

Bowie News Flash

April 2013

News

Opening Night at the Bowie Baysox and Special Olympics Maryland

The Bowie Police Department has teamed up with the Bowie Baysox and Special Olympics Maryland for Opening Night 2013. Special Olympics Maryland athletes and volunteers will be honored on the field during a pre-game ceremony. The Police Department supports Special Olympics each year with its participation in the Polar Bear Plunge. The Department will be selling game tickets until April 9. They are \$15 each and \$6 from each ticket sold will be donated to Special Olympics Maryland. Please contact Ellen Boswell in the Police Department for more information at 301-575-2015.

City of Bowie Job Fair

The City will host a job fair on Friday, April 26 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the City Gymnasium. Private and public sector employers with current openings are being recruited to participate. A list of confirmed employer participants will be posted on our website the week before the event. This event is free and open to the public. For more information, please call the City of Bowie Human Resources Department at 301-575-5613.

City of Bowie License Plates

The Maryland Motor Vehicle Administration is offering special license plates with the City of Bowie seal. The cost of the tags is \$25 and only City of Bowie residents may purchase them. A picture of the plates may be viewed on our website. For more information, please contact Denise Mahoney at 301-809-3031 or email dmahoney@cityofbowie.org.

April is Earth Month

City Council has proclaimed April to be "Earth Month" in Bowie. There's a variety of earth-friendly events taking place here this month, including a Stream Cleanup (April 6); the Green Expo (April 13); Arbor Day at Acorn Hill Park (April 20); and a Rain Barrel Workshop (April 27). Details about these events are listed below in the Events section. For more information, contact Tiffany Wright, Watershed Manager at twright@cityofbowie.org or call 301-809-3043.

Prescription Drug Take Back Event

Safely dispose of old prescription and over-the-counter drugs at this Prescription Take Back Event on April 28, from 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. at the Bowie Police Department, located at 15901 Excalibur Road. The event is hosted by the Bowie Police and the U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration. For more information, contact Officer Henderson of the Bowie Police Department at 301-575-1824.

Telephone Reassurance Program for Seniors

Local seniors who live alone or who are homebound can sign up to receive a friendly, reassuring phone call each week through the Telephone Reassurance Program. If you know someone who would benefit from these calls, please call the Bowie Senior Center at 301-809-2300.

Bowie Business Innovation Center Accepting Applications

Bowie Business Innovation Center (BIC) is a business incubation program for small and growing companies. To learn more and see if the Bowie BIC can help your business, visit www.bowiebic.com.

City Council Begins Fiscal 2014 Budget Deliberations This Month

The City Council will begin its annual review of the Proposed Budget for the coming fiscal year with a series of Budget Worksessions, which are open to the public. See the schedule below under Events.

Hydrant Flushing Begins April 8

The Bowie Public Works Department will soon begin its annual fire hydrant flushing and testing program in areas served by City water. Hydrant flushing will occur from approximately 9 a.m. to 2 p.m., according to the following schedule:

April 8 & 9	Buckingham, Derbyshire & Forest Drive
April 10 & 11	Somerset & Bowie Forest
April 12 & 15	Tulip Grove
April 16	Foxhill & Long Ridge
April 17 - 19	Kenilworth
April 22	Heather Hills
April 23-26	Meadowbrook
April 29	Gradys Walk & Glenridge
April 30	Chapel Forge
May 1	Victoria Heights & Race Track Road Townhouses
May 2	Idlewild
May 3	Yorktown & Overbrook
May 6	Whitehall
May 7	Rockledge

Some discoloration of your water may occur and washing clothes is discouraged while the hydrants in your area are being flushed. If clothes become discolored, they should be kept wet until they can be rewashed using a rust remover. Rust remover will be available, at no cost, at City Hall and Public Works offices. The water is safe for drinking and bathing, even though it may be discolored. The discoloration is a result of rust and sediment buildup in the water lines and is not harmful. The discoloration should clear in approximately 24 hours. However, since the water mains are all interconnected, flushing of hydrants in adjacent neighborhoods could affect your water as well. For more information, please call the Public Works Department at 301-809-2344.

Emergency Preparedness

We are approaching the season for tornadoes, hurricanes and tropical storms. If one of these severe storms were to strike Bowie today, would you have the information and supplies you need to help you and your family get through the disaster safely? Learn more at www.ready.gov.

The City of Bowie can help you prepare by bringing our emergency preparedness presentation to your local club or organization. Please contact Alan Creveling at 301-809-3079 or acreveling@cityofbowie.org, or Una Cooper at ucooper@cityofbowie.org or 301-809-3032 to schedule a presentation for your group.

Bowie Green Expo - Saturday, April 13

The Bowie Lions Club, the City of Bowie and the Greater Bowie Chamber of Commerce are joining forces to sponsor the Third Annual Green Expo. This year's Expo will take place on Saturday, April 13 at the Kenhill Center (2614 Kenhill Drive) from 1 to 4 p.m. The Green Expo is a community-wide, family-oriented, free event featuring local environmental agencies, nonprofits, and local and regional businesses offering green products or services. Learn about a greener lifestyle from businesses wanting to share their products and services and perhaps you can reduce your carbon footprint. For more information, visit www.bowiegreenexpo.org.

2013 Street Sweeping Schedule

Street sweeping is underway. Between now and October, all City streets will receive multiple cleanings according to the 2013 Street Sweeping Schedule. Residents are asked to remove cars from the street during the weeks that their neighborhood is scheduled to be swept. Residents can view the schedule on our website (search "street sweeping schedule") or call 301-809-2344 to find out when the sweeper will be in their neighborhood.

Register for Summer Ice Skating Camps

Registration for summer skating camp is underway. Camps will be held during July and August. Half-day camps will be offered for children ages 3 - 6, and full-day camps will be offered for children ages 6 - 13. Specialty camps will also be offered for hockey and figure skating. For a detailed listing of camp offerings, please call the Ice Arena at 301-809-3090 or visit us online at www.cityofbowie.org/icearena.

Bowie Police Department Offers R.A.D. Self-Defense Training for Women

The R.A.D. (Rape Aggression Defense) System is a program of self-defense tactics and techniques for women. It is a comprehensive, women-only course and its primary focus is the realistic development of self-defense options for use before and during situations of imminent or actual attacks. R.A.D. is not a martial arts program. The course is taught by a nationally certified R.A.D. instructor. Each student receives a workbook/manual that outlines the program for reference and continuous personal growth. The next course takes place on five Wednesdays in May from 6:30 to 9:30 p.m. For more information or to register for the class, please call the Police Department at 301-575-2015.

Books Needed

The Education Committee is collecting new and gently used children's books to distribute to local children at Bowiefest and the City Parade. Books may be dropped off in the lobby at Tulip Grove Elementary School. For more information, contact Annette Esterheld at 301-575-5601 or email aesterheld@cityofbowie.org.

Youth Leadership Bowie

The Youth Leadership Bowie (YLB) program is a combined effort of the City of Bowie and the Greater Bowie Chamber of Commerce (GBCC). This year-long program is designed to provide young people with experiential leadership opportunities while exposing them to career paths. Networking and relationship building are key components of this program that motivates participants to get involved in their community. The program runs from September thru May. Participants meet one day per month for a group activity and complete a community service project. Students who live in the City or attend Bowie High and will be sophomores and juniors in the fall of 2013 are invited to apply. Applications are available on the City website or the GBCC website at www.bowiechamber.org. All applications must be received at the Chamber office by 4 p.m. on Friday, **May 3, 2013**.

Events

4/1 - 4/12 – Photography Exhibit at City Hall. See photographs of national and state parks in the *Parks in the US* exhibit at City Hall.

4/6 – Community Camp Fair – 10 a.m. - 3 p.m. at the Bowie Gymnasium. Learn about local summer camps and summer programs at a fair organized by the Bowie Gym. Admission is free. The Gym is located at 4100 Northview Drive. For more information, contact Duncan Churches at dchurches@cityofbowie.org or call 301-809-2384.

4/6 – Stream Cleanup – 9 a.m. - 12 p.m. at various locations across the City. Contact Tiffany Wright in the Planning Department at twright@cityofbowie.org or 301-809-3043.

4/9 – Folklore and History of the Patuxent River and Today's Citizen Advocacy Campaign – Belair Mansion, 7:30 p.m. Patuxent Riverkeeper Fred Tutman will discuss the river, its long history and folklore, and the way today's citizens work to protect it for future generations.

4/11 – Community Meeting on Consolidated Plan for Community Development. The City of Bowie receives Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds through the US Department of Housing and Community Development. The City is required to produce a Consolidated Plan every five years detailing the City's housing and community development needs and how it plans to address those needs with CDBG grant funds. The public is invited to provide input on the City's plans at this meeting. The meeting takes place at Cornerstone Assembly of God Church, 16010 Annapolis Road at 7 p.m. For additional information, please contact Kimberly Williams, in the Grants Office at 301-809-3009 or kwilliams@cityofbowie.org.

4/11 - 4/27 – “Pride and Prejudice” at the Bowie Playhouse. This stage adaptation of Jane Austen's famous novel from 1813, explores manners and the nature of love and independence through the experiences of heroine Elizabeth Bennett. This production is the work of the Annapolis Shakespeare Company. For tickets call 410-415-3513 or visit www.annapolishakespeare.org.

4/13 – Bowie Green Expo – 1 - 4 p.m. at the Kenhill Center. This community-wide, family-oriented, free event features local environmental agencies, nonprofits, and local and regional businesses offering green products or services. Learn about a greener lifestyle while reducing your carbon footprint from local businesses wanting to share their products and services. For more information, visit www.bowiegreenexpo.org.

4/13 – Call for Artists for “Waterworks” Art Exhibit at City Hall. The Arts Committee is sponsoring a new open Juried Art Exhibit at City Hall. Artists may drop off art work between 9 and 10 a.m. Visual and small sculpture artists are invited to bring small sculptures, photographs, and paintings to be juried for an exhibit that illustrates the power and beauty of water in all its forms, such as natural waterscapes and phenomena, weather, etc. For information on requirements and an application form, visit the City website and search “art galleries”.

4/13 – American Red Cross Blood Drive at the Senior Center – 8:30 a.m. - 1 p.m. Help by giving the “Gift of Life”. Please call 1-800-GIVE-LIFE or register at www.redcrossblood.org. The Senior Center holds a blood drive on the second Saturday of every month.

4/13 - 4/14 – Figure Skating Championships at the Bowie Ice Arena. Bowie will host the I.S.I. District Figure Skating Championships. Individuals and teams from Maryland, Washington, DC, Virginia, and Delaware will compete in various figure skating events. Spectators are welcome (admission is free) to watch more than 300 skaters compete at all levels. Call 301-809-3090 for more information.

4/15 – Collectors’ Corner - Furniture Cleaning and Care – 3 - 5:30 p.m. at the Belair Mansion. Join Bowie Museums Curator Samantha Dorsey, and Allison Titman, Curator of the Hammond Harwood House in Annapolis, for a workshop exploring identification of materials, the history of craftsmanship, and conservation techniques you can use at home. Reservations are required. Please call 301-809-3097.

4/15 – City Council Meeting, Public Hearing on Budget and Budget Worksession #1 – 8 p.m. at City Hall. General Fund Revenues, CIP and the Capital Projects Fund will be reviewed.

4/16 – Kids Kaboose – 10:30 a.m. at Bowie Railroad Museum. Railroad fun, trainspotting and games for youngsters ages 1-11. Free. For more information, please contact 301-809-3089 or museumevents@cityofbowie.org.

4/16 – Senior Center Hot Topic: Aging in Place – 5:45 - 7 p.m. at the Senior Center. There are many resources and options for homeowners who wish to remain in their homes and age in place. Come learn how to continue living safely in your home.

4/20 – Celebrate Arbor Day – 10 a.m. at Acorn Hill Park, located at the corner of Sage Lane and Stonybrook Drive. This is the 21st consecutive year that the City has been honored as a Tree City USA. For more information, contact Community Forester Rick Kellner at rkellner@cityofbowie.org.

4/22 – City Council Budget Worksession #2 – 8 p.m. at City Hall. Budget Worksessions are open to the public. The Public Works Department and the Water and Sewer Fund budgets will be reviewed at this Worksession.

4/27 – Prescription Drug Take Back Event – 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. at the Bowie Police Station. Safely dispose of old prescription and over-the-counter drugs at this event hosted by the Bowie Police Department and the U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration. For more information, contact Officer Henderson of the Bowie Police Department at 301-575-1824.

4/26 – Community Job Fair 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. at the Bowie Gymnasium. This event is free for employers and job seekers. The Bowie Gymnasium is located at 4100 Northview Drive.

4/27 – Rain Barrel Workshop – 10 a.m. at the Kenhill Center. Workshop attendees will learn about the benefits of rain barrels and members of the Bowie Lions Club will demonstrate how to install them on your downspout.

4/29 – Budget Worksession #3, 8 p.m. at City Hall. Budget Worksessions are open to the public. The topic for this Worksession is the budget for the Department of Community Services.

Some Upcoming Events in May

5/4 - Low Cost Rabies Clinic at Bowie High School

5/17 - Bike to Work Day

5/19 - Farmers' Market Opens

5/25 - Parade