

Bowie News Flash

December 2012

News

Free Flu Vaccinations – December 3 at the Senior Center

The City of Bowie and the Bowie Health Center will provide free flu vaccinations in Bowie on **Monday, December 3 from 4 to 8 p.m.** at the Bowie Senior Center, 14900 Health Center Drive (across from Bowie Town Center). This clinic is open to the general public. No appointments are necessary and you need not be a City of Bowie resident to participate. Both flu mist and shots will be available at no charge. For more information about the clinic, call 301-809-3032. For questions about whether or not you should receive a flu shot, please contact your healthcare provider.

Candlelight Tours, Tree Lighting and a Visit from Santa at Belair Mansion - Sunday, December 2

On Sunday, December 2 there will be a very special holiday celebration at Belair Mansion. It starts with candlelight tours of the Mansion from 3 to 7 p.m., and continues with caroling outdoors at 7 p.m. and the lighting of the City's holiday tree. The evening culminates with the arrival of Santa Claus and Mrs. Claus on a fire truck, courtesy of the Bowie Volunteer Fire Department! The music of the Christian Community Presbyterian Church (CCPC) Bell Choir will entertain visitors inside while they wait to have a chat with Mr. Claus!

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.

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 families and themselves. Children are accompanied by a uniformed officer who assists them with their purchases. It's not too late to make a donation to help a family in need this holiday season. 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 or email bhenderson@cityofbowie.org.

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: City Hall, Bowie Police Department, City Gymnasium, Ice Arena, 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 or email bhenderson@cityofbowie.org.

Holiday House Decorating Contest Deadline is December 10, 2012

The City of Bowie's Annual Holiday House Decorating Contest registration deadline is nearing. Brighten up the outside of your house for the holidays, then enter your house in our contest. Prizes include two \$100 Family Awards, ten Best of Bowie Awards, and ten Spirit Awards. The Best of Bowie recipients will receive a White House ornament and the Spirit Award winners will be given a Belair Mansion ornament. The contest is **free** to enter and open to any resident within city limits who submits an entry form by the deadline. Entry forms are available on the City's website and may also be picked up at City Hall. **Entry forms must be returned to City Hall by Monday, December 10, 2012 at 5 p.m.** Lights and decorations should be visible when judging takes place on Wednesday, December 12, 2012 from 6 to 11 p.m. For additional information, call 301-809-3078 or email mcorley@cityofbowie.org.

Christmas Day & New Year's Day Holidays

Tuesday, December 25 and Tuesday, January 1 are City holidays. City offices are closed. There is no refuse or recycling collection on these dates. Collection will resume on the next regularly scheduled days.

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.

Martin Luther King Art Contest

To help teach 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 graders, poster contest for grades three through five, and a multimedia contest for sixth through twelfth graders. 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 will be soon be available on the City website.

Events

12/1 - 12/31 Exhibit at Belair Stable. Step back in time to a different holiday in Bowie...the Bowie of small farms, horse pastures, general stores and simple celebrations. Visit the Belair Stable during the month of December to explore Stablemaster James Brady's family holiday celebration...the feast is on the table, the tree is in the parlor, and the Brady children wait for Santa...in 1923! The Belair Stable, located at 2835 Belair Drive, is open Tuesdays through Sundays, 12 - 4 p.m.

12/1 – KinderKristmas at Belair Mansion 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. For more information, please contact 301-809-3089 or museumevents@cityofbowie.org.

12/1 - 8 – “Oklahoma” at Bowie Playhouse The first musical collaboration of Rodgers and Hammerstein remains one of the most beloved and frequently performed musicals. The story set in the Oklahoma Territory in 1906 follows 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. This show is presented by 2nd Star Productions, www.2ndstarproductions.com, 301-832-4819. Performances are Fridays and Saturdays at 8 p.m. and matinee at 3 p.m. on Sunday.

12/2 – Belair and Bowie’s Candlelight Holiday Tree Celebration 4 - 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., the tree will be lit in the Mansion yard and Santa will arrive on a Bowie fire truck. Free. Donations to the Bowie Food Pantry welcomed. For more information, please contact 301-809-3089 or museumevents@cityofbowie.org.

12/3 – Free Flu Shots 4 - 8 p.m. at the Senior Center. Children and adults can receive free seasonal flu vaccinations at this flu clinic sponsored by the City of Bowie and Dimensions Healthcare.

12/6 – Bowie Senior Chorale Holiday Concert – Senior Center 1 p.m. Tickets are required. A \$2 donation or canned goods for the Bowie Food Pantry is required to obtain a ticket. For more information, please contact the Senior Center at 301-809-2300.

12/8 – Saturday Fun with Santa 10 a.m. - 12 p.m. at the Bowie Gym. The program includes games, moon bounces, face painting, music, pictures with Santa and more. The cost is \$3 per child or a donation of an unwrapped gift for Toys for Tots. For more information, please contact the Gymnasium at 301-809-2388.

12/8 – American Red Cross Blood Drive at the Senior Center 8:30 a.m. - 1 p.m. at the Senior Center. 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.

12/8 – Snowflake Tea 4 p.m. 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 reservations and more information, please contact 301-809-3089 or museumevents@cityofbowie.org.

12/10 – Variety Show – Senior Center 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. For more information, please contact the Senior Center at 301-809-2300.

12/14 – Bowie Senior Chorale Holiday Concert – Bowie Center for the Performing Arts 7:30 p.m. Tickets are required. Tickets for the evening performance at the Bowie Center for the Performing Arts are \$6. For more information, please contact the Senior Center at 301-809-2300.

12/14 - 23 – “The Hallelujah Girls” at Bowie Playhouse 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. It's a side-splitting, joyful comedy that will make you laugh out loud and shout "Hallelujah!" Performances are 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.

12/20 – Let’s Celebrate the Holidays Together – Senior Center 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. The cost is \$9 for residents/\$10 for nonresidents. For more information, please contact the Senior Center at 301-809-2300.

12/26 - 28 – Washington Wizards/Mystics Holiday Hoops Camp 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.

12/27 – Colonial Christmas for Kids at Belair Mansion 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. For more information, please contact 301-809-3089 or museumevents@cityofbowie.org.

12/28 – Kringle Kaboose 10:30 a.m. - 12 p.m. at Bowie Railroad Museum. Railroad holiday fun for ages 1 - 10 – games, stories, trainspotting. Free. For more information, please contact 301-809-3089 or museumevents@cityofbowie.org.

12/29 – Winter Wonderland Tea 4 p.m. at Belair Mansion. 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 reservations and more information, please contact 301-809-3089 or museumevents@cityofbowie.org.

Happy Holidays from the City of Bowie!

