



# BOWIE SPOTLIGHT

The Official Newsletter of the City of Bowie

Phone: 301-262-6200

[www.cityofbowie.org](http://www.cityofbowie.org)

October 2017

## Bowie International Festival - October 7

Experience the cultures of many countries as you travel around the world in one day at the Bowie International Festival, Saturday, **October 7**, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m., at Allen Pond Park. There is entertainment for everyone - from a Chinese dragon and the music of Australia to dancers of Europe, Asia and South America, as well as, bands representing the heritage of Africa, Jamaica, and Ireland. Enjoy food from different countries and artisans selling everything from jewelry to crafts and clothing. Children can travel around the world with their "passports" and enjoy activities, stories and games from many cultures. Admission to the International Festival is free and parking is available either in the park or on local streets. Information: [www.cityofbowie.org/internationalfest](http://www.cityofbowie.org/internationalfest), 301-809-3078 or [mcorley@cityofbowie.org](mailto:mcorley@cityofbowie.org).

**Top Gardens Honored** The yard of Ryan McNally captured the top award for the 2017 Distinguished Yard at the 22nd Annual Beautification Awards held at City Hall. This event was cosponsored by Soroptimist International of Bowie-Crofton. Thanks to the nominees who have made Bowie a beautiful place to live and to the sponsors, Patuxent Nursery and Frank's Garden Center, who provided prizes and decorations. For a complete list of winners visit [www.cityofbowie.org/beautification](http://www.cityofbowie.org/beautification).

## Green Bowie

**Energy Audit Program** Save money and improve the comfort of your home with a no-cost BGE comprehensive energy audit available to Bowie homeowners. Complete an application online at [www.cityofbowie.org/eap](http://www.cityofbowie.org/eap) or in the Planning Department at City Hall, Monday - Friday, 8:30 a.m. - 5 p.m.

**Beautify Bowie - Plant a Tree** Add beauty, shade, and privacy to your yard. Tree rebates of \$50 and \$100 are available for City residents who would like to purchase up to two trees to plant on their property. Trees can be purchased at any Maryland nursery or store this year and there are 11 native species of trees eligible for rebates. Applications and details at [www.cityofbowie.org/treerebate](http://www.cityofbowie.org/treerebate).

Information: Ashleigh Armentrout, 301-809-3044 or [armentrout@cityofbowie.org](mailto:armentrout@cityofbowie.org)

## What's Bouncing at the City Gym?

**Morning Walking** Weekdays, 8:30 - 10 a.m.

**Pickleball** Tuesdays and Thursdays, 10 a.m. - 12 p.m. Learn to play!

**Coed Recreational Volleyball** Fridays, 11 a.m. - 1 p.m. No experience needed. Come out and make new friends, have fun and get some quality exercise.

**Coed Drop-In Volleyball** Wednesdays, 7 - 9 p.m. Needs players. For more information contact Charlee Owens at 301-249-2142 or [charleeowens@verizon.net](mailto:charleeowens@verizon.net).

**Senior Fit** Monday, Wednesday and Friday, 9 - 10 a.m. Hosted by Holy Cross Hospital at the Gym. Participants must register with Holy Cross. For information and registration, call Sara McKechnie at 301-754-7895.

**Meeting Room Rentals Available** Can accommodate groups of 35 or less. \$25 per hour. Call 301-809-2388 for availability.

For more information on any of these programs, contact the City Gym at **301-809-2388**.

**Bowie Awarded Dog Park Grant** The City is pleased to announce that it recently received a \$10,000 grant from PetSafe for use in the maintenance of the City's Dog Park. Bowie is one of 25 cities across the country to receive an award from PetSafe, an industry leader in the development of innovative pet behavioral, containment and lifestyle product solutions. The City will use the grant award to maintain the mulch surface in the Park. The Dog Park is a one-acre facility where dogs may run off leash. It is located at 3600 Northview Drive.

## New City of Bowie Water Fees

Customers of the City's Water & Sewer System see a new fee on their bill. Entitled "Renewal and Replacement Fee" it was put in place July 1 to help pay for the replacement of aging pipes in the water distribution system. The City's system was constructed in the early 1960s when much of Levitt Bowie was developed. The system provides service to approximately 7,900 customers, which is less than 40% of all City households. Now over 50 years old, it is in need of upgrading.

The Water System consists of the water treatment plant, 90 miles of water mains, three water storage tanks and six water wells. The Sewer System consists of the wastewater treatment plant, 85 miles of collection mains and eight pumping stations. The costs of the system are borne by the system's customers. No tax revenue supports the system. In order to pay for the necessary upgrades, a new quarterly fee of \$22.75 was imposed on July 1, 2017. Work on upgrading the pipes will take place this year in Long Ridge and will continue over the next several years throughout the entire system.

There will also be a rate increase for Fiscal Year 2018. The water rate increase is \$.23 per thousand gallons and \$.34 for sewer services. This will pay for increased costs associated with managing the system. Between the new fee and the rate increase, customers should expect their bill to be approximately \$30 more per quarter.

**MAGLEV** The Maryland Department of Transportation will host an open house for the Baltimore-Washington SCMAGLEV (superconducting magnetic levitation) Project on Saturday, **October 14, 2017**, 10 a.m. - 1 p.m. at Bowie State University's Student Center. For more information, visit [www.bwmaglev.info](http://www.bwmaglev.info).

**Prescription Drug Take Back** Saturday, **October 28**, 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. at the Bowie Police Department, 15901 Excalibur Road. Dispose of unused/unwanted drugs in a safe manner. For more information on this and other programs, contact 240-544-5700 or visit [www.cityofbowie.org/police](http://www.cityofbowie.org/police).

## City Applies for Federal Crime Prevention Grant

The City submitted a grant application in response to the U.S. Department of Justice Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant (BJAG) Program FY 2017 local solicitation. The BJAG program provides federal criminal justice funding to states and local governments to prevent or reduce crime and violence. If awarded, funding would provide technology upgrades to enhance training facilities, increase training cost effectiveness, increase the availability of training and provide live interactive web-based viewing capabilities for City police officers, staff, community safety groups, plus officers and agencies from neighboring jurisdictions. Visit [www.cityofbowie.org/grants](http://www.cityofbowie.org/grants) to review the City's filing, or stop by the front desk at City Hall from September 17 - October 13, 2017 to view a copy of the application. Please send questions or comments to [bowiebjag17@cityofbowie.org](mailto:bowiebjag17@cityofbowie.org).

**Did You Know ...** Bowie Animal Control receives calls daily regarding foxes in residential neighborhoods. It may surprise you to know that foxes were first introduced to Maryland in the mid-eighteenth century. Over the years they have learned to coexist with humans in urban settings. Sightings of gray foxes are increasing. They are taller and longer than the red fox. Gray foxes are described as having a grizzled gray on top with reddish color below and on the back of their head; tail with a black tip; and white on the throat. We encourage everyone to respect their existence. Be aware of wild animals exhibiting abnormal behavior; if observed, contact Bowie Animal Control at 301-809-3002.

**Annie Get Your Gun** 9/22 - 10/21 at the Bowie Playhouse. Tickets: 301-832-4819 or [www.2ndstarproductions.com](http://www.2ndstarproductions.com).

**All I Have is a Photograph** City Hall Art Gallery exhibit open until 11/18. Free and open to the public.

For information, contact Matt Corley at [mcorley@cityofbowie.org](mailto:mcorley@cityofbowie.org) or 301-809-3078.

## MUSEUMS

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

**18TH CENTURY HOUSEWIFE - BROWN BAG LUNCH** 10/2, 12 p.m. Belair Mansion Free

**BELAIR AND THE THOROUGHbred - SECOND TUESDAY LECTURE** 10/10, 7:30 p.m. Belair Mansion Free

**GAMES PEOPLE PLAYED** 10/14, 12 - 4 p.m. Belair Mansion Drop in and enjoy games from the past. Free

**HOME SCHOOL OPEN HOUSE** 10/17, 10 a.m. - 1 p.m. Belair Mansion Free

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

**TWO MONTHS 'TIL CHRISTMAS SALE** 10/22, 12 - 4 p.m. Belair Mansion Gift Shop 10% off everything in the Shop.

**FAIRY TALE FRIDAY** 10/27, 10 - 11 a.m. Belair Mansion Stories, snack and a craft.

**HALLOWEEN HISTORY - BROWN BAG LUNCH** 10/30, 12 - 1 p.m. Belair Mansion

## Ice Arena

3330 Northview Drive  
301-809-3090

### GROUP LESSONS

Begin October 5. Classes for children 18 months of age to adults. Register at the Ice Arena.

**HALLOWEEN ON ICE PARTY** 10/28, 1 - 3 p.m. Wear a costume or bring a canned good for free admission. Costume contest, treat bags and lots of skating fun for the whole family!

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.

**A TASTE OF ITALY** 10/6, 11:30 a.m. Chef will demonstrate and serve Italian meal. Preregistration required.

### BONSAI SHOW

10/18, 9 a.m. - 12 p.m. Open to the public.

**LIVING WELL WITH CHRONIC CONDITIONS WORKSHOP** 10/23 (seven weeks), 9:30 a.m. - 12 p.m. Preregistration required.

**ARMCHAIR TOUR: LONDON, PART II** 10/25, 12:30 p.m.

**AUTUMN HARVEST CELEBRATION** 10/27, 12:30 p.m. Preregistration required \$5 residents/\$6 nonresidents

## CITY COUNCIL

Mayor G. Frederick Robinson  
Mayor Pro Tem Henri Gardner  
Michael P. Esteve  
Courtney D. Glass  
James L. Marcos  
Diane M. Polangin  
Isaac Trouth

## CITY MANAGER

Alfred D. Lott  
301-809-3030