

Enjoy a variety of musical genres this summer at concerts sponsored by the City of Bowie. Concerts are held at Allen Pond Park on Sunday evenings from May 28 to September 3 at 7 p.m. and on the Town Green in Old Town Bowie from June 10 to July 29 at 4 p.m. Be sure to bring a blanket or chair for seating. View the concert schedule at [www.cityofbowie.org/concerts](http://www.cityofbowie.org/concerts). Concerts are canceled in the event of inclement weather.

### **Memorial Day Holiday – Monday, May 29**

Monday, May 29 is a City holiday. City offices are closed. There is no refuse or recycling collection on this day. Since there are no makeup dates, the next pickup will take place on your next regularly scheduled day.

### **Community Development Draft Action Plan Available for Review and Comment**

The Annual Action Plan provides a description of the City's programs for the Community Development Block Grant Program (CDBG) and other funds allocated toward the implementation of objectives outlined in the Five Year Strategy Plan, which is included in the Consolidated Plan for Housing and Community Development. The Five Year Strategy Plan identifies community needs and proposed solutions in the areas of housing, special needs, economic development, and non-housing community development. The City's CDBG activities benefit low and moderate-income persons by making improvements through the Senior Citizen Housing Rehabilitation Program. View the plan at [www.cityofbowie.org/cdbg](http://www.cityofbowie.org/cdbg).

### **Become a Mentor to a High School Student**

The Bowie Youth & Family Services Teen Mentoring Program is accepting mentor applications for the 2016 - 2017 school year. For more information or to apply, please contact Volunteer Coordinator Rhonda Simon at [mentor@cityofbowie.org](mailto:mentor@cityofbowie.org) or 301-809-3033.

### **More Children's Books Needed!**

Do you have children's books that your children have outgrown or that are gathering dust at home? The Bowie Education Committee is collecting books to be given away to children at Bowiefest on June 3. For more information, or to donate, please contact Matt Corley at 301-809-3078 or [mcorley@cityofbowie.org](mailto:mcorley@cityofbowie.org).

### **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 the city. The submission deadline is June 23, 2017. For more information, or to obtain a nomination form, visit [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).

### ***Blooms***

Come check out the beautiful display of floral artwork in the *Blooms* Exhibit in the City Hall Art Gallery. The exhibit runs through June 16. It is free and open to the public. Gallery hours are City Hall hours: Monday to Thursday, 8:30 a.m. - 10 p.m.; Friday 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m., and Saturday 8:30 a.m. to 12 p.m. The public is invited to an artist reception for the *Blooms* Exhibit on May 17, from 7 to 8 p.m. at City Hall.

### **Dolphin Tank Event**

The Bowie Business Innovation Center is hosting a "Dolphin Tank" Pitch Event and networking reception on May 3 from 6 to 9 p.m. at the Kenhill Center. Young companies that are clients of business accelerators and incubators in Prince George's County will pitch their company or business idea and receive feedback from a panel of seasoned entrepreneurs, angel investors and industry veterans who make suggestions for improving business models, marketing approaches, and business challenges. The audience also asks questions and offers advice. All are welcome to attend this free event, but registration is required. Visit [http://dolphintank\\_bowiebic2017.eventbrite.com](http://dolphintank_bowiebic2017.eventbrite.com).

The City of Bowie is currently seeking candidates for the following openings:

- Executive Office Associate (closes 5/5/17)
- Director of Information Technology (closes 5/12/17)
- Entry Level Police Officer (open)
- Lateral Police Officer (open)
- Engineering Assistant (closes 4/28/17)
- Assistant Director - Public Works (closes 5/5/17)

Visit [www.cityofbowie.org/jobs](http://www.cityofbowie.org/jobs) for more information.

### **Thunderstorm and Lightning Precautions**

All thunderstorms are dangerous and all thunderstorm produce lightening. Thunderstorms can occur singularly, in clusters or in lines where warm, humid conditions exist. Lightening's unpredictability increases the risk to individuals and property and can strike as far as 10 miles away from any rainfall. Remember that "heat lightening" is actually lightening from a thunderstorm too far away for thunder to be heard, but the storm could be moving in your direction.

You should familiarize yourself with these terms to help you identify a thunderstorm hazard:

- **Severe Thunderstorm Watch** – when conditions in your area are favorable for the development of a severe thunderstorm but does not necessarily mean severe weather is actually occurring.
- **Severe Thunderstorm Warning** – is issued when trained storm spotters or radar indicates a thunderstorm is or will soon produce dangerous hail or high winds and lightening capable of causing significant damage.

To prepare for thunderstorms, you should:

- Remove dead or rotting trees and branches that could fall and cause injury or damage.
- Postpone outdoor activities.
- Suspend outdoor activities at least 30 minutes after the last clap of thunder is heard.
- Secure outdoor objects that could blow away or cause damage.
- Get inside a home, building or a hard top vehicle.
- After you see lightening, start counting to 30. If you hear thunder before you reach 30, go indoors.

For more information on thunderstorm precautions, go to [Ready.gov](https://www.ready.gov) or contact Emergency Manager Lee Cornwell at 301-809-3079 or [lcornwell@cityofbowie.org](mailto:lcornwell@cityofbowie.org).

### **Do You Believe in Magic?**

Have you ever wanted to learn how to perform magic or amazing card tricks? Professional magician and stage illusionist Alex deTessieres will host two magic workshops at the Senior Center on Thursday, May 18 at 12:30 p.m. and 5:30 p.m. Alex has a very fun and patient approach to his instruction. Each workshop will be 90 minutes long and will focus on beginner magic with cards and small magic effects. The sessions will be highly interactive and group participation is encouraged. All magic props and supplies will be provided and will be yours to keep. No previous magic experience is necessary. The cost is \$10 per person. Individuals with special needs are welcome. Register at the Bowie Senior Center by May 16. Participants, ages 10 to 17 years old, are welcome at the evening workshop, but must have a parent present.

Alex deTessieres will also host two free magic shows at the Senior Center. The May 2 show is at 12:30 and is for seniors. The May 16 show is at 6 p.m. and is open to the public. Learn more about the magician at [www.magicofspeed.com](http://www.magicofspeed.com).

### **Bowie Volunteer Fire Department Needs Volunteers**

Are you interested in becoming a volunteer firefighter or helping to support the important work of the Bowie Volunteer Fire Department? Being a volunteer can be a very rewarding experience. Orientation sessions are held monthly at Station 43 on Pointer Ridge Drive. Visit [www.bowievfd.org](http://www.bowievfd.org) or call 301-809-0122 for more information.

## Events

**4/29 – Spring Plant Sale** 8 a.m. - 12 p.m. at the Bowie Library Parking Lot on Annapolis Road. Purchase perennials, annuals, shrubbery, and vegetables at this sale sponsored by the Bowie-Crofton Garden Club and the Bowie Green Team. For more information, visit [www.bcgardenclub.org](http://www.bcgardenclub.org) or contact Kristin Larson at 301-809-3044 or [klarson@cityofbowie.org](mailto:klarson@cityofbowie.org).

**4/29 – Arbor Day Celebration** 10 a.m. at Acorn Hill Park on Stonybrook Drive.

**4/29 – Prescription Drug Take Back Day** 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Bowie Police Department. Safely dispose of unwanted or expired prescription drugs and over the counter medications at this event sponsored by the Bowie Police Department and the US Drug Enforcement Administration. For more information, contact Cpl. Moten at [rmoten@cityofbowie.org](mailto:rmoten@cityofbowie.org) or 240-544-5774.

**5/1 – City Council Meeting, Public Hearing on Budget, and Budget Worksession #4** 8 p.m. at City Hall. The public is invited to comment on the Proposed Budget, Capital Improvements Program and Constant Yield Tax Rate. Budget Worksession #4 will follow the Council Meeting and will focus on the budgets of the City Manager’s Office, the Police Department, the Finance Department, and the Non Departmental Budget.

**5/2 – Magic Show** 12:30 p.m. at the Bowie Senior Center. Free. For more information, please contact the Senior Center at 301-809-2300.

**5/3 – Bowie Business Innovation Center Dolphin Tank Event** 6 - 9 p.m. at the Kenhill Center. Registration required at [https://dolphintank\\_bowiebic2017.eventbrite.com](https://dolphintank_bowiebic2017.eventbrite.com). Call 301-383-1550 for information.

**5/5 – 5/13 “The Uninvited” at Bowie Playhouse** For tickets and information, visit [www.pglit.org](http://www.pglit.org) or call 301-832-4819.

**5/6 – Centennial Finale and Family Fun Fair** 11 a.m. - 5 p.m. at City Hall. The ceremony begins at 11 a.m. and will be followed by a Family Fun Fair from noon to 5 p.m. on the grounds of City Hall. For more information, please contact 301-809-3089 or [museumevents@cityofbowie.org](mailto:museumevents@cityofbowie.org).

**5/6 - Weed Warrior Day** at Whitemarsh Park 9 a.m. - 12 p.m. Volunteers are needed to help remove invasive English ivy from Whitemarsh Park. This is a great Student Service Learning opportunity. 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. To register, contact Kristin Larson at [klarson@cityofbowie.org](mailto:klarson@cityofbowie.org) or 301-809-3044.

**5/7 – Exhibit: Outlander Comes to Bowie!** 6:30 p.m. at Belair Mansion Free. For more information, please contact 301-809-3089 or [museumevents@cityofbowie.org](mailto:museumevents@cityofbowie.org).

**5/8 – City Council Budget Worksession #5** 8 p.m. at City Hall. Budget deliberations will wrap up with this final worksession where the following budget sections will be reviewed: Planning and

Economic Development Department, Information Technology Department, Equipment Acquisition and Replacement Fund, General Fund Summaries, Appendix, and Wrap-up.

**5/9 – Senior Center Program: Board Game Workshop** 5 - 7 p.m. at the Bowie Senior Center. Free. For more information, please contact the Senior Center at 301-809-2300.

**5/10 – Business Appreciation Awards Breakfast** 7:30 – 9:30 a.m. Visit [www.bowiechamber.org](http://www.bowiechamber.org) or call 301-262-0920 for more information.

**5/10 – Senior Chorale Concert** 4 to 5 p.m. at the Bowie Senior Center. For more information, please contact the Senior Center at 301-809-2300. (The May 11<sup>th</sup> concert at the Senior Center is sold out.)

**5/14 – Mother’s Day at Belair Mansion** 12 - 4 p.m. Peruse the Mansion exhibits and then enjoy a 20% discount in the Museum Shop. For more information, please contact 301-809-3089 or [museumevents@cityofbowie.org](mailto:museumevents@cityofbowie.org).

**5/15 – Variety Show: Singin’ In the Rain** 10:30 a.m. at the Bowie Senior Center. For more information, please contact the Senior Center at 301-809-2300.

**5/15 – City Council Meeting - Adoption of 2018 Budget and Capital Improvements Program** 8 p.m. at City Hall.

**5/16 – 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).

**5/16 – Magic Show** 6 p.m. at the Bowie Senior Center. Free. This show is open to the public. For more information, please contact the Senior Center at 301-809-2300.

**5/16 – Stakeholders Meeting** 7 p.m. at the Kenhill Center to update interested parties on sewer extension work for Whitemarsh Park. This project will involve work on Forest Drive.

**5/17 – Senior Chorale Concert Celebrating 100 Years of Bowie** 7:30 p.m. at the Bowie Center for the Performing Arts. Tickets for this performance may be obtained at the Senior Center for \$8 each. For more information, please contact the Senior Center at 301-809-2300.

**5/18 – Magic Workshops** 12:30 and 5:30 p.m. at the Bowie Senior Center. The 5:30 show is open to all participants ages 10 and up.

**5/19 – Bike to Work Day** 6:30 - 8:30 a.m. Pit Stops at Bowie Town Center Food Court and Old Town Bowie Fire Station, 9<sup>th</sup> Street. Register at [www.biketoworkmetrodc.org](http://www.biketoworkmetrodc.org) or by calling 1-800-745-7433.

**5/20 – Putting Our New Quilt to Bed** 1 - 2:30 p.m. at Belair Mansion. Free. For more information, please contact 301-809-3089 or [museumevents@cityofbowie.org](mailto:museumevents@cityofbowie.org).



**5/20 – Tour of Certified Backyard Habitats** 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. at various locations in Bowie. Call 301-809-3044 for details or visit [www.cityofbowie.org/habitat](http://www.cityofbowie.org/habitat).

**5/21 – Farmers’ Market Opening Day** 8 a.m. - 12 p.m. in the parking lot of the Bowie Center for the Performing Arts at Bowie High School. For more information, contact Matt Corley at 301-809-3078 or [mcorley@cityofbowie.org](mailto:mcorley@cityofbowie.org).

**5/21 – Bowie Heritage Day** 12 - 4 p.m. Activities at the Belair Mansion and Stable, the Railroad Museum and the Genealogy Library. Free. For more information, please contact 301-809-3089 or [museumevents@cityofbowie.org](mailto:museumevents@cityofbowie.org).

**5/24 - 26 – Senior Center Information Fair: Family Relationships in an Aging Society** Various activities will take place during the Fair, including a skit about marriage on 5/24 at 12:30 p.m., a discussion on senior issues on 5/25 at 10 a.m. , and a Vendor Fair on 5/26 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. For more information, please contact the Senior Center at 301-809-2300.

**5/27 – Memorial Day Weekend Parade** 11 a.m. The parade begins at the Belair Annex to Bowie High School, 3021 Belair Drive and ends at Acorn Hill Park on Stonybrook Drive. For information, go to [www.cityofbowie.org/parade](http://www.cityofbowie.org/parade) or call 301-809-3078.

**5/28 – Sunday Sunset Concert Series – US Navy Band Commodores** 7 - 8 p.m. at Robert V. Setera Amphitheater, Allen Pond Park. For the full summer concert schedule, visit [www.cityofbowie.org/concerts](http://www.cityofbowie.org/concerts).

**5/29 – Memorial Day Holiday** City offices are closed on this date. There will be no trash or recycling pickup on the holiday.

*Note: The City of Bowie’s next Community Shredding Event will take place in late June. Look for an announcement in next month’s News Flash.*