

Bowie News Flash

Update – as of May 17, 2018

Celebrate Bowie Heritage Day - May 20

For more than forty years, the City has celebrated its rich history on a Sunday in May. This year, Bowie Heritage Day, will take place at the Belair Stable Museum and the Belair Mansion on May 20. Learn all about why the Belair Stud is known as the cradle of Thoroughbred horse racing, why Belair Mansion is sometimes called the house of Governors, why Bowie takes special pride in the Preakness each year, and much more at Heritage Day 2018. Enjoy free pony rides, face painting and more at the Belair Stable. Tour Belair Mansion or visit the Railroad Museum in Old Town Bowie for a special train display. Hours are 12 to 4 p.m. and admission is free at all Bowie museums.

Farmers' Market Opens This Sunday - May 20

One sure sign that summer is on the way is the opening of the Bowie Farmers' Market. This Sunday, local farmers and other food vendors will be back for the 2018 season to offer their fresh produce, meats, flowers, baked goods, homemade relishes and jams, and other treats. The market operates in the Bowie High School parking lot each Sunday through the end of October. Hours are 8 a.m. to noon.

Budget Adoption Meeting - May 21

At its regular meeting on Monday, May 21, City Council is expected to adopt the Proposed Budget for the Fiscal Year beginning July 1, 2018 and the Capital Improvements Program for FY 2019 - FY 2024. After careful deliberation and much discussion, Council has decided to reduce spending and defer some projects, so that the real property tax rate can remain at 40 cents per \$100 of assessed value. This will mark the ninth year without an increase in the City tax rate. The public is invited to attend this meeting, which will begin in the Council Chambers at City Hall at 8 p.m.

Community Meeting on Rezoning of Jesuit Property - May 22

Whitemarsh Elm LC will host a community meeting on May 22 to share information about a rezoning application for property on Annapolis Road, locally known as the Jesuit property. The matter is currently pending before the Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission.

The applicant is proposing to build 400 - 500 homes on three parcels of land near Sacred Heart Church. The parcels, which are outside the municipal boundaries of Bowie, are currently zoned R-E (Residential Estate) and R-A (Residential Agriculture). Whitemarsh Elm LC is seeking to have the zoning changed to R-S (Residential Suburban) to accommodate the envisioned development. The meeting, which will include a short presentation and question and answer session, will take place on Tuesday, May 22, at 7 p.m. in the Multi-Purpose Room at the Kenhill Center.

Celebrate Bowie Day on NBC4 – May 22

NBC 4 will be celebrating Bowie on Tuesday, May 22nd. They'll be broadcasting live from Bowie Town Center in the 6 a.m. hour and the 11 a.m. Featured segments include local restaurants, the "Dynamic Superiors" a Motown band that will be performing at Bowiefest, why Bowie is a great place to live or own a business, Bowie Green Team, and lots more! Come on out and show your Bowie pride and perhaps you'll end up on television!

Melford Stakeholders Meeting - May 24

A Stakeholders Meeting will be held on Thursday, May 24 at 7 p.m. in the Council Chambers at Bowie City Hall regarding a Detailed Site Plan for Infrastructure for future townhouses at Melford. This Detailed Site Plan is for specific infrastructure improvements, such as locations of water and sanitary sewer lines, stormwater pipes, inlets and manholes, fire hydrants, street and parking area layouts, and bio-retention areas.

A Preliminary Subdivision Plan for townhouses at Melford was approved by the County in 2017. This plan is a more detailed and refined version of that earlier plan. At this point, there are no architectural building or lighting plans to review; those will be submitted and reviewed at a future time and at future public meetings.

Memorial Parade - May 26

Bowie's hometown parade is Saturday, May 26. It begins at 11 a.m. at the Bowie High School Annex, located at 3021 Belair Drive.

This annual event is a great opportunity to enjoy some talented performances, connect with your neighbors, and honor the hard work and many sacrifices of those who serve or have served our country in the Armed Forces.

Participants will march along Belair Drive to Sussex Lane, then to Stonybrook Drive, and end at 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 or call 301-809-3078.

Sunday Sunset Concert Series Begins - May 27

The Sunday Sunset Concert Series kicks off on Sunday, May 27 with the smooth jazz sounds of the US Navy Band Commodores at the Robert V. Setera Amphitheater in Allen Pond Park. Concerts are held every Sunday from 7 to 8 p.m. through September 2. They are canceled in case of inclement weather. For more information or to see the list of performers, visit www.cityofbowie.org/concerts or call 301-809-3078 or email mcorley@cityofbowie.org.

Memorial Day Holiday - Monday, May 28

Monday, May 28 is a City holiday. City offices are closed. There is no refuse or recycling collection on this day. Collection will resume on the next regularly scheduled day.

Senior Center Information and Referral Fair - May 30 - June 1

Each spring, the Senior Center hosts a free fair to bring special entertainment and information to the community. The theme of this year's Information and Referral Fair is "Making Today Matter."

It kicks off on Wednesday, May 30, at 10 a.m. with a fashion show. Patrons and guest models from our community and surrounding Prince George's County will be featured. On Thursday, May 31, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. there will be a series of "hands-on" workshops. Topics include budgets, pharmacy needs, preventive care home visits, spring cleaning and getting rid of clutter, transportation, housing, and much more. On Friday, June 1, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. there will be a Senior Information and Referral Vendor Fair. A variety of professionals will have displays and answer questions on a variety of subjects and services of interest to seniors and those who love them. Contact Gloria Gaddy, Senior Information & Referral Specialist, at 301-809-2377.

Race Track Road Pedestrian Improvements Meeting - May 30

Prince George's County wants to improve pedestrian walkways and access to Race Track Road between Clearfield Drive and Marquette Lane. Officials from the County Department of Public Works and Transportation will host a public information session on Wednesday, May 30 at Yorktown Elementary School, between the hours of 6 p.m. and 9 p.m. to discuss their plans. Proposed improvements include new signals, new crosswalks, construction of a hiker-biker sidewalk, and relocation of the Yorktown Elementary School driveway entrance. Maps and displays will provide information and residents can pose questions of DPW & T staff members. Learn more details in a flyer prepared by DPW & T. It can be found at www.cityofbowie.org/racetrackroad.

The Bowie Police Department Invites You to Join Them for Special Olympics Run

The Bowie Police Department is hosting a Law Enforcement Torch Run on June 5. This 3K Fun Run will be held on Tuesday, June 5, beginning at 10:30 a.m. Join officers and City employees as they run from Bowie Plaza to the Bowie Marketplace (Chick-Fil-A).

Registration is now open. Sign up today and support the athletes of Special Olympics Maryland. Register online at <http://bit.ly/2I8WktY>. Interested participants can also join our team by registering in person at the Bowie Police Station at 15901 Excalibur Road or by contacting the Police Department. Register on the day of the event, beginning at 9:30 a.m. Cash, check (made payable to "Special Olympics", and credit card (day of only) accepted. For more information or to register, please call 240-544-5797. Registration is \$15 and will include a Torch Run t-shirt. Lunch and transportation back to start point will be provided by the Police Department.