

Bowie Spotlight

The Official Newsletter of the City of Bowie

January - February 2014

Dear Friends and Neighbors,

It seems like yesterday that 2013 was welcomed into our hometown. The year was not unlike others preceding it. We met new neighbors, we lost some dear friends, we watched our children perform well in the classroom and we watched them learn new sport and team skills on our ball fields. We shared special moments at school graduations and a number of weddings.

Although we had some ups and downs with economic and weather issues during the year, Bowie continued on its path to an exciting future. While some of our neighbors have had challenges with employment and a fluctuating business cycle, on balance, we did well as a community.

Bowie remains one of the strongest, most diverse, most family-friendly communities in the region and that is because of the incredible people that live here. It may be difficult for you to appreciate the pride the Council and I take in our community when we visit with colleagues from all over the State. It is easy to brag about our students, our engaged PTA groups, and an incredible collection of education professionals that serve our community. We constantly boast about a marvelous group of outstanding coaches, mentors, and teachers in the Boys and Girls Clubs, and we remain proud of our amazing Veterans Groups that constantly serve to represent their comrades, many of which will conclude the year as we began it in service to our country in harm's way.

2013 served us well but now we reach out to 2014 and we expect it too will bring excitement – along with some challenges – but we embrace it because we know Bowie remains the best hometown ever.

On behalf of the entire City Council and an outstanding City staff, we wish you all a joyous holiday season and a very Happy New Year.

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 H. Ivan Rainwater. He was a charter member and Chairman of the Bowie Advisory Planning Board. He was also Chairman of the Bowie Heritage Committee, and later named Chairman Emeritus. He was an original and active member of the Friends of Belair Estate and participated on archeological digs at the Mansion. In 1991, he was named Bowie Citizen of the Year.

Another inductee, Thelma Brady Gasch, was born on what was known as Belair Farm in 1918. She spent many hours working with the Bowie Conservation and Beautification Committee (which became the Bowie Heritage Committee) on the first restoration of the living quarters of the Belair Stable where she lived as a young child. She donated original items used by her parents to the Belair Stable Museum and was a member of the Bowie Heritage Committee from 1984 until her death in 1995.

Once a nomination is received, forms and information are sent to the City's Community Outreach Committee for review. The Committee then makes 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 is **5 p.m. Friday, February 7, 2014** 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.

Bowie Ethics Commission

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



Many people may not be aware that there is an Ethics Commission for the City of Bowie. The purpose of the Ethics Commission is to assist the City Council, City employees and citizens in interpreting the Ethics Article of the City Code (Section 2-66 to 2-73B). A copy of the City Code is available at www.cityof-bowie.org/city_code.

The Bowie Ethics Commission invites you to explore its new and improving webpage at www.cityofbowie.org/ethics. At this site you will find all of the forms used by the Commission, including financial disclosure, lobbying and complaint forms, to name a few. You will also find educational and feature items of interest to City employees and members of the public.

The Ethics Commission consists of five regular and one alternate member, all volunteers, who are residents of Bowie appointed by the City Council to two year renewable terms. The Commission generally meets on the third Tuesday of the month at 3 p.m. at City Hall to review forms and inquiries that come in requesting advice or expressing concern about possible violations of the Ethics law. A portion of each meeting is open to the public and interested citizens are welcome to attend.

If you wish to contact the Bowie Ethics Commission directly, it can be reached at bowieec@cityofbowie.org. The Ethics Commission can also be contacted through Staff Liaison John Fitzwater at jfitzwater@cityofbowie.org or at 301-809-3075.

One of the objectives of the Ethics Commission is to educate the public about this section of the Code and how it applies to and impacts those who are subject to its provisions and to the public at large who are concerned about the ethical behavior of those who are elected and appointed to public office or position. The Commission will be providing future articles to the Bowie Spotlight as part of this educational function. Please check out these articles in future editions and visit the Commission's web page for more information.

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 a 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 22, 2014** beginning at 9 a.m. for the National Anthem. Participants must be prepared to perform the National Anthem a capella 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.

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 that abuts 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.

Christmas Trees

Trees will be picked up every **Wednesday in January** with yard waste. Please make sure that all lights and decorations are removed from the tree. Do **not** put tree in a plastic bag. Place your tree at the curb by 7 a.m.



C'mon Bowie, Let's Plant Some Trees!

We are living in a city, country, and world that is trying to “go green”, and there is no better move than to plant a tree! It makes environmental sense; it makes economic sense; and it makes emotional sense. Understanding that we have persevered through these last years of difficult removals of many trees in the City of Bowie as a result of significant storms and in the name of better electrical service and reliability, it is time for us to all step up and plant better trees in better locations for the betterment of all, yes?

So, I want to encourage all to get ready for Spring 2014! As we usually do, City staff will plant 100 or so trees throughout the City in the right-of-ways and parks. I want to cheer you on to do your part by planting trees on your private property. Please take advantage of the Maryland State offer in cooperation with participating nurseries to discount purchased trees with a \$25 coupon found at www.trees.maryland.gov/pdfs/coupon.pdf. And don't forget to look for those great Spring sales at your local nurseries and home improvement stores. With all that in mind, I have put together some broad stroke planting tips that I hope will also encourage you to get “down and dirty” and get some new young trees going:

- Select a tree appropriate to the location and the equipment/labor available - 7-8' (1½-2" caliper) tree is preferred in a container.
- Load and unload the trees without damaging branches or scarring the stem.
- Always use a tarp to cover the trees when transporting them.
- Center the planting hole according to marker flag or desired location.
- Dig the hole 2-3 times the width of the root ball and no deeper than the depth of the root ball; planting slightly high (1-2") is best.
- Remove tree root ball from the container and loosen matted roots to encourage outward growth of the roots using some type of cutting tool; cut any “girdling” roots that are growing in a circular, strangling pattern around the trunk; and remove excess soil from the top of the root ball in order to expose the “root flare” (where the stem flares out to the first and largest roots).
- Remove rocks and other debris from the dug out material.
- Place the prepared tree in the dug hole. Center the tree and place it so that the top of the root ball (the “root flare”) is 1-2" above the existing grade level, and rotate the tree so that the “face” (lowest and broadest spread of the tree) is directed toward the most important viewed side.
- Backfill the tree planting hole with existing dug out soil that has been pulverized to the finest texture possible using no additives (amendments) unless the backfill soil is totally unusable.
- “Walk-in” (compact) the backfilled soil until even with the top of the root ball (do not cover the root ball).
- Edge a clean circle 3-4" deep around the planting hole, remove all debris, and mulch tree ring circle with 3-4" of shredded hardwood mulch, being careful not to bank mulch up against the trunk stem.
- Water in the tree planting hole until thoroughly soaked.
- Tree staking is optional and not recommended unless the site is known to be very windy or the tree is top-heavy and/or loose in the root ball.
- In the first year, check the tree often for the need to be watered.

Hope this motivates you...have some fun...enjoy the green! Rick Kellner, Community Forester

No More Plastic Bags for Yard Waste

Beginning January 1, 2014, residents will no longer be able to put their grass, leaves, branches, or Christmas trees in plastic bags. This change is due to a new policy at the County yard waste recycling facility where the City disposes of its yard waste.

Branches up to three inches in diameter must be tied and bundled or placed in paper bags or cans. Each can should weigh no more than 50 pounds. Larger limbs can be stacked at the curb. They must be cut into 18-24 inch long sections, and must be no greater than 24 inches in diameter and weigh no more than 50 pounds each.

All other yard waste must be placed in paper bags or trash cans. Paper grocery bags are acceptable for small amounts of yard waste or large, heavy duty paper bags can be purchased in Bowie at Home Depot, Lowe's, Safeway, and Target. Do not use the blue recycling carts or bins for yard waste. Please remember that yard waste cannot be included with your regular trash.

This change applies only to yard waste. Trash may still be put in plastic bags. Questions about this change or about yard waste collection in general should be directed to the Solid Waste Division at 301-809-2344 or email publinfo@cityofbowie.org.

Is Your Trash Safe

Safety is a top priority for the City of Bowie and it is a shared responsibility that starts right at your trash can and recycling cart. A properly filled, maintained and serviced can/cart is crucial in keeping residents and City employees free from harm.

Objects such as metal strips, wooden stakes, nails, screws, broken bottles and glass all pose safety hazards to your neighbors and to refuse collectors. These items should be secured in closed containers with lids before being put out for trash or recycling. The City and the County also have restrictions on discarding oil-based paint, liquid latex paint, used motor oil, and hazardous chemical containers in the regular trash.

Placing these items in a plastic trash bag or trash can/recycling cart without taking proper precautions can lead to serious injury to another. Before you discard anything, think about the health and safety of the person who will be handling that material at pickup time. Remember that if a discarded item poses a hazard to you personally, it also poses that same hazard to your neighbors and to City employees.

For more information, contact the City's Risk Manager, Chuck Hessling, at 301-809-3082.

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.

Art Notes

Art Gallery News The City Hall Art Gallery current exhibit is **Small Works and Miniatures**. All pieces in the show are no larger than 14 inches vertically or horizontally and include sculpture as well as photographs and paintings. The current show runs through April 11, 2014.

Upcoming Shows

April 12 – July 12 Art by Prince George’s County Public School System Art Teachers
July 12 – October 11 Fun in the Sun

Art Grants The City of Bowie’s Arts Committee recently awarded a total of \$6,000 in Arts Grants to six art projects that will provide art opportunities for the Bowie community. The six awardees are:

Bowie Community Theater This local nonprofit organization provides theater productions for the community at the Bowie Playhouse. This particular project is a 14-week Theater Production Camp for ages 6-10 scheduled for Saturdays in January - April 2014, three hours a day, once a week. Each week focuses on a different aspect of theater production which results in a final performance during the last week of camp. Grant funding is \$1,024.

Bricklayers and Allied Craftworkers Union #1 This proposes the Bowie Masonry Arts Festival to be held at the International Masonry Institute’s Training Center located at Melford. The event calls for three tents on the grounds for food, music and demonstrations in the masonry arts. Brick carving and bricklaying skills will be featured. Other events include a stone carving demonstration and an introduction to the definitive form and father of all masonry, the arch. Grant funding is \$525.

Charis Center for the Arts This local nonprofit is located in Old Bowie and has the primary objective to provide visual and performing arts education for school-age children through art, dance, drama, and music during out of school time hours. Their proposal envisions serving at-risk children by providing music lessons, instruments or vocal training, and performance opportunities to youth ages 4-18 that would otherwise not have access to music education. Grant funding is \$1,426.

Children Can Come Closer This organization was established to benefit children ages 5-18 to promote friendship and understanding through music, fine arts and languages. The proposal is to present children’s talents through multicultural music, dance and instruments at the Bowie Center for the Performing Arts on April 12, 2014. Grant funding is \$525.

Restoration Stage This applicant will provide a musical entitled *All That Glitters*, over a two-week period at the Bowie Center for the Performing Arts. The musical is about a beloved twenty-first century girl group that faces an unimaginable test when their lead singer is tragically murdered by a deranged fan. Grant funding is \$1,000.

2nd Star Productions- The applicant requested funding to pay for a workshop to prepare their organization for a semiprofessional production of *Hello, Dolly*. Grant funding towards this event is \$1,500.

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

The Bowie Food Pantry

Needs Your Help

Due to the current economy, many families are feeling the pinch. The number of families seeking aid from the Bowie Interfaith Food Pantry and Emergency Aid Fund continues to rise. Please continue to donate to the Bowie Food Pantry on a regular basis and encourage your family and friends to do so as well.

The Pantry needs nonperishable food items, but also accepts and distributes toiletries (toothpaste, 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 food to restock shelves. Checks may be written to the Bowie Food Pantry and sent to 2614 Kenhill Drive, Suite 134, Bowie MD 20715.

The Pantry, located at the Kenhill Center, is open Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 9 - 11 a.m., and on the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays from 6 to 7 p.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, bowiefoodpantry@gmail.com, or see the website at www.bowiefoodpantry.org.

Education Grants Awarded

Congratulations to the winners of the 2013 - 2014 Grants for Education! Fourteen projects were selected to receive funding. This year's winners represent nine different schools and will receive funds totaling \$10,952. 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
Upgrade Boardmakers 5.0 CDs	C. Elizabeth Rieg Regional School
It's Alive! Hands on with Life Science	Grace Christian School
Charging Carts for Laptop Computers	Heather Hills Elementary School
Poetry Alive	Holy Trinity Episcopal Day School
The World of Words	Holy Trinity Episcopal Day School
Introduction to Ceramic	Northview Elementary School
Getting Right Down to the Core	Pointer Ridge Elementary School
Photo Journal: A Kindergartner's Experience	Rockledge Elementary School
Green Spaces for Learning	Samuel Ogle Middle School
Math Supplies	Samuel Ogle Middle School
Bring it to Life with Edie's Place	Yorktown Elementary School
Daily 5	Yorktown Elementary School
ESOL Writing Enhancement	Yorktown Elementary School
Youth Mentors Teach the ABCs of Safety	Yorktown Elementary School



Teachers of the Month



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 Episcopal Day School (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 Bowie City Council meetings and each receives a coupon for dinner at Texas Roadhouse Restaurant. For more information, please contact Annette Esterheld at aesterheld@cityofbowie.org or 301-575-5601.

Bowie BIC Adds New Women's Business Programs in 2014

The Bowie Business Innovation Center (Bowie BIC), Prince George's County's newest and fastest growing business incubation program, will expand in January 2014 and add business counseling and support programs targeted to the growing number of women-owned businesses in the greater Bowie area through a partnership with the Rockville-based Maryland Women's Business Center (MWBC). More than 40 percent of Bowie businesses are women-owned businesses.

The U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) Office of Women's Business Ownership recently recognized the MWBC as a federally-designated host of a SBA Women's Business Center, and awarded a grant that will allow the first expansion of the MWBC program to be at the Bowie BIC. The SBA designation and multi-year grant helps MWBC support women interested in starting and growing successful businesses in the region.

Bowie BIC is a nonprofit business incubation program which has been located at the Center for Business at Bowie State University since 2012. Bowie BIC targets growth-oriented professional service firms. Bowie BIC has a dual mission. First, to spur economic development and retain business growth in the Greater Bowie community and Prince George's County by helping its clients accelerate their company growth through mentoring, training and networking programs at Bowie BIC. Second, to provide experiential learning opportunities and internships for Bowie State University students. Bowie BIC is a public-private partnership funded by the Prince George's County Council, the City of Bowie, corporate sponsors and client fees.

For more information about Bowie BIC, contact Lisa Smith, Executive Director, at 301-383-1550 or lisa.smith@bowiebic.com.

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Art Contest

The City of Bowie is hosting its annual Martin Luther King, Jr. art contest this month to promote understanding about the lasting legacy of Dr. King. This year's contest theme is "My Reflections on Dr. King's Dream." There are three different categories within the contest, depending on the grade level of the students. Students in kindergarten through the second grade are eligible to participate in a coloring contest. Students in grades three through five can submit entries for the poster contest, and sixth through twelfth graders are encouraged to create a short video of less than 90 seconds that reflects the contest theme.

Students who live within the municipal limits of Bowie (including homeschooled students) or students who attend an eligible school in Bowie can participate in the contest. The complete list of eligible schools is located at www.cityofbowie.org/MLK. There is still time to enter this year's contest. Send in or submit an entry by **January 13, 2014** at 5 p.m. and you could be a winner. Last year, over 300 entries were received for the contest.

Finalists will be selected in January and their work will be featured at the City's Martin Luther King program on **January 18, 2014**. First (\$100), second (\$50), and third prize (\$25) winners will be chosen in each category.

For more information, visit www.cityofbowie.org/MLK or contact Una Cooper, Staff Liaison to the Diversity Committee, at 301-809-3032 or ucooper@cityofbowie.org.

Bouncing Into the New Year at the Bowie Gym

Bowie Senior Fit Program - Monday, Wednesday and Friday, 9 - 10 a.m. Sponsored by Holy Cross Hospital. Free to seniors. For more information, call Sara McKechnie at 301-754-7895.

Morning Walking Program - 8:30 - 10 a.m. Walk indoors every weekday morning at the gym.

Women's Recreational Volleyball - Fridays, 11 a.m. - 1 p.m.

Sports Injury and Concussion Clinic - January 15, 6 - 9 p.m. and January 18, 11 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Red Cross Blood Drive - February 21, 12 - 7 p.m. To register, contact the Red Cross at 1-800-Giveblood.

Sport4All - Active Games Program - Make It and Take It. Starts Thursday, February 6, 5 - 6 p.m. Six-week program. For information and registration - www.Sport4All.org.

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

2014 Bike to Work Day

Save the Date!

Friday, May 16, 2014

6:30 - 8:30 a.m.

Gear up for Bike to Work Day 2014! 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 and Pit Stop information will be in the next *Bowie Spotlight*.



Energy Audit Program for Seniors

Bowie seniors (age 55+) will have the opportunity to save money and improve the comfort and safety of their homes by completing a home energy audit. The first 100 eligible seniors to fill out an application and submit it to the City will receive a \$100 rebate to cover the cost of completing a BGE Home Performance with Energy Star Energy Audit. Visit bgsmartenergy.com to learn more about BGE's \$100 energy audit program.

Rebate applications may be submitted electronically on the City website - www.cityofbowie.org/eap or by visiting City Hall's Planning and Economic Development Office during open hours (M-F, 8:30 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.). Remember only the first 100 eligible applicants will receive a rebate. Don't wait to apply. Those selected will be notified by the City directly with instructions about scheduling an energy audit by e-mail or standard mail. If you have any questions about the program, contact the City's Sustainability Planner, Kristin Larson, at 301-809-3044 or klarson@cityofbowie.org.

Green Bowie e-Newsletter

Want an electronic way to stay informed about green activities, events, and programs in Bowie? Sign up for the Green Bowie e-newsletter. Go to cityofbowie.org/green-bowie, scroll to the bottom of the page, and click on the green button that says, "Join the Green Bowie E-mail List."

Community Climate Action Series:

Bikes, Trails, and Public Transit

See the plan for Bowie's bike and trail systems. Fred Shaffer from Maryland Park and Planning and Prince George's County Bicycle and Trails Advisory Group will present on the evening of January 13, 2014 at 7 p.m. (Kenhill Center, Room 121). Also, learn about public transit opportunities from Jim Hamre, the Director of Bus Planning at the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority. A short discussion will follow after the presentations. This is the last of a three-part discussion series that focuses on what Bowie as a community can do to reduce its impact on climate change. For updates on the series, visit www.cityofbowie.org/communityclimateaction.



Annual Drinking Water Quality Report

Each year, the City issues a Water Quality Report for those areas that are served by the City of Bowie Water Plant. The City and the Maryland Department of the Environment routinely monitor the drinking water to detect contaminants, according to Federal and State laws. The Report is designed to inform customers of water quality standards for the previous calendar year.

Beginning this year, 2014, Water Quality Reports will no longer be mailed to residents, but will be available online at www.cityofbowie.org/wqr. The upcoming Report covering the period of January 1 to December 31, 2013 will be available online in April 2014.

For more information or to request a print copy of the Report, please call the Water Plant at 301-809-3060.

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 1, 2014. Registration will be held January 23 - February 1 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 more 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 \$9 and includes admission, skate rental and the disc jockey.

Admission Rates:

Adult	\$5.50
Child (under 16)	\$5.00
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 2/28/14

\$5 Off Series 3 Group Lesson Registration

Bowie Ice Arena

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

Expires 2/1/14

Bowie Youth & Family Services

Counseling Services - Bowie Youth & Family Services offers counseling services to families with children in the home who are under 18 years of age and live in the City of Bowie or the greater Prince George's County area. Often concerns surface within families that can be eased with the help of a professional. Issues may include anger, bullying, depression, anxiety, family conflict, grief, decision making, school problems, social skills, suicidal thoughts, the impact of separation/divorce, and others. Families are encouraged to call **301-809-3033** for more information.

Groups - Beginning in February/March. For registration and information, call 301-809-3033.

Active Parenting – Parents focus on learning practical skills to help develop cooperation and responsibility in their child.

ADHD Education – Parents learn about ADHD/ADD and new ways to help their child. Children, ages 8 - 10 focus on improving social skills. These two groups run simultaneously.

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.

Teen Job Bank - With winter snows expected it is good to begin lining up teens to do your snow shoveling. Call **301-809-3033** to get names and phone numbers of teens willing to shovel snow in your area. City residents need to register their interest in hiring teens for jobs such as snow shoveling, yard work, babysitting, pet walking, etc. Log onto the City's website, www.cityofbowie.org, find Youth & Family Services within the Community Services Department, and download the appropriate form found under Teen Job Bank.

Bowie Playhouse Presents



OVER THE RIVER AND THROUGH THE WOODS -- 1/10 - 1/25

Set in 1998, this comedy/drama centers on a tightly knit Italian-American family whose grandson Nick dutifully visits his two sets of loving and loony grandparents for dinner every Sunday. His grandparents believe in the three F's of family life – family, faith, and food. The sixth character in the show is the woman whom the grandparents set Nick up with in hopes of preventing him from taking a job on the West coast. Produced by Prince George's Little Theatre. Performances are at 8 p.m. on Fridays and Saturdays and matinees are at 2 p.m. on Sundays. For tickets, visit www.pglt.org or call 301-937-7458.

FUNNY MONEY -- 1/31 - 2/16

*Henry, a mild mannered British CPA, accidentally picks up a briefcase full of someone else's ill-gotten gains. He decides to keep it and fly to Barcelona to start a new life, but his wife has other plans, and before they can leave, there's an unexpected knock at the door. The circumstances that prevent Henry from working his way out of this problem are the kinds that only a master of farce like Britain's Ray Cooney (author of *Run for Your Wife* and *It Runs in the Family*) could create. You'll love this hilarious comedy of errors. Produced by 2nd Star Productions. Performances are at 8 p.m. on Fridays and Saturdays and matinees are at 3 p.m. on weekends. For tickets, visit www.2ndstarproductions.com or call 410-757-5700.*



All performances are at the Bowie Playhouse, located in Whitmarsh Park, 16500 Whitmarsh Park Drive. For tickets sales and information about the theater groups, please contact the theater companies directly. The City of Bowie does not handle the Box Office. Theater groups offer online tickets.

Tips From Animal Control

Watch for deer. While driving, slow down. Look for deer at the roadway's edge, especially at dawn and dusk. Deer often travel and run in groups. If you see one, look for more.

Don't neglect your pets during the winter. Keep your pets indoors during the cold winter months. Even if you keep your pet indoors, you must provide adequate food, water, exercise and veterinary care. If you allow your pet outdoors, make sure it has adequate shelter from the elements. Check your pet's food and water supply often. Take a brisk walk, exercise or play with your pet.

Think about adopting a pet. Pet adoption is a wonderful thing. There are many pets looking for a good home. Please remember, you and your family will have to be patient, caring and understanding with a new pet. There will be expenses. Don't adopt a dog or a cat on a whim. Adopting a pet is a long-term commitment but the benefits are just wonderful!

Pit Bulls. Pit Bull Terriers are still prohibited in Bowie and Prince George's County.

Leash Law and Dog Bites. The City requires any owner or custodian to prevent their pet from running at large. The leash law is for the safety and protection of the pet, the pet owners, children and others. The Insurance Information Institute offers another good reason to have your dog on a leash. Dog bites accounted for more than one-third of all homeowners insurance liability claim dollars paid in 2012 and the average cost paid for dog bite claims was \$29,752. Be smart, never walk your dog without it being on a leash.

Follow Bowie Animal Control on our new **Facebook** page, www.facebook.com/pages/City-of-Bowie-Animal-Control/491042200934956. Find information on animals we have picked up. For more information, contact Bowie Animal Control at 301-809-3002 or lransom@cityofbowie.org.

Code Corner

The primary task of the Housing Inspection and Code Compliance Office is to ensure compliance with the City Code. This is accomplished through education and enforcement.

Education is provided by:

- Telephone, email and personal contacts, the City website, Bowie Spotlight articles and Code Compliance brochures.
- Publication of the Bowie City Code.
- Conducting discussions and presentations before homeowner associations and other interested groups.
- Warning violators by posting or mailing a Notice of Violation, issuing a warning ticket or communicating with the violator in another manner.

If education fails and a violation exists, the Code Compliance Office may use other remedies to gain compliance. A **Code Enforcement Officer** may:

- Issue a parking ticket or a municipal infraction.
- Have a City contractor correct a public nuisance or tow an illegal vehicle.
- Seek District Court judgments and abatement orders and attach liens to the property.
- File for Declaratory and Injunctive Relief or apply for other court orders.

Our office seeks voluntary compliance with the City Code. For most violations, education is all that is necessary but for a few, education through enforcement is required. For more information, visit our webpage at www.cityofbowie.org or contact our office at 301-809-3008 or dmichelle@cityofbowie.org.

News of the City Museums



Mark Your Calendar

“Discovering the Osprey at Jug Bay” Second Tuesday Lecture
Tuesday, January 14, 7:30 p.m. at Belair Mansion. Presented by Greg Kearns. Free.

Kids Kaboose - Tuesdays, **January 21** and **February 18**, 10:30 a.m. at Bowie Railroad Museum. Railroad stories and fun for ages 1-10. Free.

Collector’s Corner - Ceramics Monday, January 27, 2:30 - 4:30 p.m. at Belair Mansion. City Museums Curator Samantha Dorsey and Hammond Harwood House Curator Allison Titman will continue their series of collections workshops for both collectors and professionals with a look at the “care and feeding” of ceramic objects. Free, reservations required.

Looking Locally at the War of 1812 - Friday, February 28, 10:30 a.m. at Belair Mansion. Maya Davis, from the Maryland State Archives and Mike Dixon from Delaware will discuss runaway slaves (some from Belair’s Ogle Family) and the lives of everyday citizens in the war. Bring a brown bag lunch; beverages provided. Watch for details in local papers and on the City’s website - www.cityofbowie.org. The program is sponsored in part by the Maryland Humanities Council. Free.

Heritage TV Programs - Ongoing in January and February at the Radio and Television Museum. Check the Museum’s website, www.radiohistory.org, or call 301-390-1020 for a program schedule. Programs are free.

Yes, the Museums calendar is a little “light” this month. The reason, **we’re freshening up!** Belair Mansion has enjoyed a summer full of exterior improvements, and now we’re moving inside with a fresh coat of paint in all our museum spaces. Our painting project will cover plaster repairs from the earthquake, and new draperies will be installed (which will look lovely and be energy efficient!) following the painting. These projects demonstrate the City’s continuing commitment to its history and its historic structures.

Fly your historic flag for 2014! This year marks Prince George’s County’s commemoration of the War of 1812, and the birth of our national anthem. Get your own 15-star Star Spangled Banner to fly all year long at the Mansion Gift Shop, open Tuesday - Sunday, 12 - 4 p.m. Flags are \$20 each.

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 infor-
 mation, 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.

2014 Wellness Fair

Tuesday, January 21
10:30 a.m. - 12 p.m.

Topics include healthy eating strategies to lose weight, improve brain health and keep your heart happy. If you want to attend the second half of the fair, you'll discover light and easy exercises that you can do at home to build muscular and bone strength as well as improve your balance.

SAGE Registration

The Center is fortunate to partner with the Prince George's Community College SAGE (Seasoned Adults Growing Educationally) program to offer a variety of over 60 classes each week at our Center. Registration occurs three times a year for each 14-week semester. The spring semester begins the week of February 10. Study art, finance, health & fitness, history, humanities, languages, music, and more! Information available at the Senior Center.



Magic Show

Tuesday, January 21
12:30 p.m.

Join us as the Center's Magic Club performs their amazing feats of prestidigitation, comedy, and mind reading. Each performer is a member of the Magic Club.

Push Ups for the Brain

Thursday, January 23
12:30 p.m.

This free workshop opens and balances both left and right hemispheres of the brain. Using exercises to relax the body and expand the mind, you can reduce stress, become more creative and increase your problem-solving skills. You will gain positive insights for a happier, more productive life. **Registration required by January 16.**

Friendship Day/Open House

Friday, February 14
12:30 - 2 p.m.

Everyone is welcomed to attend this annual event! It is an opportunity to celebrate friendship and the Bowie Senior Center's programs and activities. There will be live entertainment, light refreshments and tours. Join Us!

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 7 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 ISAAC TROUTH
DENNIS BRADY
HENRI GARDNER
JAMES L. MARCOS
DIANE M. POLANGIN
TODD M. TURNER**

Upcoming Events

Martin Luther King, Jr.

Art Contest Deadline

*Monday, January 13, 2014
5 p.m., City Hall*

Martin Luther King, Jr. Day

*Monday, January 20, 2014
City offices closed. No refuse
or recycling collection.*

Presidents Day

*Monday, February 17, 2014
City offices closed. No refuse
or recycling collection.*

National Anthem and

"Voice of Bowie" Auditions

*Saturday, February 22, 2014
9 and 11:30 a.m., respectively,
Kenhill Center.*

2014 City Holidays

New Year's Day	Wednesday	January 1, 2014
Martin Luther King, Jr. Day	Monday	January 20, 2014
Presidents' Day	Monday	February 17, 2014
Memorial Day	Monday	May 26, 2014
Independence Day	Friday	July 4, 2014
Labor Day	Monday	September 1, 2014
Veterans Day	Tuesday	November 11, 2014
Thanksgiving Day	Thursday	November 27, 2014
Day after Thanksgiving	Friday	November 28, 2014
Christmas	Thursday	December 25, 2014

**City offices will be closed on the dates listed above.
There will be no refuse or recycling services on these dates;
services will resume on the next regularly scheduled day.**