

# Bowie News Flash

**March 2012**

## **News**

### **Public Hearing on City Redistricting**

Every ten years the City is required to evaluate its Council districts to make sure the population of each district is substantially equal. City Council is currently considering two alternatives regarding City Council districts:

1. To retain the existing configuration of the districts.
2. To adjust the boundaries of District 2 and District 3, such that the communities of Long Ridge, Westview, Spring Meadows and Dixon Crossing would move from District 3 to District 2.

Any decision made by City Council will affect the next City election in November 2013. Before making a final selection, the Bowie City Council seeks input from the public. There will be a public hearing on Monday, March 5, 2012 at 8 p.m. in the Council Chambers at City Hall. More information on City redistricting can be obtained on our website or by contacting Assistant City Manager John Fitzwater for more information at 301-809-3075 or at [jfitzwater@cityofbowie.org](mailto:jfitzwater@cityofbowie.org).

### **Primary Election**

Maryland's Primary Election Day is Tuesday, April 3, 2012. Voters must register to vote by Tuesday, March 13. Early voting will take place from March 24 to March 29 at the Bowie Library and four other locations in the County. For more information about this election, contact the Prince George's County Board of Elections at 301-430-8020 or visit <http://www.princegeorgescountymd.gov/elections>.

### **Hall of Honor Dedication**

The public is invited to attend a dedication ceremony at City Hall for the new Hall of Honor, which posthumously recognizes those individuals who have made major and lasting contributions to our community. The ceremony will take place on Sunday, March 18 at 2 p.m. City Hall is located at 15901 Excalibur Road.

### **Employment with the City of Bowie**

The Human Resources Department is currently seeking applicants for several job openings in City government. Details can be found on our website, but be sure to act quickly as the application deadlines for many of the positions are approaching soon.

### **Large Recycling Carts Coming to More Neighborhoods**

Thanks to a Department of Energy grant, residents in Buckingham, Derbyshire, Foxhill and Kenilworth will soon receive new, larger recycling carts. The carts are on wheels and where they are already in use in the City, they are making it easier for residents to recycle more items and resulting in a higher rate of recycling. Remember – recycling is good for the environment, and recycling saves the City money as it reduces our costs to dump refuse at local landfills. The remainder of City residents will receive their carts in the fall of 2012.

### **Visit City Hall Art Exhibit “Away from Home”**

Visitors to City Hall are invited to view the winter art exhibit entitled “Away from Home.” It includes artwork by area artists featuring landscapes and activities that reflect life beyond Bowie. This juried art show will run from **March 5th to June 23rd**. Artists interested in having their work shown in the galleries at other times should read the Guidelines and Requirements for Artists that is available on the City website. The process includes filling out an application and submitting a portfolio representative of their work. For additional information, contact Margaret Suddeth, Bowie Arts Committee Gallery Coordinator, at [margaret@suddeth.com](mailto:margaret@suddeth.com) or call City Hall at 301-809-3011.

### **Register for Summer Ice Skating Camps**

Registration for summer skating camp begins **March 15**. Camps will be held during the months of 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 Arena at 301-809-3090 or visit our website.

### **Scholarship Deadline Approaches**

Monday, **March 19** is the application/nomination deadline for the City’s Education and Arts Scholarships. Details about the scholarships are available in the guidance departments of high schools attended by City residents and also on the City’s website.

### **Nominations for the Malcolm “Skip” Popp Award**

Do you know a Scout or Scout Leader who performed extraordinary and distinguished community service during 2011? If so, consider nominating him or her for the Malcolm “Skip” Popp Award. The award is in honor of a man who gave his life rescuing a Scout during a camping trip in 1971. Nominations will be accepted through **March 30, 2012** for Scouts and Scout Leaders of troops within the City. Nominations will be accepted only from Scout groups who have an affiliation with the Boy Scouts of America or Girl Scouts of the USA. Individuals interested in nominating a Scout or Scout Leader are encouraged to contact the appropriate Scout unit to make a recommendation. Nomination forms and guidelines may be obtained on the City’s website or at City Hall. Questions may be directed to 301-809-3013 or [eedwards@cityofbowie.org](mailto:eedwards@cityofbowie.org).

### **Prescription Drug Take Back Event**

The Bowie Police Department and the U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration will host a Prescription Drug Take Back event on **Saturday April 28**, 10 a.m. – 2 p.m., at the Bowie Police Department, located at 15901 Excalibur Road, and at the Bowie Senior Center, 14900 Health Center Drive. For information, contact Officer Henderson of the Bowie Police Department at 301-575-1824.

### **Attend the Public Safety Appreciation Luncheon**

Please join the City of Bowie and the Greater Bowie Chamber of Commerce at the First Annual Bowie Public Safety Appreciation Luncheon on Friday, **March 30, 2012** from 11:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. at the Comfort Inn & Conference Center, 4500 NW Crain Highway, in Bowie. The event honors those who have performed in an extraordinary manner to protect the people of Bowie as first responder public safety professionals, whether they serve in career or volunteer capacities. The cost is \$40 per person; \$25 for active duty public safety officers. Sponsorship opportunities are also available. Reservations can be made by visiting [www.bowiechamber.org](http://www.bowiechamber.org) or by contacting the Greater Bowie Chamber of Commerce office at 301-262-0920.

### **Youth Leadership Bowie**

The Youth Leadership Bowie (YLB) 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 year-long 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 who will be sophomores and juniors in the fall of 2012 are invited to apply. An application can be downloaded from the City website, [www.cityofbowie.org](http://www.cityofbowie.org), or from the GBCC website, [www.bowiechamber.org](http://www.bowiechamber.org). All applications must be received at the Chamber office by 4 p.m. on **Friday, May 4, 2012**.

## **Events**

**3/1 – “Senior Safety” Active Adults Workshop** – 11 a.m. at Pin Oak Village Apartments, 16010 Excalibur Road. The program is presented by the Bowie Police Department. For more information, contact Officer Henderson at 301-575-1824.

**3/5 – Regular City Council Meeting**, 8 p.m. at City Hall. This meeting will include a public hearing on City redistricting.

**3/10 – “18<sup>th</sup> Century Ladies Day”** – 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. at Belair Mansion. Enjoy a day of 18th century “ladies’ entertainments” - look your 18th century best! Topics include makeup, hair design, and a sewing project...bring your lunch and enjoy the day. Reservations required/space limited. \$25 per person. For more information, please contact 301-809-3089 or [museumevents@cityofbowie.org](mailto:museumevents@cityofbowie.org).

**3/10 – American Red Cross Blood Drive at the Senior Center** – 8:30 a.m. - 1 p.m.  
This blood drive is held on the second Saturday of every month at the Bowie Senior Center, located at 14900 Health Center Drive.

**3/12 – “Eat, Drink and ... Drink” Brown Bag Lunch Lecture** – 12 p.m. at Belair Mansion. Bring your lunch for a presentation by Museums Manager Pam Williams on 18th century “libations.” Free. For more information, please contact 301-809-3089 or [museumevents@cityofbowie.org](mailto:museumevents@cityofbowie.org).

**3/13 – “Maryland’s Civil War: Secession, Civil Liberties, Rebels, Slavery and Emancipation” Second Tuesday Lecture** – 7:30 p.m. at Belair Mansion. Author Charles Mitchell presents insights on Maryland during the Civil War with a memorable discussion of colorful characters, significant events, and polarizing issues from civil liberties in wartime to the potential for secession. Free. For more information, please contact 301-809-3089 or [museumevents@cityofbowie.org](mailto:museumevents@cityofbowie.org).

**3/16-3/31 – “Art” at Bowie Playhouse** Are your friendships based on tacit mutual agreements? If so, what happens when one person does something completely different and unexpected? Serge has bought a modern painting for a huge sum of money. Marc hates it and can’t believe his friend could possibly want such a work. Yvan attempts, unsuccessfully, to placate both sides. The question is: Are you who you think you are or are you who your friends think you are? 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](http://www.BCTheatre.com) or call 301-805-0219.

**3/17 – “The Influence of Women in Early Radio” Radio History Lecture** – 2 p.m. at Belair Mansion. Contrary to popular perception, women DID have a role in the development of radio. Join Domi Sanchez for a look at women in broadcasting – before Barbara Walters and Katie Couric. Free. For more information, please contact 301-809-3089 or [museumevents@cityofbowie.org](mailto:museumevents@cityofbowie.org).

**3/19 – Regular City Council Meeting** 8 p.m. at City Hall.

**3/20 – 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](mailto:museumevents@cityofbowie.org).

**3/20 – Welcome Spring Celebration at the Senior Center** – 12:30 - 2 p.m. at the Senior Center. Seniors are invited to a party on the first day of spring! A DJ will provide lively music and light refreshments will be served. Reservations required. \$3 for residents and \$4 for nonresidents. For more information, call the Center at 301-809-2300.

**3/20 – “Navigating and Selecting Your Path” Seniors Hot Topic** – 6 p.m. at the Senior Center. Everyone needs guidance and direction as we age. Having an understanding of your needs will help. Professionals will be on hand to help you put together your own guide. For more information, call the Center at 301-809-2300.

**3/21 – American Red Cross Blood Drive** – 2 - 8 p.m. at the Bowie Gymnasium. For more information, contact the Gymnasium at 301-809-2388.

**3/25 – Researching Civil War Pension Records** – 3 p.m. at Belair Mansion. Genealogist Patricia Shawker from the Prince George's Genealogical Society Library will discuss ways to find your Civil War ancestors through pension files. Free. For more information, please contact 301-809-3089 or [museumevents@cityofbowie.org](mailto:museumevents@cityofbowie.org).

**3/31 – Rain Barrel Workshop** – 9:30 - 11 a.m. at City Hall. There will be a brief presentation on the importance and use of rain barrels, including the benefits they provide to homeowners and Bowie's streams. Then the Bowie Lions will demonstrate how the rain barrel is installed and will sell fully-assembled 55-gallon rain barrels for \$65 (blue barrel) or \$75 (white barrel) that are ready to be hooked up to your downspout.