

Bowie Spotlight

The Official Newsletter of the City of Bowie

January - February 2013

Dear Friends and Neighbors,

2012 had a great many ups and downs for us. We weathered serious storms, electrical outages, and serious wind damages but in spite of those challenges, we continued our history of pulling together as a community, reaching out to neighbors, sharing resources, and working through the challenges.

2012 witnessed the loss of some dear friends but it also introduced the next generation of Bowie residents. Our service and faith groups and our incredible veterans organizations continue to provide a strong core and Bowie remains one of the strongest, most diverse, most family-friendly communities in the region. In many ways we are truly a blessed community.

2012 again saw a number of Bowie's military families dealing with the challenges of family separation as members were deployed around the world - often in harm's way - serving and protecting our nation. We extend our heartfelt appreciation to all these marvelous neighbors. Thank you for your service and for your dedication to our nation.

On behalf of the entire Bowie City Council and a dedicated City Staff, we offer everyone our best wishes for a great holiday season and a healthy new year. May 2013 be a great year for all.

G. Frederick Robinson, Mayor

Bowie's Hall of Honor Accepting Nominations

In 1991, the Hall of Honor was developed to recognize those citizens of Bowie who have made "major and lasting contributions" to the City. The first inductees were honored in 1994.

A nominee to the Hall of Honor must: be deceased for at least one year as of the nomination deadline; have made both a major and lasting contribution to the City of Bowie; have been a resident of the City of Bowie either during the time of their contribution or at the time of their death.

Past inductees include Virginia Cleveland Mayne. As chairperson of Bowie's first Conservation and Beautification Committee, she spent countless hours researching the history of Belair Stable and successfully petitioned to have it listed on the National Register of Historic Places. It was later restored as a museum, preserving a part of Bowie's past for generations to come.

Another inductee, Patrick J. Murtagh, was known as the "Father of Bowie Soccer". In 1960, Murtagh, originally from Ireland, moved his family to Bowie and quickly became involved in the community. In 1966, inspired by his love of soccer, he placed an ad in the Bowie Blade newspaper asking anyone interested in starting a soccer program to call him. Thus, the Belair Soccer Club was launched. Today the number of boys and girls playing soccer is in the thousands.

Once a nomination is received, forms and information are passed on to the City's Community Outreach Committee for review. The Committee then sends their recommendations to the City Council for final approval. Once an honoree is approved, a reception is held in the inductee's honor and a plaque is hung in the lobby of City Hall.

The deadline to submit nominations for the 2013 Hall of Honor induction is **5 p.m. Friday, February 8, 2013** at City Hall, 15901 Excalibur Road, Bowie, MD 20716.

For more information, contact Matt Corley, Special Events Coordinator, at 301-809-3078 or mcorley@cityofbowie.org. Nomination forms are available at www.cityofbowie.org.

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



Tips On Pruning From the Community Forester

All aspects of landscape maintenance require a working knowledge of methods, timing, and specific plant culture. This would be true of turf (lawn) management as well as cultivation of trees, shrubs, vines, perennials, and annual flowers. I would like to address one area of landscape management – pruning woody plants (trees and shrubs).

Know Your Plant - Considerations:

- What's my goal with the specific plant(s)?
- Is the plant evergreen or deciduous (loses leaves)?
- Is the plant a conifer (pine family) or a broadleaf?
- Does the plant flower noticeably, and is it valued for such?
- Do I want to encourage an informal, natural form, or do I want a more formal, tightly-shaped form?
- How does the plant's location affect how I want to prune it?

Timing:

- Does the plant flower on old growth or on new growth?
- If I prune now, will the plant force new tender growth just before frost and/or winter freeze?
- Is the plant under stress or suffering from insect or disease damage?

Good Practices:

- Use clean, sharp pruning tools.
- Remove all dead wood.
- Remove crossing and rubbing branches.
- Prune to encourage new growth in the right direction.
- Prune to minimize narrow branch crotches and/or codominant leaders.
- Prune to promote safety for people/pedestrians, vehicles, and property.
- Make cuts that are just outside the "branch bark ridge" back to the attaching stem.
- Make cuts leaving branches that are at least 1/3 the size of the attaching stems.
- Never prune/remove more than 25% of the plant in order to maintain plant health.

When In Doubt:

- Get a book from the library.
- Use the internet. (What a great resource!)
- Or, call the Forester!

So folks, these are obviously just very general, big picture thoughts about woody plant pruning. There are many specifics to understand per plant, but these points can get you headed in the right direction. Call me anytime for more information or for a site visit. I can be reached at 301-809-3061. Enjoy the beauty! Rick Kellner, Community Forester

Winter Weather Reminder

With winter here, 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 (2) inches. All vehicles must be removed from City streets during a Snow Emergency. 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.

In the event of a snowfall of less than two (2) 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 business and resident is responsible for removing snow and ice from the sidewalk in front of their property. To report hazardous conditions within the City of Bowie, please call 301-809-2344. More information about the City's snow removal program may be found on the City's website - www.cityofbowie.org/snow.



Please Keep the Sidewalks Clean and Safe

With snow inevitable this season, please keep in mind shoveling the sidewalks so people can get to their destinations safely. Removal of accumulated snow or ice on the sidewalks is required within 48 hours after the cessation of falling snow. If you have a sidewalk in front of your home or business, it is your responsibility to clear it. If your property is on a corner, you may have sidewalks in the front, on the side, or even along the back. Don't forget to clear them all!

If you know your neighbor is out of town or incapable of clearing the sidewalk, please assist them so schoolchildren and pedestrians can get through safely. We appreciate your hard work to keep the sidewalks clean and safe this winter season.

Recycling Collection on New Year's Day

Tuesday, January 1, 2013, New Year's Day, is a City holiday and City offices are closed and most services are suspended. However, recycling collection will be provided for those residents regularly scheduled for this day.

So, if Tuesday is your regularly scheduled recycling collection day, please place your recycling curbside by 7 a.m. on January 1, 2013 and it will be collected.

Thank you for your efforts to recycle and help the environment. If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact the Public Works Department at 301-809-2344.

What To Do If Your Pet Is Lost

Approximately five to seven million companion animals enter shelters nationwide annually. Less than two percent of cats and 15-20 percent of dogs return to their owners.

The first step to ensuring your pets do not become a part of this statistic is to be prepared. Your pet should always wear identification as it will give them the greatest chance of being reunited with you if they are lost. Your pet's license and rabies vaccination tags must be displayed on its collar. Make sure your contact information is up to date otherwise the ID is useless. Microchipping is a permanent form of ID and the City of Bowie provides a low-cost microchip program for City residents. Inspect the security of your fencing and latches for weaknesses and make repairs as needed. Train your pets not to dart out an open door without your command. Take your dog for walks – it's not only good exercise, but it also will help neighbors be familiar with you and your pet.

In the event your pet has become lost, the steps you take can make a difference. Do not wait. Once your pet is out of sight, file a lost report with Animal Control. You will be notified if an animal matching the description was reported running loose, contained by a neighbor, or was picked up by an Animal Control Officer. Contact City of Bowie Animal Control at 301-809-3002 or Prince George's County Animal Management Division at 301-780-7200. Canvass the area on foot or by car, particularly paths you might normally take when you're out with your pet. Enlist the aid of neighbors and friends in your search. Post fliers with a current photo at local veterinary offices and other animal related businesses. Create an ad on a lost pet website - Petfinder.com, Lostpetusa.net, and others. For additional information, please contact Bowie Animal Control at 301-809-3002 or sroberts@cityofbowie.org.

Service Dogs Only

The City allows individuals with disabilities to bring service dogs into City facilities for assistance. For the safety and comfort of individuals conducting business in City facilities, no other animal is permitted inside a City building. Even when you are coming to City Hall to purchase an animal license, there is no need to bring your pet. Since State law prohibits leaving animals unattended in a vehicle, we suggest that if you plan to visit a City building, you leave your pet at home where he will be safe and secure. When taking your dog to a City park, please remember that with the exception of the Dog Park, all pets must be kept on leash.

Protecting Your Pet During the Winter

The cold weather conditions of winter require additional care to be given to a pet that is placed outside. These additional conditions include: 1) Adequate water – the water bowl must be regularly replenished and the water must be kept from freezing; 2) Adequate food – ensure the pet food is kept from freezing and is in sufficient quantity for the size of your pet; 3) Adequate shelter and space – all animals kept out of doors for extended periods of time must have a weatherproof shelter; 4) Adequate exercise – even during the cold winter days, pets need exercise; and 5) Adequate care – this includes veterinary care. Have your veterinarian give your pet a winter checkup. A healthy pet can tolerate the winter elements better than a pet that is unhealthy. Check on your pet more frequently when it is outdoors. Keep your pet indoors when possible.

For additional information, please contact Bowie Animal Control at 301-809-3002 or sroberts@cityofbowie.org.

Code Corner

Where to park your car if significant snowfall is forecasted.

The Bowie City Code defines a “snow emergency” when there is an accumulation of snow and ice on the streets exceeding two (2) inches. The parking of vehicles on a City street during a snow emergency is prohibited. If a significant snowfall is forecasted and snow is beginning to accumulate, residents, tenants and property owners should:

- Move your vehicles off the street. Park your vehicles in your driveway but do not block the sidewalk.
- If your driveway is too crowded, you may park your vehicle on the grass on your property, but do not block the sidewalk. Once the snow has been cleared, immediately move your vehicle back onto the street.

Parking your vehicles off the roadway during a snow emergency greatly aids the City’s snowplows and snow removal equipment to clear the streets for emergency vehicles and other motor vehicle traffic. It will also shorten the time until your vehicle can be legally parked back on the street.

Amendments to the Bowie City Code

From time to time the Bowie City Code is amended in response to changes in State and County laws and procedures, and for the improvement of City processes and standards. Last month, the City Council adopted several Ordinances to amend Chapter 5, Property Maintenance; Chapter 14, Traffic; Chapter 22, Streets and Sidewalks; and Chapter 26, Zoning. To view these amendments and the entire Bowie City Code, visit the City’s website at www.cityofbowie.org or contact lransom@cityofbowie.org.

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Art Contest

To help students learn about the lasting contributions of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., the Bowie Diversity Committee sponsors an annual art contest for school-aged children. The theme for this year’s contest is “Moving Forward with Dr. King’s Dream”.

There are three contest categories: coloring contest for kindergarten through second grade, poster contest for grades three through five, and a video contest for sixth through twelfth grade. First (\$100), second (\$50), and third (\$25) prizes will be awarded in each category. Contest finalists will be recognized at the City’s Martin Luther King program on Saturday, January 19th.

Contest materials will be sent to local schools and are available on the City website, www.cityofbowie.org. The entry deadline is Wednesday, **January 9, 2013** at 5 p.m.

For more information about the contest, call 301-809-3032 or email ucooper@cityofbowie.org.

Art Notes

Abstracts Exhibit Come view the shapes, color and form of the paintings and photographs in City Hall's new exhibit on *Abstracts* on view January 15 - March 16, 2013. Below are the rules and regulations for artists interested in exhibiting in this show.

Jurying will be on **Saturday, January 12, 2013**. Artists are to drop off work between 9 and 10 a.m. for jurying. Artwork not selected for this show must be picked up between 11 a.m. and noon the same day. Any artist residing in Maryland, Virginia, or the District of Columbia who is 18 years of age and older is eligible to exhibit. Artists should bring no more than two pieces of original art or photography to the jurying. Entries must be suitably framed with matting and frame in pristine condition. All works must be secured by screw hooks and wires and wiring must be no lower than two inches from the top of the painting. All entries must be labeled with the artist's name, contact information, title of work and price, and accompanied by the signed application entry form. The Arts Committee reserves the right to refuse any artwork that fails to meet these requirements. The Art Gallery is located in the first and second floor lobby areas of City Hall, 15901 Excalibur Road, Bowie, MD 20716. Gallery hours are: Mondays through Thursdays, 8:30 a.m. to 9:30 p.m.; Fridays, 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m., and Saturdays, 9 a.m. to 12 p.m.

Art Display Case Available The Bowie Arts Committee is seeking individual artists/artists' organizations to provide small sculpture or other small artwork suitable for its two art display cases located in City Hall. Sculpture or artwork sizes must not be larger than 12 inches wide by 18 inches deep by 8 inches high.

Art Grants The City of Bowie's Arts Committee recently awarded a total of \$4,000 in Arts Grants to four art projects that will provide art opportunities for the Bowie community. The four awardees are:

Heather Hills Elementary School PTO Staff and parent volunteers will provide art enrichment classes for the whole student body to enrich the arts program. The school, which is a TAG school, shares its arts teacher with two other Prince George's County Schools. Grant funding is \$1,500. Grant monies will purchase art supplies for the students.

Category 5 Wind Ensemble Category 5, a local community band, will host a Bowie Community Band Festival at Allen Pond Park in Spring 2013. The group will invite other community bands in the area to assist in providing a free concert of classical music for the Bowie community. Grant funding is \$1,000.

A Touch of Class Elementary Ballroom Dance Program The program consists of ballroom dance instruction in various schools in Bowie and Prince George's County that will culminate in a ballroom dance competition in Spring 2013. Grant funding is \$750.

Children Can Come Closer The program sponsors children and their families in monthly workshops that include discussion and performance of music and dance around the world. In April 2013, there will be a performance at the Bowie Center for the Performing Arts that will showcase the children's talents and include performances by professional performers from the metro DC area. Grant funding is \$750.

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

Please Support the Bowie Food Pantry

The Bowie Food Pantry is a community-based social services program providing emergency food and financial assistance. Its mission is to serve with respect, dignity and without discrimination those in need in our community by providing food, financial assistance and other resource referrals.

The Pantry needs nonperishable food items, as well as fresh produce (fruits and vegetables), personal care items (travel size as well as regular size toothpaste, shampoo, soap, deodorant), baby items (diapers and wipes), and paper goods (tissues, paper towels and bathroom tissue).

Tax deductible monetary donations are also desired to help with emergency aid as well as to buy and restock shelves with various food items as they run low. Checks may be written to the Bowie Food Pantry and sent to Bowie Interfaith Food Pantry, 3120 Belair Drive, Bowie MD 20715.

The Pantry, located behind the Christian Community Presbyterian Church, is open Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 9 to 11 a.m. Donations can be brought to the Pantry, and a number of other collection points around the City including the Kenhill Center (old City Hall), the Bowie Senior Center and the City Gym. For more information, please contact the Pantry at 301-262-6765 or bowiefoodpantry@gmail.com.

Education Grants Awarded

Congratulations to the winners of the 2012 - 2013 Grants for Education! Seventeen projects were selected to receive funding. This year's winners represent eleven different schools and will receive funds totaling \$12,856. Projects vary greatly in their purposes, but all offer enrichment for student learning experiences at Bowie schools. This year's winners are:

Grant Title	School
Project Serve	Benjamin Tasker Middle School
Move Over Einstein	Chapel Forge Early Childhood Center
A Tri-Fold Literary Choice Board for Every Classroom	C. Elizabeth Rieg Regional School
Give Every Student a Voice	C. Elizabeth Rieg Regional School
Upgrade Boardmaker 5.0 CDs	C. Elizabeth Rieg Regional School
Igniting Interesting Industries@Innovations.Inc	Grace Christian School
Math Maniacs	Grace Christian School
Unscrambling Learning and Unlocking Brilliance	Grace Christian School
Book Club Books	Heather Hills Elementary School
Building a Counseling Library	Heather Hills Elementary School
Practice Makes Perfect	High Bridge Elementary School
The Three Billy Goats Gruff	Holy Trinity Episcopal Day School
Robotics Projects	St. Pius X Regional School
Rapid Fire! The Art of Debate	Samuel Ogle Middle School
Assemblies: Many Students, Six Grades, One Lesson	Tulip Grove Elementary School
Let's Go Mobile on Agricultural Products	Yorktown Elementary School
Turn and Talk Literature Circles	Yorktown Elementary School



Teachers of the Month



Congratulations to the following Teacher of the Month winners:

September 2012: **Rhonda Rowell**, Third Grade Teacher, High Bridge Elementary School

October 2012: **Laurel Haertel**, Special Education Teacher, Chapel Forge Early Childhood Center

November 2012: **Carolyn O'Donovan**, Music Teacher, Whitehall Elementary School

The Teacher of the Month program is a way to recognize Bowie teachers and educators at eligible schools who are making a difference in the lives of Bowie children. Nominations can be submitted by parents, students, other teachers, administrative staff, and principals, or other Bowie community members. Eligible schools include: Bowie and Tall Oaks High Schools; Benjamin Tasker and Samuel Ogle Middle Schools; St. Pius X Regional, Grace Christian, Cornerstone Christian Academy, Holy Trinity (lower campus), Heather Hills, High Bridge, Kenilworth, Northview, Pointer Ridge, Rockledge, Tulip Grove, Whitehall and Yorktown Elementary Schools; Chapel Forge Early Childhood Center and C. Elizabeth Rieg Special Center. Nomination forms are available at eligible schools and from the City's website, www.cityofbowie.org.

Teacher honorees are recognized at City Council meetings and each receives a \$50 check and a certificate of recognition from the City, a coupon for dinner at Texas Roadhouse, and a coupon for a pizza party for the teacher's homeroom provided by T. J. Elliott's.

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

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 will be held in the Studio at the Kenhill Center (2614 Kenhill Drive) on **Saturday, February 23, 2013** beginning at 9 a.m. for the National Anthem. 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 11:30 a.m. Candidates will be asked to read from a prepared script for a panel of judges. The chosen performer(s) will be invited to perform at various City-sponsored special events.

For more information or to schedule an audition, please contact Special Events Coordinator Matt Corley at 301-809-3078 or mcorley@cityofbowie.org.

Bowie Business Innovation Center

Outgrow your home office! The Bowie Business Innovation Center (BIC) at Bowie State University is the "smart" office solution for commercial enterprises that need office space plus business support services and mentoring to accelerate their growth.

Bowie BIC is a business incubation program which targets professional service companies in the Bowie area, such as business consultants, project management companies, social media and marketing companies, financial services and training companies. Bowie BIC client companies lease furnished offices on flexible terms for approximately \$500 per month.

In addition to the mentoring and business support provided by the on-site management team, Bowie BIC resident clients also have access to the following business amenities:

- Internet access
- Phone and voicemail
- Business mail slots
- Reception services
- Conference room access
- Business seminars and networking events

If you are an existing Bowie area business and would like to apply to the Bowie BIC as a resident client company, contact Crystal Simpkins at 301-383-1550 x105 or crystal.simpkins@bowiebic.com to schedule your tour of Bowie BIC today!

Also, mark your calendar for the next free "Lunch and Learn" session at Bowie BIC on Wednesday, January 23, 2013, 11:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. at the Center for Business at Bowie State University, Room 3100, entitled "Create a Business Banking Relationship That Grows Your Business", presented by Vania McNeary Edwards of Washington Savings Bank. Lunch will be served courtesy of the speaker. The session is FREE to attend but registration is required. Contact Crystal Simpkins at Bowie BIC to register.

Bouncing Into the New Year at the Bowie Gymnasium

South Bowie Boys and Girls Club Winter Basketball League - Begins **January 5, 2013**, 9 a.m. - 1 p.m.

Bowie Boys and Girls Club Winter Basketball League - Begins **January 5, 2013**, 1 - 9 p.m.

First Annual Dr. Martin Luther King Invitational Basketball Tournament - **January 19 - 21, 2013**

Recreational Volleyball - Fridays, 11 a.m. - 1 p.m.

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

2013 Bike to Work Day

Save the Date!

Friday, May 17, 2013

Gear up for Bike to Work Day 2013! It is a free event full of fun, food and prizes. Join thousands of area commuters and show your support for bicycling, by taking part in a clean, fun and healthy way to get to work.

Registration information and Bowie Pit Stop locations will be in the next *Bowie Spotlight*.



Stream Cleanup Number Ten Is In the Books

On Saturday, October 13, 2012, 123 volunteers entered eight streams across the City to collect trash and recycling from neighborhood streams. These dedicated volunteers removed 900 pounds of trash and 1,225 pounds of recycling. This brings the total trash and recycling removed for all ten cleanups to 15,370 and 14,000 pounds, respectively. Approximately 10,000 pounds of bulk items including several dozen tires, a lawn mower, a sofa, a couple mattresses and several large pieces of an old BMW (hood, trunk lid, and doors) have also been removed. Thank you to each and every volunteer that has helped us over the last five years!! Without you, all of this debris would have the potential to move downstream into the Patuxent River and even the Chesapeake Bay. It is nice to see Bowie residents take pride in their community and streams.

Interested in joining us? We would love to have you and your church group, civic association, homeowners' association, or class join us. We will provide cleanup supplies and just ask that you bring your family and friends and have fun!

If you want to work as a volunteer in April for our next cleanup, contact Tiffany Wright, the City's Watershed Manager at 301-809-3043 or twright@cityofbowie.org. Prince George's County public school students can receive service learning hours for participating. Scouts who participate will receive a Green Bowie patch or year bar.

University of Maryland Stormwater Program Study

In August 2012, the Environmental Finance Center (EFC) at the University of Maryland began a stormwater financing feasibility study for the City of Bowie. The project is funded through support of the Maryland Department of Natural Resources Watershed Assistance Collaborative. The goal of this project is to provide recommendations to the City on ways to finance and better manage stormwater protection activities over the long term.

The EFC will also conduct stormwater related outreach and educational activities targeted to the general public, community leaders, and elected officials. The project will conclude in August 2013 with a set of financing recommendations that best fit the City of Bowie's needs for a fair, equitable, dedicated, and sustainable revenue source to pay for all future stormwater management activities.

For more information, please contact Tiffany Wright, the City's Watershed Manager at 301-809-3043 or twright@cityofbowie.org.



Christmas Trees

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

Yard Waste - Leaves, Branches and Grass

Yard waste recycling is mandatory in the City of Bowie. Yard waste is collected every Wednesday throughout the year. Place all yard waste curbside, bagged and/or bundled, by 7 a.m. each Wednesday.

Bowie Ice Arena

301-809-3090



Birthday Parties on Ice Have your next birthday party on ice at the Bowie Ice Arena. Party package includes: admission, skate rental, pizza, soda and the private party room for a two-hour public session. The fee for City of Bowie residents is \$150 for up to 10 people. Parties book quickly, so please call the Ice Arena to check availability. For additional information, see the City's website at www.cityofbowie.org.

Group Lessons Series 3 Group Lessons will begin February 7, 2013. Registration will be held January 24 - February 7 from 12 - 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. There are special discounts for beginners and families. Space is limited so register early. Private lessons are also available. Please call 301-809-3090 for further information.

Public Session Schedule The Ice Arena offers daily public skating. Please call 301-262-6200 or view the calendar at www.cityofbowie.org. Group rates, family session discounts and disc jockey sessions are offered monthly. For more information, call the Ice Arena at 301-809-3090.

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 to a Regular Public Session

Bowie Ice Arena

Not valid with any other discount or offer.
Not valid during DJ Session.

Expires 2/28/13

\$5 Off Series 3 Group Lesson Registration

Bowie Ice Arena

Not valid with any other discount or offer.
One coupon per family.

Expires 2/6/13

Bowie Youth & Family Services

Counseling Services - Offered for families with school-age children living in the home. Groups are offered on a variety of topics, including groups for those who want guidance with parenting skills, social skills for young children, or parenting children with ADHD. Bowie Youth and Family Services 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. 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 - Residents are needed to hire Bowie teens (ages 13-17) looking for occasional jobs. Do you need some help with household or yard chores, babysitting, shopping, computer work or tutoring? Hire one of the teens with the Teen Job Bank. The particulars of the job and the fees paid are determined by you and the teen. Please fill in a Teen Job Bank Resident Application which is found on the City's website - www.cityofbowie.org, or call the office at 301-809-3033.

Upcoming Groups and Activities - For information, call 301-809-3033.

Grandparents – Are you parenting and raising your grandchildren? We're interested in hearing from you. Contact Symone Colquitt.

Youth of military families – Are you looking for a place to gather and talk? Contact Marika Martin.

Social Skills for elementary-aged children – Contact Nancy D'Imperio.

Active Parenting – A popular group for parents that focuses on learning practical skills to help develop cooperation and responsibility in your child. Contact Debby Shipler.

ADHD Education – Adults learn about ADHD/ADD and new ways to help their child. Children ages 8 - 11 focus on improving social skills. These two groups run simultaneously. Contact Symone Colquitt or Marika Martin.

GIRLS COUNT! – Sharing the pressures of being female in today's complex society, teen girls support each other as they participate in activities that are fun and meaningful. Contact Symone Colquitt.

Women Caring for Others and Themselves – An experiential group for Mom's who want to gather and share their experience and learn ways for coping and healing of their inner selves. Contact Karen Katrinic.

Attention Homeowners Associations

The City maintains a list of contact information for local homeowners associations on the City's website. The list is used to share important information with your community about planned developments, transportation improvements, and other issues. Help us keep the list current by notifying the Planning Department when your officers and management companies change.

Please visit the City's website at www.cityofbowie.org to see if your community information is correct. Any corrections or updates to the information should be provided to Marianne Baird at mbaird@cityofbowie.org or 301-809-3047.

Bowie Playhouse Presents



Daddy's Dyin' WHO'S GOT THE Will -- 1/11 - 1/26

From the writer and director who brought you 2011's smash hit Sordid Lives comes another story of small-town America. A Texas family experiences not just their father's death from a physically and mentally debilitating stroke, but also a rebirth of the spirit of the family unit. The Los Angeles Times called Daddy's Dyin' "a well written piece of mainstream theatre...consistently funny and occasionally touching." Produced by Bowie Community Theatre. Performances are at 8 p.m. on Fridays and Saturdays. Matinees are at 2 p.m. on Sundays. For tickets, visit www.BCTheatre.com or call 301-805-0219.

MOON OVER BUFFALO -- 2/1 - 2/16

A second-rate and dysfunctional theater company gets the chance of a lifetime when famed director Frank Capra plans to catch a matinee performance. Will the leading man sober up in time for the curtain? Will his wife, the company's leading lady, run away with her agent? Will the company decide to present Private Lives or Cyrano or a disturbing mixture of both? Join us for this comedic valentine to theater hams everywhere. Produced by Prince George's Little Theatre. Performances are at 8 p.m. on Fridays and Saturdays. Matinees are at 2 p.m. on Sundays. For tickets, call 301-937-7458 or visit www.pglt.org.

IT RUNS IN THE FAMILY -- 2/22 - 3/9

It's almost Christmas and Doctor David Mortimore is about to give a highly significant speech to an international group of neurologists when Nurse Tate drops back into the hospital. Having left her position a bit over 18 years before after a dalliance with the good doctor, her news today is that her child, Leslie, has turned 18 and has been told that daddy is a doctor at the hospital and is downstairs demanding to meet him. The tangled web of desperate lies designed to cover up the situation leads to a frantic, frenetic comedy that will have audiences laughing out loud with an unexpected happy ending for all. Produced by 2nd Star Productions. Performances are at 8 p.m. on Fridays and Saturdays. Matinees are at 3 p.m. on Sundays. For tickets, visit www.2ndStarProductions or call 301-832-4819.



All performances are at the Bowie Playhouse, located in Whitmarsh Park, 16500 Whitmarsh Park Drive. For ticket sales and information about the theater groups, please contact the theater companies directly. All theater groups now offer online tickets for shows.

News of the City Museums



Mark Your Calendar

Mrs. Rumney's Sewing Circle - Saturday, **January 5**, 12 - 4 p.m. at Belair Mansion. Visit with Mrs. Rumney, Belair's 18th century housekeeper, and her friends, as they stitch and prepare for a Twelfth Night Celebration. Free.

Kids Kaboose - Tuesdays, **January 15** and **February 19**, 10:30 a.m. at Bowie Railroad Museum. Railroad stories and fun for ages 1-11. Free.

"Finding Your War of 1812 Ancestors" Genealogy Lecture - Saturday, **February 9**, 3 p.m. at Belair Mansion. Get ready for the celebration of Prince George's County's 1814 role in the War of 1812! Professional Genealogist Marie Melchiori will discuss finding your 1812 ancestors. Free.

"Annabella Sneed...Indentured Servant" Second Tuesday Lecture Tuesday, **February 12**, 7:30 p.m. at Belair Mansion. Carolyn Murphy from the Historic Annapolis Organization, will offer a first person look at the life of Annabella Sneed, giving a glimpse at the life of those who worked under harsh conditions to secure passage to the colonies. Free.

Home-school Fun at Belair Mansion - Thursday, **February 14**, 10 a.m. - 3 p.m. at Belair Mansion. Home-school children are invited to enjoy a number of early American skills -- churn butter, stitch, dance and discover colonial history at Belair! Free.

During the winter months, the **National Capital Radio and Television Museum** will feature "vintage" broadcasts -- visit and take a trip down Memory Lane (not the one in the M Section -- but the one from your viewing past!). Check the Museum's website, www.radiohistory.org, or call 301-390-1020 for a program schedule. Programs are free.

Looking for a winter diversion? How about searching for your ancestors? Visit the **Genealogy Library** at 12219 Tulip Grove Drive. Call the Library at 301-262-2063 for open hours and information, or check the website, www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~mdpgcs.

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

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 information, call 301-262-2063 during open hours.*

Senior Services Overview

The Bowie 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 of age and older.

2013 Wellness Fair

Tuesday, January 29
10:30 a.m.

Topics will range from the two hottest supplements of 2013 to how to protect heart and brain health.

AARP Tax Preparation

Wednesdays,
February 6 - April 10

Volunteer tax preparers from AARP will be at the Center. Call the Center to make an appointment.

Commit to Be Fit

Are you looking to lose weight or improve your health? Wellness Coordinator Mark Shields will lead a six-month class that will meet twice a month beginning **February 13**. Class meetings will focus on nutritional education and social support in order to facilitate positive health changes. Contact the Senior Center for details.



Community Open House "My Senior Center"

Thursday, February 14
10 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.

This is your opportunity find out what independent, engaging, and connected senior adults are doing every day! The Bowie Senior Center's many programs, activities, and services will wow you! The day will include entertainment, light refreshments, tours, and much more. Join us!

Taking a Look Back at Slavery to Impact

Our Present and Future

Wednesday, February 20
12:30 p.m.

The program is an oral narration of actual life experiences of various slaves who lived on plantations in the State of Maryland. Also included in the presentation are a few short poems from *The Women of Plums: Poems in the Voices of Slave Women* written by Washington, DC Poet Laureate Dolores Kendrick. This presentation will give you a lot to think about and a promise that you will not look at the great State of Maryland in the same way again. You will walk away with more awareness of the bumpy road others endured that impacts our rights now and in the future. Join Dr. Ellen C. Sistare for this presentation.

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 8:30 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

Martin Luther King, Jr.

Art Contest Deadline

*Friday, January 9, 2013
5 p.m., City Hall*

Martin Luther King, Jr. Day

*Monday, January 21, 2013
City offices closed. No refuse
or recycling collection.*

Presidents Day

*Monday, February 18, 2013
City offices closed. No refuse
or recycling collection.*

National Anthem and

"Voice of Bowie" Auditions

*Saturday, February 23, 2013
9 and 11:30 a.m., respectively,
Kenhill Center.*

2013 City Holidays

New Year's Day*	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 (*except New Year's - see Page 3 of this publication); services will resume on the next regularly scheduled day.