

Bowie Spotlight

The Official Newsletter of the City of Bowie

November - December 2012

Candlelight at Belair and Holiday Tree

Lighting on December 2, 2012



Bowie has a long holiday history – and the City invites you to celebrate that history!

Belair Mansion's annual candlelight celebration will be held from 3 to 7 p.m. on December 2. Enjoy a glimpse of over 250 years of Christmas history. Traditional decorations and flickering candles offer a glimpse of the past through the eyes of all the residents of the historic house. The music of "Bedlam" will fill the air. In colonial times, Belair's residents feasted, sang and visited – but there was no decorated tree in anyone's parlor. That holiday tradition didn't find its way to America, or Bowie, until the mid-19th century.

The City's holiday tree lighting has been a tradition for over 50 years. The City invites you to be part of that tradition at the Mansion, following the candlelight celebration.

Bundle up for caroling outdoors, followed by the arrival of Santa and Mrs. Claus' atop the Bowie Volunteer Fire Department's ladder truck. While you are inside the Mansion waiting to see Santa, enjoy the music of the Christian Community Presbyterian Church (CCPC) Bell Choir.

Come early on Sunday, December 2 and enjoy historic Belair Mansion's Candlelight Celebration from 3 – 7 p.m. followed by the Holiday Tree Lighting at 7 p.m. Admission is free, but please bring a canned food donation for the Bowie Food Pantry to help those in need this holiday season.

Belair Mansion is located at 12207 Tulip Grove Drive. For more information, contact Matt Corley, Special Events Coordinator, at 301-809-3078 or mcorley@cityofbowie.org.

City of Bowie License Plates

The Maryland Motor Vehicle Administration will soon offer City of Bowie license plates to City residents. The cost of the tags will be \$25 in addition to the registration renewal fee. For more information, please contact Denise Mahoney at 301-809-3031 or dmahoney@cityofbowie.org.

City Hall Achieves LEED Gold Rating

The City received notification in September that the new City Hall has achieved a LEED Gold rating from the U.S. Green Building Council.

LEED stands for Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design. The LEED rating system was designed by the U.S. Green Building Council to encourage and facilitate the development of more sustainable buildings. There are four rating categories, depending on the number of LEED credits that are obtained: Certified; Silver; Gold; and Platinum.

The environmental categories considered for this rating pertain to: Sustainable Sites; Water Efficiency; Energy and Atmosphere; Materials and Resources; and Indoor Environmental Quality. These environmental categories are further subdivided into the established LEED credits which are based on achieving desired performance goals within each category.

In January of this year, the City Council established a policy by Resolution that all City funded new building construction and major renovations in excess of 10,000 square feet should achieve at least a LEED Silver rating from the U.S. Green Building Council.

For more information about this award, please contact the City Manager's Office at 301-809-3072.

The **Bowie Spotlight** is published by the City of Bowie six times a year.

Comments or questions regarding the content or form of the newsletter should be directed to the Public Information Office at 301-809-3040.

The City's TTY number is 301-262-5013.

For alternative versions of the newsletter, please contact the City's Public Information Office.

City of Bowie
15901 Excalibur Road
Bowie, MD 20716

David J. Deutsch,
City Manager
301-809-3030



Make a Difference In the Life of a Child

Donate to Toys for Tots

Join the Bowie Police Department to help make this Christmas special for local children. Please donate new unwrapped toys to Toys for Tots. Donations will be accepted at the following locations:

Bowie City Hall
Bowie Police Department
Bowie Gymnasium
Bowie Ice Arena
Bowie Senior Center
Bowie Community Center
South Bowie Community Center
Huntington Community Center
Chaney Tire and Auto Service
Melvin Motors
Texas Roadhouse

Please donate toys by **December 14, 2012**. For more information, contact Sergeant Henderson at 301-575-1824.



Report Animal Neglect or Cruelty

The Bowie Animal Control Office receives and investigates all concerns alleging that an animal is not receiving proper care, or is in any way being abused, neglected, or subjected to unnecessary suffering. Bowie Animal Control does not reveal the names of persons who register allegations regarding animal abuse or neglect, unless under a judicial order. Even when a caller says they do not care whether their identity is revealed to the respondent, we still do not reveal their name. When reporting a concern, it is important to supply Animal Control with as much information as possible. Ideally, you should report:

- The address of the alleged violation.
- A description of the animal(s) along with a description of their physical condition.
- Where the animal can be found on the property and the condition of the property.
- Describe the provisions if any, for shelter, food and water.
- Type of confinement - tether, caged, kept in a garage, etc.
- How long the situation has existed.
- When the owner is typically at home.

To report animal neglect or cruelty concerns, please contact the Bowie Animal Control Office at 301-809-3002 or lransom@cityofbowie.org.

Yes, Virginia, There Is A Santa Claus

Auditions will be held for City residents who would like to volunteer to play the role of Santa Claus – the jolly old elf also known as St. Nick. If married, please bring the Mrs. – we are looking for Mrs. Claus too! If single, no problem – matchmaking can be provided. Mr. and Mrs. Claus will appear at one or more events during the holiday season (costumes, beard and round belly, if necessary, provided).

Auditions will be held **Saturday, November 3, 2012** at 9 a.m. Walk-ins are welcome but appointments are preferred. Auditions will take place at City Hall, 15901 Excalibur Road.

For appointments and more information, please contact Matt Corley, Special Events Coordinator, at 301-809-3078 or mcorley@cityofbowie.org.

Christmas Trees

Trees will be picked up every **Wednesday in January** with yard waste. Please make sure that all lights and decorations are removed from the tree. Place your tree at the curb by 7 a.m.



What's Bouncing at the City Gym

Lil' Hoopers Program - Beginning **November 3**, a six-week basketball program for children ages 4 - 8. Gymnasium staff will provide instruction in the basics and fundamentals of the sport. Class size limited to 25. Fee is \$65 and includes a t-shirt, snacks and closing program. Preregistration is required.

Sport 4 All Program **Mondays and Tuesdays, 6 - 8 p.m. through December 18.** For more information, please go to www.Sport4All.org.

Kids Movement USA **Tuesdays and Thursdays at 10 a.m.**

Lessons designed to enhance those perpetual motor skills that become the building blocks for good physical fitness and cognitive development. For information, please visit www.KidsMovementUSA.com.

Senior Walking Program **Weekdays, 8:30 - 10 a.m.** Come walk indoors and enjoy the benefit of a climate-controlled facility. Eleven loops around the court is one mile.

Women's Recreational Volleyball **Fridays, 11 a.m. - 1 p.m.** Enjoy an opportunity to get some exercise and meet new friends! No experience needed.

American Red Cross Blood Drive **November 20, 1 - 8 p.m.** Give the "Gift of Life". Please go to www.redcrossblood.org to register.

Saturday Fun with Santa **December 8, 10 a.m. - 12 p.m.** The program includes games, moon bounce, face painting, music, pictures with Santa and more for children ages 10 and under. The cost is \$3 per child or a donation of an unwrapped gift for Toys for Tots.

Washington Wizards/Mystics Holiday Hoops Camp **December 26 - 28, 9 a.m. - 3 p.m.** At the City Gym during the holiday break for boys and girls ages 8 to 15 years. For more information, go to www.nba.com/wizards, then select Community/Youth Programs.

For more information, please contact the City Gymnasium at 301-809-2388.

Art Notes

"City Lights" Exhibit

Visit the City Hall Art Gallery to see the current exhibit, "City Lights," which features a look at cities and towns, streetscapes, city sights, and city lights. The exhibit runs through January 11, 2013. The Art Gallery is at Bowie City Hall, 15901 Excalibur Road, in both first and second floor lobbies. The Art Gallery is maintained by the Bowie Arts Committee.

"Abstracts" - Upcoming Art Exhibit

The Bowie Arts Committee is sponsoring an exhibit of artwork that will feature paintings, sculpture, and photography of abstract designs. Artists are invited to submit one or two paintings, photographs, or small sculptures that do not depict a person, place, or thing in the natural world, but rather art that emphasizes shape, form, and color rather than pictorial representations. The Art Gallery is located at Bowie City Hall, in the first and second floor lobby area. Below are the rules and regulations for artists who wish to submit artwork for consideration.

Date of jurying: Saturday, January 12, 2013

Artwork drop off/pick up: 9 - 10 a.m. drop off, 11 a.m. - 12 p.m. pick up artwork.

What you may enter: Original art, sculpture, and photography that falls under the theme of "Abstracts".

Size of artwork accepted: No less than 16" or greater than 40", vertically or horizontally for paintings and photography. For sculpture, sizes must not be larger than 12" wide by 18" deep by 8" high.

Labeling: All pieces must be labeled with artist's name, title of work and price.

Eligibility: Any artist residing in Maryland, Virginia, or the District of Columbia over 18 years of age.

Number of submissions: May submit no more than two (2) images to be juried.

Framing: All entries must be suitably framed with matting and frame in pristine condition. Wiring must be no lower than 2" from the top of the painting and must be taut. All works must be secured by screw hooks and wires.

Sales: All sales will be arranged between the purchaser and the artist. No commission will be collected by the City of Bowie.

Jurors: City of Bowie Arts Committee

For more information, contact Arts Specialist Annette Esterheld at aesterheld@cityofbowie.org or 301-575-5601.

Snow Removal

With winter upon us, please remember to remove your vehicles from the street if snow or ice is in the forecast. This will allow plows and/or salt and sand vehicles to more thoroughly treat your street.

A **Snow Emergency** is declared whenever snow reaches a depth of two inches. All vehicles must be removed from City streets. The City begins plowing when the snow depth reaches two inches. All main drives, hills and collector streets are treated and/or plowed first. Plowing continues until all streets have been cleared. In the event of a snowfall less than two inches, all main drives, hills and collector streets are treated with salt and/or sand. Streets and cul-de-sacs that are flat or have only slight inclines with limited intersections are only treated in extreme icing conditions. Extreme icing conditions exist when **all** areas are coated with ice. An example would be an extended freezing rain event that coats roads, trees and power lines – often referred to as ice storms. During a snow or ice event only, it is acceptable to park your vehicle on your grass.

Each resident and commercial property owner is responsible for removing snow and/or ice from the sidewalk adjacent to their property. To report hazardous conditions within the City, call 301-809-2344.

A detailed explanation of the snow policy can be found on the City's website - www.cityofbowie.org.

Code Corner

Removal of Snow and Ice from Sidewalks and Driveways (City Code Sec. 14-22)

Every owner or tenant of residential or commercial property which abuts a City sidewalk, or the paved area of their driveway if located within the public right-of-way, is required by City Code to remove or clear away any snow and ice from the sidewalk or driveway within forty-eight (48) hours after the cessation of any falling snow, sleet, or freezing rain. If circumstances (age, disability, illness, etc.) prevent an owner or tenant from removing the snow or ice within the forty-eight (48) hour period, an individual may apply for a twenty-four (24) hour extension. The twenty-four (24) hour extension does not exempt one from clearing snow and ice from the public sidewalks and driveway area. It only provides a waiver of the forty-eight (48) hour rule and grants a twenty-four (24) hour extension. The extension will permit the applicant seventy-two (72) hours (3 days) to comply with the City Code. It is strongly suggested that you make arrangements now with a company or individual for snow removal during the winter months. It will be more difficult to find someone once the snow/ice season has begun.

Qualified residents, apply now for the 24-hour snow and ice removal extension. Qualified residents may apply for the 24-hour extension by submitting an application to the Code Compliance Office at City Hall, 15901 Excalibur Road, Bowie, MD 20716. The Waiver application is available on the City's website, <http://www.cityofbowie.org/DocumentCenter/Home/View/190>. An application may also be obtained at City Hall or by contacting the Code Compliance Office at 301-809-3008 or rsharp@cityofbowie.org. **Applications should be submitted before December 1, 2012.**

Carbon Monoxide Alarms

Carbon monoxide (CO) is an odorless, colorless gas, which under certain conditions, can cause sudden illness and even death. Carbon monoxide is produced when a fossil fuel is burned. Common appliances that create CO as a by-product of the fuel burning include gas furnaces and water heaters, gas or wood burning fireplaces and gasoline engines, including automobiles and portable generators.

Recent tragedies involving carbon monoxide poisoning have resulted in several building and property maintenance code amendments. Prince George's County amended its Fire Prevention code to require carbon monoxide detectors in newly built homes and in existing single and multifamily residential units upon the sale and transfer of the property. The Bowie Code Compliance Office is preparing to amend our City Code to require carbon monoxide alarms in all dwelling units with a fossil fuel burning heater or appliance, a gas or wood burning fireplace, or an attached garage.

Carbon monoxide alarms can be purchased at local home improvement and retail stores. For the safety of you and your family, it is a wise investment to be safe from an odorless and colorless killer and install a carbon monoxide alarm.

For more information on carbon monoxide prevention, visit the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention website at <http://www.cdc.gov/co/default.htm> or contact the Bowie Code Compliance Office at 301-809-3008 or rsharp@cityofbowie.org.



Teachers of the Month



The Bowie Education Committee sponsors the “Teacher of the Month” program as a way to recognize Bowie teachers and educators at eligible schools who are making a difference in the lives of Bowie children. A “Teacher of the Month” is selected each month for the school months from September through June.

Nominations are accepted from parents, students, other teachers, principals, administrative staff, or other Bowie community members. All teachers in eligible elementary, middle, and high schools located in the City may be nominated. Eligible schools include Bowie High School, Tall Oaks High School; Benjamin Tasker Middle School, Samuel Ogle Middle School; St. Pius X Regional School, Grace Christian School, Cornerstone Christian Academy, Holy Trinity Episcopal Day School (lower campus), Heather Hills Elementary School, High Bridge Elementary School, Kenilworth Elementary School, Northview Elementary School, Pointer Ridge Elementary School, Rockledge Elementary School, Tulip Grove Elementary School, Whitehall Elementary School, Yorktown Elementary School; Chapel Forge Early Childhood Center, and C. Elizabeth Rieg Special Center. Nomination packets with additional information are sent to all eligible Bowie schools. The forms are also available at City Hall, 15901 Excalibur Road, or can be downloaded from the website, www.cityofbowie.org.

The honorees are recognized at Bowie City Council meetings and each receives a \$50 check, a certificate of recognition from the City, a coupon for dinner at a local restaurant, and a pizza party for the teacher’s homeroom. For more information on this educator recognition program, contact Annette Esterheld, City staff liaison to the Education Committee, at aesterheld@cityofbowie.org or 301-575-5601.

Bowie Youth and Family Services

Bowie Youth and Family Services (BYFS) offers counseling for families with school-age children living in the home. Groups are offered on a variety of topics, including those who want guidance with parenting skills, social skills for young children, high school-aged teen girls group, or parenting children with ADHD.

COST: Families and individuals residing within the corporate limits of the City of Bowie will be charged \$20 per session and those who reside outside the City limits will be charged \$30.

STAFF: BYFS staff is composed of master and doctoral level clinicians with extensive training in family counseling plus professionals in the field of community outreach and program development.

REFERRALS: Families are encouraged to call **301-809-3033** for more information or to make an appointment. An initial intake will be done either by phone or in person.

TEEN JOB BANK: Teens can go online at www.cityofbowie.org or call **301-809-3033** for an application to sign up to help citizens with jobs like baby-sitting, snow shoveling, lawn and yard work, housework, etc. You must be 13-17 years old to sign up. Residents can call **301-809-3033** to get names of teens who are willing to help you for a fee.

BYFS is located at the Kenhill Center, 2614 Kenhill Drive, Bowie, MD 20715, 301-809-3033.

Holiday Crime Prevention Seminar

'Tis the season for giving ... and unfortunately for taking. Learn ways to prevent being a victim this holiday season at this seminar provided by the Bowie Police Department.

Thursday, November 15, 2012

7 p.m.

Bowie Police Department
15901 Excalibur Road
Bowie, MD 20716

*For more information, contact
Sergeant Henderson at 301-575-1824.*

Bowie Business Innovation Center

The Bowie Business Innovation Center (Bowie BIC), located at Bowie State University, continues to attract early-stage, growth-oriented companies and to expand its business support programs and mentoring. The Bowie BIC has accepted five new client companies. The Bowie BIC is a mixed-use business incubation program which provides affordable office space, plus programs and services designed to accelerate the development of companies in the Bowie business community. Four of the five new companies at Bowie BIC are operated by female entrepreneurs:

Sahara Solar Energy Systems is a new, woman-owned, green social entrepreneurship company focused on providing affordable and renewable energy solutions for residential, government and business consumers. Sahara Solar will also provide financing option for customers.

Lenderking manufactures a range of animal caging products used in pharmaceutical research. The company is currently conducting research for the development of a prototype for a new ventilated cage for rodents.

GettingThere4Him, Inc. is a woman-owned, certified MBE/DBE consulting company offering program management, business development and related services to government agencies, businesses and community groups.

El Elyon's MARY! Magazine is a monthly "purse size" magazine that is marketed to culturally diverse women who work, shop, eat, play, worship and do business in the District of Columbia, Maryland and Virginia area. The first issue appeared in September 2012.

M2Fraud and Risk Management is a woman-owned business which specializes in the prevention, detection and deterrence of financial fraud risk for small and mid-sized businesses. M2 helps its clients detect and combat illicit activities that cause financial hardships and deplete company earnings.

Bowie BIC also coordinates a free monthly series of "Lunch & Learn" presentations on business topics. The Lunch & Learn sessions are held on the fourth Wednesday of each month.

Bowie BIC is accepting applications from additional clients. For more information, please visit the Bowie BIC website at www.bowiebic.com or call 301-383-1550.

Bowie Ice Arena

301-809-3090



Leaf Collection Begins

November 5

Series 2 Group Lessons Begin December 6, 2012

Registration will be held November 15 - December 6, from 12 to 7 p.m. at the Ice Arena. Registration must be made in person by a parent or legal guardian. Classes are offered for children as young as 18 months of age through adults. The series includes seven half-hour lessons, skate rental during the lessons, and a seven-admission public session pass. The fee for Bowie residents is \$90. Space is limited, so register early. Private lessons are also available. Please call the Ice Arena for further information.

The City's leaf collection service kicks off November 5. Each residential neighborhood will have two collection dates. Residents should rake leaves into piles at the edge of their grass for pickup by the City crews. Collection will take place from approximately 7:30 a.m. to 3 p.m., according to the schedule on Page 9.

Crews will work rain or shine. However, 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.

Some sections of the City are listed on two consecutive days. Due to expected volume, these sections may take more than one day to complete. The leaves must be raked to the curb by 7 a.m. on the first scheduled date. The second day is built into the schedule to allow extra time if it is needed. Crews will visit areas not completed on the first scheduled day.

For up-to-date information, please call 301-262-6200 and select the prompt for the Leaf Collection Hotline.

For more information, call 301-809-2344.

Public Skating Schedule

Sunday	2 - 4 p.m. *Family
Monday	9 - 11 a.m., 12 - 2 p.m. and 2:15 - 4:15 p.m.
Tuesday	9 - 11 a.m., 1 - 3 p.m. and 3:15 - 4:45 p.m.
Wednesday	9 - 11 a.m. and 1:45 - 3:45 p.m.
Thursday	9 - 11 a.m., 12 - 2 p.m., and 2:15 - 4:15 p.m.
Friday	9 - 11 a.m., 12 - 2 p.m., 3:30 - 5:30 p.m. *Family, and 9 - 11 p.m. *DJ
Saturday	1:30 - 3:30 p.m.

*Family Session - Admission for up to five (5) family members is \$12 plus skate rental.

*DJ Session - Every Friday night is a Disc Jockey Session. The fee is \$8 and includes admission, skate rental and the disc jockey.

Admission Rates:

Adult	\$5.00
Child (under 16)	\$4.50
Skate Rental	\$3.00

2 for 1 Admission

Any Public Skating Session

Bowie Ice Arena

Not valid during DJ session or with any other discount or offer.
Skates \$3.00

Expires 12/30/12

\$5 Off Series 2

Group Lesson

Registration

Bowie Ice Arena

Not valid with any other discount or offer.

ONE COUPON
PER FAMILY

Expires 11/30/12

2012 Leaf Collection Schedule

Section	First Leaf Collection Date		Second Leaf Collection Date	
AMBER MEADOWS	Wed.	11/28	Thurs.	12/20
ASHLEIGH	Wed.	11/21	Tues.	12/18
ASHLEIGH STATION	Wed.	11/21	Tues.	12/18
BELAIR GREENS	Fri.	12/7	Wed.	12/19
BELAIR TOWN I	Mon.	11/26	Wed.	12/19
BELAIR TOWN II	Wed.	11/14	Mon.	12/3
BUCKINGHAM	Tues.	11/13	Tues.	12/4
CHAPEL FORGE	Wed.	11/14	Wed.	12/5
COLLINGTON MANOR	Wed.	11/21	Tues.	12/18
COLLINGTON STATION	Wed.	11/21	Tues.	12/18
COVINGTON MANOR	Tues.	11/27	Thurs.	12/20
DERBYSHIRE	Tues.	11/13	Mon.	12/3
DEVONSHIRE	Wed.	11/21	Tues.	12/18
DIXON CROSSING	Mon.	11/19	Tues.	12/18
ENFIELD (excluding townhomes)	Wed.	11/21	Mon.	12/10
FAIRVIEW	Mon.	11/19	Tues.	12/18
FOREST HILLS	Fri.	11/16	Fri.	12/7
FOXHILL*	Tues.	11/6 (& 11/7)	Thurs.	12/6
GLEN ALLEN	Tues.	11/27	Thurs.	12/20
GRADYS WALK	Wed.	11/21	Tues.	12/18
GROVEHURST	Wed.	11/21	Tues.	12/18
HARVEY MANOR	Mon.	11/19	Thurs.	12/13
HEATHER HILLS	Tues.	11/27	Mon.	12/17
HIGHBRIDGE PARK	Mon.	11/19	Tues.	12/18
HUNTINGTON	Mon.	11/19	Thurs.	12/13
HUNTINGTON CREST	Mon.	11/19	Thurs.	12/13
IDLEWILD	Tues.	11/13	Tues.	12/11
KENILWORTH*	Wed.	11/7 (& 11/8)	Mon.	12/3
LONGLEAF	Thurs.	11/29	Thurs.	12/20
LONG RIDGE*	Mon.	11/5	Wed.	11/28 (& 11/29)
MEADOWBROOK	Mon.	11/26	Wed.	12/19
MITCHELLVILLE EAST	Tues.	11/27	Thurs.	12/20
NORTHRIDGE*	Thurs.	11/8	Thurs.	12/13 (& 12/14)
NORTHVIEW	Tues.	11/27	Mon.	12/17
OAKTREE	Wed.	11/28	Tues.	12/18
OLD CHAPEL	Mon.	11/26	Wed.	12/19
OLD CHAPEL ESTATES	Mon.	11/26	Wed.	12/19
OLD STAGE	Tues.	11/13	Tues.	12/11
OVERBROOK	Thurs.	11/8	Tues.	12/4
PATUXENT OVERLOOK	Thurs.	11/29	Thurs.	12/20
PEACH PRESERVE	Wed.	11/28	Thurs.	12/20
POINTER RIDGE	Thurs.	11/15	Mon.	12/10
ROCKLEDGE	Tues.	11/20	Wed.	12/12
ROLLING HILLS*	Mon.	11/19 (& 11/20)	Thurs.	12/13
SADDLEBROOK	Wed.	11/14	Tues.	12/11
SADDLEBROOK WEST	Wed.	11/14	Tues.	12/11
SOMERSET*	Mon.	11/5 (& 11/6)	Thurs.	11/29
SPRING MEADOWS	Wed.	11/21	Tues.	12/18
STEWART'S LANDING	Mon.	11/19	Tues.	12/18
TALL OAKS	Fri.	11/16	Wed.	12/5
TERNBERRY	Wed.	11/21	Tues.	12/18
TULIP GROVE	Tues.	11/6	Thurs.	12/6
VICTORIA HEIGHTS	Thurs.	11/8	Tues.	12/4
WESTVIEW	Wed.	11/21	Tues.	12/18
WHITEHALL	Wed.	11/14	Wed.	12/12
WOODMORE ESTATES	Wed.	11/21	Tues.	12/18
WOODMORE HIGHLANDS	Wed.	11/21	Tues.	12/18
YORKTOWN	Tues.	11/20	Tues.	12/11

*Leaves must be placed at the curb by 7 a.m. on the first scheduled date. The second date is only for those areas not visited on the first date.

Bowie Green Team Off to a Great Start

In June 2012, City Council approved the formation of the Bowie Green Team to create and implement a plan under the new Sustainable Maryland Certified (SMC) program, a new initiative from the University of Maryland Environmental Finance Center (EFC). SMC is a program that helps all of Maryland's municipalities identify cost-effective ways to rejuvenate their communities and protect natural resources.

Community resources such as water, energy, land, health, food, and economy are targeted by the program, and municipalities earn points toward becoming certified. A key part of the SMC program is the local government/community partnership. To that end, the first step in the program was to create a Green Team. The new Green Team created a Three-Year Action Plan with various activities and programs that will increase the City's sustainability across the following areas: Natural Resources, Local Economies, Food/Health/Wellness, and Energy/Greenhouse Gas. These activities reach across sectors to government, schools, businesses, civic groups and places of worship.

In addition to the activities required and/or recommended by SMC such as a climate action plan, a workplace wellness program, and greening local businesses, the Team suggested new ideas like promoting plastic bag alternatives, conducting water conservation outreach, and assessing the opportunity for community gardens. Of these programs, 26 are scheduled for review and kick-off in Year 1.

Earlier this month, the group presented the Action Plan to the City Council which approved it unanimously. Now the application is ready to be submitted to the University of Maryland to designate Bowie as a Sustainable Community. As the three-year plan progresses, EFC will provide tools, training, case studies and other resources to help the City meet its sustainability goals.

Visit the City's website, www.cityofbowie.org, for more information on the Green Team. Their meetings are held at 7:30 p.m. on the third Monday of every month at City Hall in Room 243 and are open to the public.

New Green Bowie Webpage

If you are even a casual visitor to the City's website, you probably know that over the summer the website was updated to provide improved functionality and features. The Green Bowie pages are currently being completely overhauled to provide user-friendly content in a more accessible manner, and we need to know what you would like to see! Ultimately this is a resource for you, the Bowie resident looking for information on how to reduce your environmental footprint and live more sustainably. Please contact Tiffany Wright, the City's Watershed Manager, at 301-809-3043 or twright@cityof-bowie.org with any comments or suggestions. Help us make www.cityofbowie.org/GreenBowie what you want it to be.

Challenge Yourself With Our "Recycling Quiz"

What percentage of waste that is sent to landfills is food?

Answer: See www.cityofbowie.org/GreenBowie



The City of Bowie
Presents the 31st Annual
HOLIDAY HOUSE
DECORATING CONTEST



HOUSE DECORATING ENTRY FORM (Form may be reproduced.)

DECORATING CATEGORY

CIRCLE ONE: COLONIAL RELIGIOUS TRADITIONAL

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

HOME PHONE _____

WORK PHONE _____

EMAIL ADDRESS _____

By sending this form, participant gives the City of Bowie the right to use their name and picture of their house for future publicity.

FORMS MUST BE RECEIVED BY 5 P.M. MONDAY, DECEMBER 10, 2012.
BOWIE CITY HALL, 15901 EXCALIBUR ROAD, BOWIE, MD 20716
ATTN: HOUSE DECORATING CONTEST

HOLIDAY HOUSE DECORATING CONTEST

Judging Categories and Criteria

Entrants will select one of three categories:

***Traditional** (colored or white lights, children's fantasies, Santa Claus and friends, etc.)

***Religious** (of any denomination)

***Colonial** (candles in the windows, greenery, white lights, the Williamsburg look.)

Entries will be judged on the following:

- **Creativity**
- **Appearance**
- **Effort**



Contest Rules:

- Home must be located within the Bowie City limits. (Please check with us if you're not sure.)
- Contest is limited to what can be seen from the street side of the house at night.
- People or live animals are not allowed as part of the display.
- All participants are requested to keep their houses decorated through December 31st so the community may view and enjoy them.
- Entry deadline is Monday, December 10, 2012 at 5 p.m.
- **Judging is on Wednesday, December 12, during the hours of 6 to 11 p.m.** (Participants: please turn on displays by 6 p.m. so that the judges may evaluate your entry.)
- Winners will be notified by phone on Friday, December 14.
- Judges' decisions are final.
- Awards will be given at the Holiday Awards Reception on Monday, December 17, 2012 at 7 p.m. at City Hall. All contest entrants are invited to attend. Awards include Pirmohamed and Mateik-Pitts Family Awards (\$100), Best of Bowie Awards (White House ornaments), and Bowie Spirit Awards (Belair Mansion ornaments). *For more information, please contact City Hall at 301-809-3078 or mcormley@cityofbowie.org.*

Top Gardens Honored

The lovely yard of Ms. Helen Nash captured the top award as *2012 Distinguished Yard* at the 17th Annual City of Bowie Beautification Awards held at the Bowie Senior Center. The event was once again cosponsored by the Soroptimist International of Bowie-Crofton. The City and the Soroptimist extends its thanks and appreciation to all of the nominees, whose hard work and creativity have helped make Bowie a more beautiful and pleasant place to live, and to the sponsors who provided the prizes and decorations for the program. This year's sponsors were Frank's Garden Center and Patuxent Nursery. Congratulations to all of this year's award recipients!

Winners	Award
Helen Nash	<i>2012 Distinguished Yard Award</i>
Mary Caraker	<i>Distinguished Back Yard</i>
Laura Ritter	<i>Distinguished Front Yard</i>
Gaye Williams	<i>Distinguished Wildlife Habitat</i>
Carrabba's Italian Grill	<i>Distinguished Business</i>
Maria and Chuck Arnold	<i>1-Star Maintenance</i>
William Bachteler	<i>1-Star Maintenance</i>
Trisha Patterson	<i>1-Star Maintenance</i>
Jack Croft	<i>2-Star Maintenance</i>
Marty Gigger	<i>2-Star Maintenance</i>
Francis Pelkey	<i>2-Star Maintenance</i>
Vincent and Maxine Brown	<i>3-Star Maintenance</i>
Pam Fleming	<i>3-Star Maintenance</i>
Patricia Rauch	<i>3-Star Maintenance</i>
Margaret Reid	<i>3-Star Maintenance</i>
Rochelle Buckley	<i>All Star Gardens</i>
Dorothy Campbell	<i>All Star Gardens</i>
Heather Dunahoo	<i>All Star Gardens</i>

Bowie Playhouse

Presents

OKLAHOMA -- 11/9 - 12/8

First staged in 1943, "Oklahoma," was the first musical collaboration of Rogers and Hammerstein and remains one of the most beloved and frequently performed musicals. The story set in Oklahoma Territory in 1906 follows the courtship of two cowboys Curly and Will. Curly loves farm girl Laury and Will has his heart set on the flirtatious Ado Annie. Filled with favorite songs like "Oh, What a Beautiful Morning," "The Surrey with the Fringe on Top," "I Can't Say No," "People Will Say We're In Love," and "Oklahoma," you'll be tapping your toes along with the dance routines and laughing at the antics. *Presented by 2nd Star Productions, www.2ndstarproductions.com, 301-832-4819. Performances are Fridays and Saturdays at 8 p.m. and matinees at 3 p.m.*

THE HALLELUJAH GIRLS -- 12/14 - 12/23

Hilarity abounds when the feisty females of Eden Falls, Georgia, decide to shake up their lives. The action in this rollicking Southern comedy takes place in SPA-DEE-DAH, the abandoned church-turned day spa where this group of friends gathers every Friday afternoon. After the loss of a dear friend, the women realize time is precious and if they're going to change their lives and achieve their dreams they have to do it now! It's a side-splitting, joyful comedy that will make you laugh out loud and shout "Hallelujah!" *Presented by Prince George's Little Theatre, www.pglt.org or 301-937-7458. Performances are at 8 p.m. on Fridays and Saturdays. Matinees are at 2 p.m. on Sundays.*



The Bowie Playhouse is located on Route 3 South in Whitemarsh Park. For information about the performances or to purchase tickets, please call the theater company at the telephone number listed above. All companies offer online ticketing.



Bowie Police Department Hosts Third Annual "Shop With A Cop"

On Sunday, December 9, 2012 the Bowie Police Department will host its third annual "Shop With A Cop" event, a nationally recognized program that helps less fortunate children and families during the holiday season. With community support, the Bowie Police Department can help to make a child smile and let them know that others care.

Through donations received, selected children (referred through local agencies, churches, and schools) are given a pre-set spending limit to purchase holiday gifts for their family and themselves. Children are accompanied by a uniformed officer who will assist them with their holiday purchases at a designated department store. Afterwards, the kids are served a delicious lunch made available through donations received from local restaurants. Donor contributions continue to make this program a successful one for the children.

Donations may be directed to the Bowie Police Department, 15901 Excalibur Road, Bowie, MD 20716. All donations are tax deductible. For more information about this program, please contact Sergeant Henderson at 301-575-1824. Your consideration is greatly appreciated by the Bowie Police Department and especially by the children.

Continued from Page 14

News of the City Museums - Mark Your Calendar continued:

Belair and Bowie's Candlelight Holiday Tree Celebration

Sunday, December 2, 3 - 9 p.m. at Belair Mansion. Tour the candlelit Mansion filled with traditional holiday greenery and stop by the shop for a unique gift. Cider and cookies will be served in the 1930's kitchen. At 7 p.m., Santa will arrive on a Bowie fire truck to light the City's holiday tree in the Mansion yard. Free. Donations to the Bowie Food Pantry welcomed.

Snowflake Tea at Belair Mansion

Saturday, December 8, 4 p.m. Savor traditional tea goodies – scones, sandwiches and desserts – in one of Maryland's most historic and beautifully decorated homes. \$27 per person. Advance reservation and payment required.

Colonial Christmas for Kids at Belair Mansion

Thursday, December 27, 10:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. Youngsters ages 4-10 are invited to enjoy holiday history at Belair – a children's holiday tour, stories, games and even a colonial snack. Free.

Kringle Kaboose

Friday, December 28, 10:30 a.m. - 12 p.m. at Bowie Railroad Museum. Railroad holiday fun for ages 1-10 – games, stories, trainspotting. Free.

Winter Wonderland Tea at Belair Mansion

Saturday, December 29, 4 p.m. Hosting out of town guests...or simply relaxing after the holiday? Continue your celebration with tea at Belair Mansion. Savor traditional tea goodies – scones, sandwiches and desserts – in one of Maryland's most historic – and beautifully decorated – homes. \$27 per person. Advance reservation and payment required.

For information on these, or any museum program, please call 301-809-3089 or email museumevents@cityofbowie.org.

News of the City Museums



Mark Your Calendar

Annual History Lecture Lunch Day - A Civil War Retrospective
Monday, November 5, 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. at Belair Mansion. Join four Civil War scholars for a look at the shortages and deprivations of the war, soldiers aid, and the impact of the war on our area. Two members of the Maryland Historical Society players bring stories of the war to life. The program includes lunch. Fee: \$60. Reservations required.

Heritage Broadcast at the Radio and Television Museum
November 9 - 11, 2 p.m. The Jack Benny Show enjoyed high ratings from 1932 until the dawn of television, so it was only natural that the radio program would transition to television beginning in the fall of 1950. Enjoy an episode filled with laughter and nostalgia. Free.

“Where Valor Proudly Speaks” Second Tuesday Lecture
Tuesday, November 13, 7:30 p.m. at Belair Mansion. Major Aaron Freeman, Regimental Executive Officer of the Army’s Old Guard will speak on the history and rituals of the regiment that guards the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier at Arlington National Cemetery. Free.

Kids Kaboose

Thursday, November 20, 10:30 a.m. - 12 p.m. at Bowie Railroad Museum. Railroad fun and games for ages 1-10. Free.

“Taste of the Past” at Belair Mansion

Saturday, November 24, 12 - 4 p.m. Take a trip back to our “culinary past” with a sample of holiday desserts from long ago! Free.

Trainspotting at the Bowie Railroad Museum

Sunday, November 25, 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. Visit the Welcome Center for a visit with Santa, watch as interesting and unusual cars fly by on the track – it’s AMTRAK’S busiest day of the year. Free.

Holiday Broadcast at the Radio and Television Museum

Looking for some holiday memories from the past? The Radio Museum will offer a variety of holiday shows from the 50’s, 60’s and 70’s at 2 p.m. each Friday, Saturday and Sunday during December. For more information, visit www.nrtv.org or call 301-390-1020. Free.

KinderKristmas at Belair Mansion

Saturday, December 1, 10 a.m. - 12 p.m. Youngsters ages 1-10 are invited to enjoy holiday traditions, leave a letter for Santa, make a craft to take home and sample cider and cookies. Free, but donations to the Bowie Food Pantry are welcome.

Hours of Operation

Belair Mansion,
 Tuesdays through
 Sundays, 12 - 4 p.m.,
 12207 Tulip Grove Drive.
 Free.

Belair Stable Museum,
 Tuesdays through
 Sundays, 12 - 4 p.m.,
 2835 Belair Drive. Free.

**Old Town Bowie
 Welcome Center,**
 Tuesdays - Sundays,
 10 a.m. - 4 p.m., 8606
 Chestnut Avenue, 301-
 575-2488. Free.

**Bowie Railroad
 Museum,** Tuesdays
 through Sundays, 10 a.m.
 - 4 p.m., 8614 Chestnut
 Avenue. Free.

*To schedule a group
 tour of any of these
 City Museums, or for
 more information,
 please call 301-809-
 3089.*

**Radio and Television
 Museum,** Fridays
 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.,
 Saturdays and Sundays
 1 - 5 p.m., 2608
 Mitchellville Road. Free.
*To contact this Museum,
 call 301-390-1020.*

**The Prince George’s
 Genealogical Library,**
 Wednesdays 10 a.m. -
 7 p.m. (first Wednesday of
 the month 10 a.m. -
 1 p.m.), Tulip Grove
 Drive. Free. *For infor-
 mation, call 301-262-2063
 during open hours.*

Senior Services Overview

The Senior Center provides a wide variety of educational and recreational programs and services that include information and assistance, transportation, and a nutrition program for the active adult 55 years and older.

Honoring Our Veterans

**Thursday, November 8
12:30 p.m.**

Veterans Day is a time to remember and honor those who have served our country. We invite all veterans and members of the community to join us for a special celebration program. Music provided by the Bowie Senior Choraleers. All veterans attending, please RSVP by calling 301-809-2300. This event is open to the public.

Holiday Bazaar

**Friday, November 30
9 a.m. - 12 p.m.**

A welcome part of the holiday season! Members only can rent a table for \$5 – reserve by Wednesday, November 21, 2012, or while space lasts. No flea market items, new or homemade items only. Open to the public.

Active Adult 55+

Bowie Senior Chorale Holiday Concerts

Thursday, December 6 at 1 p.m. at the Senior Center

Friday, December 14 at 7:30 p.m. at the

Bowie Center for the Performing Arts

The theme for the concerts is *An Olde Tyme Holiday*. Tickets are required for both concerts. A \$2 donation or canned goods for the Bowie Food Pantry is required to obtain a ticket for the show at the Senior Center. Tickets for the evening performance at the Bowie Center for the Performing Arts are \$6. Tickets for both concerts will be available at the Senior Center in mid-November. Call the Center for more information.

Variety Show

Monday, December 10, 10:30 a.m.

Returning by popular request, the Charles County Senior Center Show Troupe will bring a charming array of talent our way. This enchanting group of seniors will stir holiday memories with music, dance, laughter, and fun! All are welcome to enjoy this dazzling show.

Let's Celebrate the Holidays Together

Thursday, December 20, 11:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.

Join us for the Center's annual holiday party, and add a little extra delight to the season! There will be a delicious festive lunch served, and DJ music. Register by Wednesday, December 5 at the Center. \$9 residents/\$10 nonresidents.

Bowie Senior Center, 14900 Health Center Drive

301-809-2300, www.cityofbowie.org/seniorcenter

Hours of operation are Monday, Wednesday and Friday,
8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.;
Tuesday and Thursday, 8:30 a.m. to 7 p.m.;
and Saturday, 8:30 a.m. to 12 p.m.

**CITY OF BOWIE
15901 EXCALIBUR ROAD
BOWIE, MARYLAND 20716**

CITY COUNCIL

**MAYOR G. FREDERICK ROBINSON
MAYOR PRO TEM DIANE M. POLANGIN
DENNIS BRADY
HENRI GARDNER
JAMES L. MARCOS
ISAAC TROUTH
TODD M. TURNER**

Upcoming Events

Veterans Day

*Monday, November 12, 2012
City Offices Closed. No Refuse
or Recycling Collection.*

Thanksgiving Holiday

*November 22 and 23, 2012
City Offices Closed. No Refuse
or Recycling Collection.*

Christmas Holiday

*Tuesday, December 25, 2012
City Offices Closed. No Refuse
or Recycling Collection.*

New Year's Day

*Tuesday, January 1, 2013
City Offices Closed. No Refuse
or Recycling Collection.*

2013 City Holidays

New Year's	Tuesday	January 1, 2013
Martin Luther King, Jr. Day	Monday	January 21, 2013
Presidents Day	Monday	February 18, 2013
Memorial Day	Monday	May 27, 2013
Independence Day	Thursday	July 4, 2013
Labor Day	Monday	September 2, 2013
Veterans Day	Monday	November 11, 2013
Thanksgiving Day	Thursday	November 28, 2013
Day after Thanksgiving	Friday	November 29, 2013
Christmas	Wednesday	December 25, 2013

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