

Bowie News Flash

November 2012

News

Fall Back

Don't forget to set your clock back one hour before going to bed on Saturday night. Also it's a good time to replace the batteries in your smoke alarms.

Election Day is Tuesday, November 6

Polls are open on Election Day from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m. In addition to voting for the Presidency and other offices, there are also seven statewide questions and seven Prince George's County charter questions on the ballot.

Information on polling places: <http://www.elections.state.md.us/voting/index.html>

Sample ballot: www.princegeorgescountymd.gov/elections.

Curbside Leaf Collection Begins November 5

The City's curbside leaf collection service begins 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 **Leaf Collection Schedule**. 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 leaf collection schedule is attached.

Audition for Santa and Mrs. Claus on November 3, 2012

Auditions will be held for City residents who would like to volunteer to play the role of Santa Claus. 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 at 9 a.m. at City Hall. Walk-ins are welcome but appointments are preferred. For appointments and more information, please contact Matt Corley, Special Events Coordinator, at 301-809-3078 or mcorley@cityofbowie.org.

About Cancelled Refuse and Recycling Pickups

When refuse and recycling pickups are cancelled because of holidays or extreme weather, there are no make up dates for the missed collections. Your refuse or recycling will be collected on the next regularly scheduled day. We apologize for any confusion this week about missed pickups as a result of Hurricane Sandy.

Disasters Happen

Other than downed trees and power outages, Bowie was fortunate not to be severely impacted by Hurricane Sandy. As we watch the scenes of devastation to our north, it is important to remember that the situation could have been much different here. While you can never prepare for a disaster of the magnitude seen in some parts of New York and New Jersey, when disasters happen, the thoroughness of your preparations will help to determine how well you can manage your care and safety until help can arrive. Replenish supplies and make plans now for your personal preparedness. There's information to help you do this on our website and at www.ready.gov.

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. For more information, please contact Denise Mahoney at 301-809-3031 or dmahoney@cityofbowie.org.

Bowie Police Department's "Shop With A Cop" Program Seeks Donations

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. Through donations received, selected children (referred through local agencies, churches, and schools) are able to purchase holiday gifts for their family and themselves. Children are accompanied by a uniformed officer who assists them with their purchases. Afterwards, the kids are served a delicious lunch made possible by donations from local restaurants. Please mail or drop off donations at the City of Bowie Police Department, 15901 Excalibur Road, Bowie, MD 20716. Checks should be made payable to the Bowie Police Department. All donations are tax deductible. For more information, please contact Sergeant Henderson at 301-575-1824.

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

Teen Job Bank

Teens are needed for snow shoveling this winter. If you know a teen interested in signing up for occasional work, including housework, babysitting, leaf raking, yard work and snow shoveling, please call for an application at 301-809-3033. It's a great way for a teen to earn a few extra dollars. Bowie residents who want to hire a teen should call 301-809-3033 for more information.

Keep an Eye Out for Deer

Bowie Animal Control reminds motorists to be careful and alert for deer. This is the time of year when the deer are breeding and searching for food, therefore they're more likely to be crossing the roadways.

Upcoming Holidays: Veterans Day Holiday– November 12 & Thanksgiving Holiday – November 22 and 23

City offices, City museums and the Senior Center are closed on Monday, November 12 for the Veterans Day Holiday. The Ice Arena and the Gymnasium will be open on a regular schedule. All City facilities are closed on Thursday, November 22 for Thanksgiving Day. City offices, City museums, and the Senior Center will remain closed on Friday, November 23, but the Ice Arena and Gymnasium will be open on the 23rd and operating on a normal schedule. There will be no refuse or recycling collection on these three City holidays. Collection will resume on the next regularly scheduled day.

Events

11/3 – Lil’ Hoopers Program at the City Gym - A six-week basketball program for children ages 4 – 8 begins 11/3. Gymnasium staff will provide instruction in the fundamentals of the sport. Class size limited to 25. Fee is \$65 and includes a T-shirt, snacks, and closing program. Preregistration is required. For more information, please contact the City Gymnasium at 301-809-2388.

11/5 – A Civil War Retrospective - Annual History Lecture Lunch Day 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 will bring stories of the war to life. The program includes lunch. Fee: \$60. Reservations required. For more information, please contact 301-809-3089 or museumevents@cityofbowie.org.

11/8 – Honoring Our Veterans at the Senior Center 12:30 p.m. at Bowie Senior Center. 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. If you are a veteran who plans to attend, please RSVP. This event is open to the public. For more information and to RSVP, please contact the Center at 301-809-2300.

11/9 – 11/11 – Heritage Broadcast at the Radio and Television Museum 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. For more information, please contact 301-809-3089 or museumevents@cityofbowie.org.

11/9 - 12/8 – “Oklahoma!” at Bowie Playhouse 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 courtships 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. For performance dates and ticket information, visit www.2ndstarproductions.com or call 301-832-4819.

11/13 – “Where Valor Proudly Speaks” - Second Tuesday Lecture 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. For more information, please contact 301-809-3089 or museumevents@cityofbowie.org.

11/10 – American Red Cross Blood Drive 8:30 a.m. - 1 p.m. at the Senior Center. The Red Cross is reporting that blood supplies on the East Coast are low due to the large number of blood drives cancelled because of Hurricane Sandy. You can help by giving the “Gift of Life”. Please call 1-800-GIVE-LIFE or go to www.redcrossblood.org to register. The Senior Center holds a blood drive at the same time on the second Saturday of every month.

11/15 – Holiday Crime Prevention Seminar 7 p.m. at Bowie Police Department. ‘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. For more information, contact Sergeant Henderson at 301-575-1824.

11/20 – Kids Kaboose 10:30 a.m. - 12 p.m. at the Bowie Railroad Museum. Enjoy a morning of railroad fun. For ages 1 - 10. Free. For more information, please contact 301-809-3089 or museumevents@cityofbowie.org.

11/20 – American Red Cross Blood Drive at the City Gym 2 - 8 p.m. The Red Cross is reporting that blood supplies on the East Coast are low due to the large number of blood drives cancelled because of Hurricane Sandy. Give the “Gift of Life”. Please call 1-800-GIVE-LIFE or go to www.redcrossblood.org to register.

11/24 – Taste of the Past at Belair Mansion 12 - 4 p.m. at Belair Mansion. Visit the Mansion kitchen to sample holiday goodies from long ago. Free. For more information, please contact 301-809-3089 or museumevents@cityofbowie.org.

11/25 – Trainspotting Day at Bowie Railroad Museum 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. at Bowie Railroad Museum. 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. For more information, please contact 301-809-3089 or museumevents@cityofbowie.org.

11/30 – Holiday Bazaar at the Senior Center 9 a.m. - 12 p.m. at Bowie Senior Center. 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. For more information, please contact the Center at 301-809-2300.