



# BOWIE SPOTLIGHT

The Official Newsletter of the City of Bowie

Phone: 301-262-6200

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

February 2019

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## National Anthem and "Voice of Bowie" Auditions

The City will hold open auditions for individuals or groups to perform the National Anthem at City special events and for those interested in being the stage announcer at the Memorial Day Parade, Bowiefest, 4th of July and the International Festival.

Auditions for the National Anthem will be held in the Council Chambers at City Hall (15901 Excalibur Road) on **Saturday, March 2, 2019** beginning at **9 a.m.** Participants must be prepared to perform the National Anthem a cappella for a judging panel.

Auditions for the Voice of Bowie will begin at approximately **11 a.m.** Candidates will be asked to read from a prepared script for a judging panel. The chosen performer(s) will be invited to perform at various City-sponsored special events. For information or to schedule an audition, contact Special Events Manager Matt Corley at 301-809-3078 or [mcorley@cityofbowie.org](mailto:mcorley@cityofbowie.org).

## City Council Meetings to Note

- **February 4** City Council Meeting, 8 p.m. AECOM, Amendment to Prince George's County Water and Sewer Plan (#18/W-07, The Redeemed Christian Church of God/Victory Temple)
- **February 19** City Council Meeting, 8 p.m. Update on Environmental Initiatives, Mid-Year Budget Report

For information, contact the City Clerk at 301-809-3029 or [ahernandez@cityofbowie.org](mailto:ahernandez@cityofbowie.org).

## Trash Talk

For the men and women involved in the refuse and recycling industry, it's a sometimes challenging job that affords outside work, physical activity, a certain measure of independence, and the satisfaction of knowing that what they do is important. It's also a job with hazards around every corner. Incidents of refuse workers being struck by vehicles are high on the list of the industry's hazards, and data from the last five years show the percentage of industry fatalities from "struck-by" incidents is increasing.

When you see a refuse or recycling truck in front of you on the street, please slow down and pay attention to what's happening. It's possible that a worker is about to cross in front of you to pick up the trash and if you speed up to go around the truck, you may be putting them in danger.

We appreciate your patience when you come upon any of our refuse and recycling trucks as they do their collections. We value their lives and the service they provide to the City and we want to make sure they arrive home to their families safely each night.

## "Thanks!" from Animal Control

The Animal Control Office is always striving to improve its service and public perception. Much of the work could not be accomplished without the many dedicated volunteers who have assisted in the trap and release program and cleaning and feeding duties; thank you for all your work!

Thanks also to the residents who call us with information resulting in our ability to educate pet owners and ensure the safety of all animals. City residents have demonstrated a level of patience and kindness while they are often times forced to coexist with wild animals. We look forward to continuing to our work with both the public and other humane entities. Information: 301-809-3002.

## Code Corner - First Time Landlords and Tenants

Bowie has seen an increase in the number of single family rental properties, creating questions and concerns from new landlords and tenants. There are several items to consider before you rent:

- If the house being rented was built before 1978, a lead paint inspection and status certificate are required.
- The landlord and tenant should conduct an inspection of the property to create a written list of its condition. Outstanding problems or concerns should be addressed before occupancy.
- Prepare a written lease and understand the lease before it's signed. Know your responsibilities!
- Be sure a City of Bowie rental license has been issued. (No license is necessary if one of the owners lives at the property)
- Communication is very important between landlord and tenant. If a disagreement should occur that cannot be resolved, mediation or civil litigation may be necessary.

For more information, contact City Code Compliance Officer Dennis Murphy at 301-809-3005 or [fmurphy@cityofbowie.org](mailto:fmurphy@cityofbowie.org).

## 2019 City Holidays

City offices will be closed on the dates listed below. There will be no refuse or recycling services on these dates; services will resume on the next regularly scheduled day.

Presidents' Day	Monday, February 18, 2019
Memorial Day	Monday, May 27, 2019
Independence Day	Thursday, July 4, 2019
Labor Day	Monday, September 2, 2019
Veterans Day	Monday, November 11, 2019
Thanksgiving Day	Thursday, November 28, 2019
Day after Thanksgiving	Friday, November 29, 2019
Christmas Day	Wednesday, December 25, 2019

## Bike to Work Day Save the Date!

**Friday, May 17**, 6:30 - 8:30 a.m. at two Bowie Pit Stops - **Bowie City Gym (new location)** and Old Town Bowie Fire Station. A free event full of food, fun and prizes.

For more information, contact Frank Stevens at 301-809-3053 or [fstevens@cityofbowie.org](mailto:fstevens@cityofbowie.org).

## Winter Weather - Snow Emergency

A Snow Emergency is declared whenever snow reaches a depth of two (2) inches. Vehicles must be removed from the City streets during a snow emergency. If driveway space is unavailable, you may park your vehicle on the grass on your property, but do not block the sidewalk. Parking on the grass is acceptable only during the snow or ice event, therefore once the snow has been cleared, move your vehicle back onto the street. The City begins plowing when the snow depth reaches two (2) inches. All main drives, hills and collector streets are treated and/or plowed first. Plowing continues until all streets have been cleared. Information: 301-809-3008 or [dmichelle@cityofbowie.org](mailto:dmichelle@cityofbowie.org).

## Need Help with Snow Shoveling or Other Odd Jobs?

Bowie Youth & Family Services sponsors a Teen Job Bank, where residents can find Bowie youth who are looking for opportunities to make extra money, either on an occasional or regular basis. Residents may use this service to find teens who can help with tasks such as **snow shoveling**, yard work, babysitting 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 at [www.cityofbowie.org/jobbank](http://www.cityofbowie.org/jobbank), or call us at 301-809-3033.

**Bowie Crofton Camera Club** City Hall Art Gallery exhibit. Show runs through April 2019. Free and open to the public. (Reflections exhibit thru 2/16)

**Chess, The Musical** weekends thru 2/16 at the Bowie Playhouse. For ticket information: 301-832-4819 or [www.2ndstarproductions.com](http://www.2ndstarproductions.com).

For more information, contact Neil Norris at [nnorris@cityofbowie.org](mailto:nnorris@cityofbowie.org) or 240-544-5601.

## MUSEUMS

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

**FAIRY TALE FUN** 2/12, 10 - 11 a.m. Belair Mansion Ages 2-5, with adult. Stories, snack and a craft. Free

**KIDS KABOOSE** 2/19, 10:30 a.m. - 12 p.m. Bowie Railroad Museum Ages 1-11, with adult. Free

**BLACK HISTORY MONTH PRESENTATIONS** 2/23, Belair Mansion  
**Meet W.E.B. Dubois, A Man of His Times**, 12 - 1 p.m. Free  
**Benjamin Banneker: Man of Science**, 2 - 3 p.m. Free

## ADULTS 55+

Bowie Senior Center  
14900 Health Center Drive  
301-809-2300

## BLACK HISTORY MONTH

**EBONY IMAGES IN FILM** 2/7, 12:30 p.m.

**BLACK HISTORY TRIVIA: ENTERTAINERS** 2/11 12:30 p.m.

**FRIENDSHIP DAY: PERFORMER CHARLES SULLIVAN** 2/14, 12:30 p.m.

**JAZZ VOCAL PERFORMANCE** 2/15, 12:30 p.m.

**MOVIE: BLACK PANTHER** 2/19, 11 a.m.

**VIOLIN PERFORMANCE: ALEXANDER STRACHAN** 2/20, 12:30 p.m.

## ICE ARENA

3330 Northview Drive  
301-809-3090  
[www.cityofbowie.org/icearena](http://www.cityofbowie.org/icearena)

**LEARN TO SKATE LESSONS**  
Classes begin 2/2. Save \$10 with early bird registration 1/24 - 1/31.

No public sessions 2/16 - 2/17, due to Valentine Figure Skating Competition.

## CITY GYM

4100 Northview Drive  
301-809-2388

**MORNING WALKING**  
Weekdays, 8:30 - 10 a.m.

**PICKLEBALL** Tuesday and Thursday, 10 a.m. - 12 p.m.

**COED RECREATIONAL VOLLEYBALL** Friday, 12 - 2 p.m.

## MLK STUDENT ART CONTEST

Thanks to all those who entered! For contest results, please visit [www.cityofbowie.org/MLK](http://www.cityofbowie.org/MLK).

## CITY COUNCIL

Mayor G. Frederick Robinson  
Mayor Pro Tem Henri Gardner  
Michael P. Esteve  
James L. Marcos  
Isaac Trouth  
Dufour Woolfley

## CITY MANAGER

Alfred D. Lott  
301-809-3030