

Bowie Spotlight

The Official Newsletter of the City of Bowie

March - April 2014

Malcolm "Skip" Popp Award

The City is accepting nominations for the Malcolm "Skip" Popp Award. This award recognizes Scouts and/or Scout Leaders who have rendered "extraordinary and distinguished" community service to Scout organizations in the City of Bowie during calendar year 2013.

To be eligible for this award, Scouts or Scout Leaders must be affiliated with a Scouting group within the limits of the City of Bowie, and/or a Scouting group for which 50% or more of their youth members are City of Bowie residents. They must also be registered with the Boy Scouts of America or Girl Scouts, USA. Please see nomination form for details regarding eligibility criteria and information required. This year's deadline is **Friday, March 28, 2014**.

The 2012 recipient was Diane Traweek of Girl Scout Troop 992. As a Co-Advisor of the troop, she gave 600+ hours of service to Girl Scouting in 2012. This included being actively involved with Service Unit, Association, and Council events. Troop 992 had grown to almost 50 members because she turned away no one due to her belief that all girls should experience Scouting. Her efforts in community service through the Bowie Stream Team Cleanup project and other events, and her demonstrated leadership in Scouting has made a positive impact on her community and the City.

Nomination forms, with the guidelines, may be obtained on the City's website, www.cityofbowie.org, or at City Hall. Questions may be directed to Popp Award Program Chairperson Sharon Hunt at shunt1@verizon.net or 301-802-0714, or Bethany DeRight at bderight@cityofbowie.org or 301-809-3011.

Memorial Day Parade

The City's Memorial Day Parade Committee is busy planning this year's parade, which will take place on **Saturday, May 24** beginning at 11 a.m.

The City will honor the 200th anniversary of our National Anthem, The Star-Spangled Banner. Its lyrics are from the poem "Defense of Fort McHenry" written in 1814 by Francis Scott Key after witnessing the bombardment of the Fort in Baltimore. Moreover, the parade is a great way to salute all our service men and women, past and present. We hope you come and support your hometown parade. There is still time to sign your organization up to participate in this fun and patriotic event!

For more information or to download an application, please visit the City's website, www.cityofbowie.org, and search Memorial Day Parade, or contact Matt Corley at 301-809-3078 or mcorley@cityof-bowie.org.

Inside This Issue...

	Page
<i>Budget Review Begins in April</i>	4
<i>Turn Off the Lights & Look at the Stars</i>	5
<i>Auto Theft Prevention Tips</i>	9
<i>Crosswalk Safety Tips</i>	10
<i>Hydrant Flushing Begins in April</i>	11
<i>What's Bouncing at the Bowie Gym</i>	12

7th Annual Business Recognition Program

The City of Bowie and the Greater Bowie Chamber of Commerce are celebrating the Seventh Annual Business Recognition Awards program on **Wednesday, May 14, 2014**. The Awards program was created to recognize and celebrate those businesses in the Bowie community that exhibit exemplary efforts to provide outstanding services, products and facilities to all its customers. Nominations are sought in the following categories:

Business of the Year – This award is for a Bowie company that has demonstrated high-level accomplishments that are a benchmark for other businesses that include financial success, visible community involvement, professional employee work environment, and will excel in customer satisfaction, strategic planning, and business development.

Small Business of the Year – This award is for a small business that has demonstrated the qualities that make for a prosperous and growing organization in Bowie.

Green Business of the Year – This award is for a company that has one or more Bowie locations that has demonstrated their commitment to environmentally sustainable practices such as energy and water savings, recycling, renewable energy, reduced chemicals or packaging, or employee carpooling/telework.

Incubator Business of the Year – This award is for a growth oriented professional service firm or technology company, with existing clients, whose business is committed to increasing revenues and hiring employees.

Entrepreneur of the Year – This award is for the Bowie business entrepreneur who has demonstrated outstanding leadership and tenacity in managing all facets of business to include growth in profit and employee numbers coupled with such factors as degree of innovation, development of a creative and ingenious product or service, exceptional selling techniques, and extent of expansion into local markets.

Community Service Award – This award is for the Bowie or vicinity business that has demonstrated a strong record of involvement in the Bowie community.

Please mail nominations to City of Bowie, Attention: John Henry King, Economic Development Director, 15901 Excalibur Road, Bowie, MD 20716 or fax to 301-809-2315 or email jhking@cityofbowie.org. The nomination deadline is **Friday, March 28, 2014**.

Donald C. Fry, President and CEO of the Greater Baltimore Committee is the featured speaker at the Awards program breakfast on May 14. Further details on the event are available from the Greater Bowie Chamber of Commerce at www.bowiechamber.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



Trees That Work

In the last Spotlight, I emphasized the planting of new trees in the City of Bowie in light of recent research and studies as well as the support of the City's mayor, Council and citizen groups. The City staff and/or contractors will be increasing the number of "public" area trees to be planted by about 30% this coming season, and we hope you will, likewise, be planting new trees on your private properties. That being said, I would like to mention a couple of trees that might be a good choice for your yard.

The first would be considered a "minor" tree, that is to say a smaller tree at maturity. Redbud trees (*Cercis canadensis*) are native to our area. This tree would mature at 25-30 feet in height and spread. It flowers in the very early spring with abundant, very small reddish purple flowers. The redbud has heart-shaped leaves, and sometimes gets a fruit in the form of a pea-like seed pod in the fall. As with most trees, the redbud is susceptible to a particular problem issue (a canker disease) that causes the tree to suffer decline and/or the increase of deadwood. Some of the newer varieties (known as cultivars) are especially beautiful and are thriving thus far in the public areas in the City. So, I recommend planting either "Forest Pansy" Redbud (below left) or "Appalachian Red" Redbud.

The second tree that I would recommend would be a "major" tree, a larger shade tree. A native tree in this category is a Black Gum or Tupelo (*Nyssa sylvatica*). This tree matures at 60-80 feet in height and 30-40 feet in spread. The flowers are inconspicuous; it sometimes gets a blue-black berry for a fruit. It has interesting right-angle branching structure, smallish leaves and very hard wood. But its most unique feature is that it is the first tree to turn a blazing red-orange in the fall. Again, I would recommend one of the newer cultivars known as "Wildfire", "Red Rage" or "Green Gables"(below right).

After many years of experience, I would recommend finding each of these trees in 10 or 15-gallon containers for ease of transplanting and better survival rate. Enjoy the green! Rick Kellner, Community Forester



No More Plastic Bags for Yard Waste

As of January 1, 2014, residents are no longer able to put their grass, leaves, or branches 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. Large, heavy duty paper bags can be purchased at local stores. (We've found them 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 publicinfo@cityofbowie.org.

Budget Review Begins in April

City Council begins reviewing the proposed **FY 2014-15 Budget and Capital Improvements Program** in April. This Budget will take effect on **July 1, 2014**. The public is invited to attend all of the Council Meetings, Public Hearings and Budget Worksessions on this Budget. All meetings begin at 8 p.m. in the Council Chambers at City Hall.

April 14, 2014	Public Hearing, Budget Introduction and Budget Worksession #1 - General Fund Revenues, CIP and Capital Projects Fund
April 21, 2014	Budget Worksession #2 - Public Works, Water and Sewer Fund
April 28, 2014	Budget Worksession #3 - Community Services
May 5, 2014	Public Hearing
May 6, 2014	Budget Worksession #4 - City Manager's Office, Police, Finance and Nondepartmental
May 12, 2014	Budget Worksession #5 - Planning and Economic Development, Information Technology, Equipment Acquisition and Replacement Fund, General Fund Summaries, Appendix and Wrap-up
May 19, 2014	Adoption of Budget and Capital Improvements Program

Youth Leadership Bowie

Youth Leadership Bowie is a unique program which exposes young people to potential career opportunities. Leadership opportunities both experiential and observational, as well as problem-solving skills, are key components of the yearlong program. Additionally, participants plan and carry out a project that addresses a community need.

Through site visits, lectures and informal discussions, participants learn how major decisions are made. A special emphasis is placed on current issues. A team-building retreat allows participants to examine the concepts of leadership and interact as a group.

To be eligible students must be entering their sophomore or junior year in high school in September 2014. They must also live in Bowie (defined as residing in Zip Codes 20715, 20716, 20720, or 20721). Bowie High School students entering their sophomore or junior years are also eligible to apply.

2014 City Beautification Awards

The City in cooperation with Soroptimist International announces the 18th annual Beautification Awards Program. Entry forms are available at www.cityofbowie.org or at City Hall. All nomination forms must be submitted to Matt Corley at City Hall no later than 5 p.m. on **Friday, June 20, 2014**. All nominees must be located within the incorporated limits of the City of Bowie. Judging will take place in early July and the awards presentation program will be held in late September 2014. All previous winners and star maintenance garden recipients are required to submit a nomination form if they wish to continue toward receiving their All Star Garden Award. For additional information, please contact Matt Corley at 301-809-3078 or mcorley@cityofbowie.org.

The application deadline is **Friday, May 2, 2014**. Applications are available on the City's website, www.cityofbowie.org or at www.bowiechamber.org.

Perfect Time to Plant a Tree - \$100 City Rebate Available!

Spring is in the air, and it is time to start taking advantage of the many benefits that trees provide. Add beauty, shade, and privacy to your lawn. A **\$100** City rebate is available to residents who would like to plant a tree on their property. To learn how to receive the rebate, visit www.cityofbowie.org/greenbowie or contact Kristin Larson at klarson@cityofbowie.org or 301-809-3044.

Best Practices to Green Your Lawn

Saturday, March 1, 9:30 a.m. - 12 p.m.

City Parks and Grounds Building, 3106 Mitchellville Road

Learn about Maryland's new fertilizer law, best management practices for reducing your pesticide/fertilizer use, and available natural alternatives. We have invited Master Gardeners and experts in lawn management to present. Refreshments will be provided starting at 9:30 a.m. Presentation will begin at 10 a.m.

Upcoming Weed Warrior Work Days

Saturday, March 8, 8:30 - 11 a.m.

Sunday, April 13, 2 - 4:30 p.m.

Whitemarsh Park

As an invasive, non-native plant, English ivy spreads quickly and easily, and is very destructive to native ecosystems. The City of Bowie's Green Team needs volunteers to help remove English ivy from Whitemarsh Park. This is an outdoor activity that requires cutting the ivy vines at eye-level and foot-level, then pulling them back about two feet from the base of the tree to bag them. Visit www.cityofbowie.org/weedwarriors for more information.

Turn Off the Lights and Come Look at the Stars

Saturday, March 29, 6:30 p.m.

Kenhill Center

Want to learn about stars? Ever wonder how to make a telescope? Join us on the evening of Earth Hour for a stargazing event. Guy Brandenburg, a local astronomer, will give a fun, interactive, and educational presentation for kids and there will be a traveling planetarium too. If interested, there are a limited number of spots for this event, and you must register by contacting Kristin Larson at klarson@cityofbowie.org or 301-809-3044. This event is sponsored by a Community Champions Grant from Constellation Energy.

Fourth Annual Green Expo

**Saturday, April 12,
1 - 4 p.m.
at Kenhill Center**

The City of Bowie, the Bowie Lions Club, and the Greater Bowie Chamber of Commerce are joining forces to sponsor the Fourth Annual Bowie Green Expo.

The Bowie Green Expo is a three-hour, community-wide, family-oriented, free event featuring local environmental agencies, non-profits, and local and regional businesses offering green products or services.

You will learn how to have a healthy and happy lifestyle while reducing your environmental footprint from local groups wanting to share their products and services. We have great activities for children, including our new Green Kids' Corner.

For more information, visit our website at www.bowiegreenexpo.org.





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 come from principals, teachers, school staff, parents and students of Bowie schools.

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 Council Certificate and a coupon from Texas Roadhouse Restaurant. For more information, please contact Annette Esterheld at aesterheld@cityofbowie.org or 301-575-5601.

Bowie BIC Workshops and Seminars for Women Business Owners

The Bowie Business Innovation Center (Bowie BIC), Prince George's County's newest and fastest growing business incubation program, is now offering business counseling and support programs targeted to the growing number of women-owned businesses in the greater Bowie area through a partnership with the Maryland Women's Business Center (MWBC). More than 40 percent of City of Bowie businesses are women-owned and Prince George's County is home to the second largest number of women-owned businesses in Maryland.

In January, the MWBC hired Angie Duncanson as the new Program Manager/Business Counselor for Prince George's County. Ms. Duncanson will operate from Bowie BIC providing counseling and conducting a monthly schedule of business workshops for start-up and early stage companies which will complement the Bowie BIC's counseling and business support activities for maturing businesses.

Workshops and seminars for the months of March and April include NxLevel Training for Entrepreneurs; Orientation to MWBC, Bowie BIC and Other Small Business Resources; ABC's of Starting a Business; Business Certifications; and Writing a Successful Business Plan. MWBC workshops take place at the Bowie Business Innovation Center (Bowie BIC) located at the Center for Business at Bowie State University, Room 3100, 14000 Jericho Park Road, Bowie, MD 20715, unless otherwise noted. Register for these workshops online and confirm times and locations at www.marylandwbc.org.

Bowie BIC targets growth-oriented professional service firms. It 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 which receives funding through Prince George's County, the City of Bowie, corporate sponsors and client fees. For more information, contact Lisa Smith, Executive Director at 301-383-1550 or lisa.smith@bowiebic.com.

Excellence in Education Scholarship

Monday, **March 17** is the deadline for Bowie residents to submit applications for the City's Excellence in Education Scholarship. Applicants must be nominated by their high school principals, with a limit of four nominees per school. Home-schooled students can contact the City directly for scholarship information. Scholarship applications are available only in the guidance office of area public and private high schools that Bowie students attend.

Books Needed!

The City's Education Committee is requesting your assistance with our Bowie Reads Program. Bowie Reads is a reading promotion the City's Education Committee began several years ago in an effort to encourage children to read and to develop a love for reading.

From January to May each year the Committee collects new and gently used children's books to distribute at the City's annual *Bowiefest*. Currently, we have one school that acts as a drop-off location for donations. The Bowie Reads program is gaining in popularity and individuals are always inquiring about how they can donate books. The Bowie Education Committee is in need of other locations to assist in collecting books. Individuals and groups that want to donate may call 301-809-3011 for drop off locations.

We are soliciting schools to help us by becoming a site for parents and individuals in the community to drop off donated books. Please contact Annette Esterheld to express your interest in helping.

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

Art Notes

Art Gallery News

Small Works and Miniatures Art Show 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 thru July 12, Art by Prince George's County Public School System Art Teachers. July 12 thru October 11, *Fun in the Sun*.

Public Art Installation

The City commissioned Baltimore artist Adam Nelson to fabricate and install his design for a wall sculpture that is mounted halfway-up the grand staircase in the City Hall lobby. Come see this spectacular artist interpretation of the Chesapeake Bay.

Art Scholarships Available

Monday, March 17 is the deadline for Bowie students to submit applications for the City's Arts Scholarship. High school seniors can apply for the scholarship as long as they plan to major in a visual or performing arts program. Details about the scholarship are available in the guidance departments of high schools attended by City residents and also on the City's website, www.cityofbowie.org.

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

Animal Control

Have your dog or cat micro-chipped. The best guarantee to have your lost dog or cat returned to you is to have your pet microchipped. Every time a Bowie Animal Control Officer picks up a stray dog or cat, we scan the animal for a microchip. We have an excellent return-to-owner record of pets we find with an implanted microchip. Microchipping your pet is inexpensive. It costs only \$15. It does not hurt your pet. The microchip lasts for 25 years. A local veterinarian implants the microchip. It greatly improves the chances your pet will be returned to you if it should get lost or run away. So, why not get your pet microchipped? For more information, contact Bowie Animal Control at 301-809-3002 or lransom@cityofbowie.org or view our webpage - www.cityofbowie.org and search Animal Control.

Caring for your pet once they've passed on. Dealing with the death of a pet can be very difficult. Considering your options for the handling of your beloved pet's remains ahead of time can ease the grieving process.

Cremation with return of the ashes. Your pet will be cremated privately and the ashes will be returned to you in an urn. This can be arranged through your veterinary office or by contacting a local animal crematorium.

Group cremation. Resident of Prince George's County may transport their pet's remains to the Animal Services Facility located at 3750 Brown Station Road, Upper Marlboro during normal operating hours for free disposal; for information on the operating hours call 301-780-7200. Remains taken to the County for disposal will be cremated as a group and ashes cannot be returned to the owner.

Burial. You may bury your pet on private property, such as in your yard, if you are the landowner, or at a location where you have permission from the property owner, provided the animal did not die of a communicable disease. Burial must be a minimum of two feet below the surface. There are also several pet cemeteries throughout the Washington, D.C. metropolitan area.

For additional information, please contact the Animal Control Office at 301-809-3002 or lransom@cityofbowie.org.

Bowie Water Quality Report Available Online

Each year the City of Bowie prepares a Water Quality Report that provides a summary of the City's efforts to provide quality drinking water to customers served by the City's water system. In the past, a copy of this report has been mailed to all customers served by the City's system. Starting this year, the City of Bowie Water Quality Report will no longer be mailed to each customer of the City of Bowie water system. However, the Water Quality Report is available online at www.cityofbowie.org/wqr. For more information or to request a printed copy of the report, please contact the City Water Plant at 301-809-3060.

Code Corner

Spring begins on March 20th and soon property owners will begin to mow their grass. It is important for everyone to remember: 1) Grass and weeds are not to exceed eight (8) inches in height; 2) The City has the right to abate a public nuisance and any costs or fees are assigned to the property owner; 3) Grass clippings are not to be blown into the street; 4) Lawn mowers, blowers and other lawn maintenance equipment may only be operated 7 a.m. - 10 p.m. Monday thru Friday, and 9 a.m. - 10 p.m. Saturdays and Sundays; and 5) Grass clippings placed in bins or "paper" bags are not to be placed at the curb prior to Tuesday evening at 5 p.m. Please be courteous to your neighbors. Keep your lawn maintained, mow your grass and place your yard waste at the curb when permissible.

Don't Take a Chance, Get a Building Permit Building permits are required to ensure proper construction and community standards. Building permits are required for garage conversions, signs, driveways and additions. Permits are also required for certain fences, sheds, and other structures, home repairs or remodeling. Failing to obtain permits can be very expensive and frustrating, especially when a structure has to be removed because the owner failed to obtain the proper building permits. Also, fines and fees may be assessed. Don't take a chance, get the proper permits before construction begins!

For more information on building permits; when they are required and their costs, please contact the Code Compliance Office at 301-809-3011 or bderight@cityofbowie.org, or visit our webpage - www.cityofbowie.org.

Auto Theft Prevention Tips from the Bowie Police Department

Don't leave your car unlocked.

Never leave your car running, especially while it is unattended or unlocked.

Do not leave a spare key near your vehicle. While getting locked out of your car is a pain, think about the potential hassle of your car getting stolen.

Never leave your windows open. Even during the summer when it is scorching hot, don't leave your windows open or slightly cracked when you are not in the vehicle.

Park in well-lit, public areas. Avoid parking in areas that are poorly lit or places that are not immediately seen by the public. This will not only keep you safe when you exit the car, it will also help keep your car safe because thieves tend to avoid areas that are highly visible.

Install an audible alarm system and a visible anti-theft device. Car thieves tend to avoid cars with alarms or anti-theft devices because they attract attention when they go off.

Install a vehicle immobilizer system. Thieves can bypass your ignition by "hot-wiring" your car. You can prevent this by using a vehicle immobilizer system such as fuel cutoffs and smart keys.

Consider installing a GPS tracking system. If your car is stolen, this tracking system will emit a signal to the police of your vehicle's location. This may help the police recover your vehicle faster.

Don't leave valuable personal property in your car. The best way to attract a thief is to leave your purse or another high-value item in a highly visible area of your car. If you must put something of value in your car, keep it in the trunk or under the seats, where it is not visible to others.

Report all suspicious activity to the Bowie Police Department at 301-352-1200 or 911.

Crosswalk Safety Tips From the Bowie Police Department

Whether you walk, bike or drive, take five seconds to follow crosswalk safety guidelines. Let's keep everyone safe!

Pedestrians

Always cross at marked crosswalks. You forfeit your rights as a pedestrian if you cross elsewhere. Obey any pedestrian signals and look left-right-left to make sure the road is clear in both directions before crossing. If a vehicle approaches, make eye contact with the driver to be sure he or she sees you before you cross. Look before walking past stopped vehicles. Do not cross just because a driver waves you on. Be sure all lanes are clear first. Remember that bicyclists are not considered pedestrians unless they are walking their bikes.

Bicyclists

Yield to pedestrians. Remember that bicyclists are not considered pedestrians unless they are walking their bikes. Otherwise, they are considered vehicles and forfeit their rights as pedestrians in the case of an accident or citation. Use marked bike paths or multi-use paths when available. Obey vehicular traffic signals and laws on the roadways. Use extra caution as you transition between bike paths, roads and sidewalks. Be aware that your actions are unpredictable to drivers and pedestrians.

Drivers

Yield to pedestrians in crosswalks and at intersections. Be prepared to stop at all marked crosswalks. Stay alert and reduce speed in areas with crosswalks. Be alert for bicyclists and skateboarders whose approaches to the crosswalk may be much swifter than those of pedestrians. Come to a complete stop if pedestrians are crossing or preparing to cross. Wait until pedestrians have crossed at least one lane past the lane you are in before resuming travel. Never pass another vehicle that has stopped or is slowing down at a crosswalk.

For more information, contact the Bowie Police Department at 301-575-2480.

Mosquito Control Begins at Home

The tiger mosquito is a very aggressive day-biting mosquito, which is a serious pest in parts of Maryland. The City's mosquito control program cannot adequately control this species due to its habits. It breeds in containers in yards where we cannot treat and nighttime spray operations are not very effective for the tiger mosquito because it rests in sheltered areas where the spray will not reach. Reduce mosquito annoyance in your yard and neighborhood by eliminating sites around the outside of the house that serve as a habitat for mosquito larvae. All mosquito larvae need standing water to develop. As little as one-half inch of water in a discarded can or container will support dozens of mosquitoes.

The mosquitoes can breed in as little as a tablespoon of standing water. The flight range for tiger mosquitoes is only 100 yards. It is very small with white stripes. Adult mosquitoes only live for one - two weeks. It takes no longer than two weeks for mosquito eggs to become adults. The only way to successfully beat the tiger mosquito is to eliminate breeding sites.

Places in your yard that could breed the tiger mosquito include clogged gutters, tire casings, birdbaths, canoes or boats (stored right-side up), tarps over log piles, kiddy pools, wheelbarrows or watering cans, buckets, cans or bottles, trash cans without lids (or lids themselves, if upside down), and pet water dishes, among others.

To prevent breeding, keep grass short and brush cut back to limit areas where adult mosquitoes can rest. And stock ornamental ponds with fish that will eat mosquito larvae. For more information or to report a mosquito problem, contact ekennedy@cityofbowie.org or 301-809-2336.

Hydrant Flushing Begins in April

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

April 7 and 8	Buckingham, Derbyshire and Forest Drive
April 9 and 10	Somerset and Bowie Forest
April 11 and 14	Tulip Grove
April 15 and 16	Foxhill and Long Ridge
April 17 - 21	Kenilworth
April 22	Heather Hills
April 23 - 25	Meadowbrook
April 28	Gradys Walk and Glenridge
April 29	Chapel Forge
April 30	Victoria Heights and Race Track Road Townhouses
May 1	Idlewild
May 2	Yorktown and Overbrook
May 5	Whitehall
May 6	Rockledge

Because some discoloration of your water may occur, clothes washing is discouraged on your scheduled day. If your clothes become discolored, keep them wet and rewash them using a rust remover. Free rust remover will be available at City Hall and the 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 all the water mains are interconnected, when flushing of hydrants in adjacent sections is performed, it may affect your water.

For more information, please call the Public Works Department at 301-809-2344.



Bowie Ice Arena

301-809-3090

Public Sessions A schedule of public sessions can be viewed on our website at www.cityofbowie.org in the form of monthly calendars. The Ice Arena offers family discounts during designated sessions, group rates for ten or more people, and disc jockey sessions on Friday nights.

Group Lessons A four-week series of lessons will be held during the month of April. Classes will be offered for children ages 18 months of age through adults. Please call the Ice Arena for additional information.

Summer 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 us online at www.cityofbowie.org.

\$1 Off Skate Rental with Paid Admission

Bowie Ice Arena

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

Expires 4/30/14

\$1 Off Admission

Bowie Ice Arena

Skate rental is \$3. Not valid during DJ Session.
Not valid with any other discount or offer.

Expires 4/30/14

Bowie Youth & Family Services

Counseling Services are offered 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 metropolitan 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. Families are encouraged to call **301-809-3033** for further information. We have highly qualified and experienced professional counselors who will work with you in developing appropriate solutions.

Groups are offered throughout the year. Call **301-809-3033** for information on registration, dates and fees.

Girls Count! – For high school teen girls. Every girl struggles with complex issues in today's world. Teens discuss topics that matter to them and gain tools to cope and support each other. Contact Symone Colquitt.

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

ADHD Education – Two groups run simultaneously. Adults learn about ADHD/ADD and new ways to help their child. Children, ages 8-10, focus on improving social skills. Contact Marika Martin-Coleman.

Teen Job Bank - Need help, Bowie citizens? Help our youth help themselves by giving them a job. Call **301-809-3033** to get names of teens who are willing to help you with a household chore for a fee.

What's Bouncing at the Bowie Gym?

Bowie Senior Fit Program - Meets on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays at the facility from 9 to 10 a.m. The program, sponsored by Holy Cross Hospital, is free to seniors in the community. Please call Sarah McKechnie at 301-754-7895 for additional information.

Morning Walking Program - Come walk indoors every weekday morning at the gym from 8:30 to 10 a.m. Enjoy the benefit of an air-conditioned and heated facility to get your exercise!

Women's Recreational Volleyball - Every Friday, 11 a.m. - 1 p.m. No experience needed. Come out and get some exercise and meet new friends!

American Red Cross Blood Drive - Tuesday, March 18, from 1 - 7 p.m. To register, please contact the Red Cross at 1-800-Red Cross or www.redcross.org/Donation.

Room Rentals - The City Gymnasium has rooms available for rental for birthday parties, business meetings, showers, etc. The rate is \$25 per hour. On some dates we may have court availability in conjunction with room rental for youth birthday parties. Please contact the gym for availability at 301-809-2388.

School Supplies Donations Needed - The City Gymnasium will host its "11th Annual Back to School Bash" on Saturday, August 16th. Each year the crowd grows and we are finding it harder and harder to fill our giveaway backpacks. A bin is now located in the gym lobby for donations of school supplies for this event.

Bowie Prevention Network

The Bowie Prevention Network (BPN) is working with local schools and youth serving organizations to help educate and inform parents, teens, and students of all ages about the impact of alcohol and other drugs, especially marijuana and ecstasy, on the developing human brain.

If you would like to know more or are interested in helping the young people of our community make informed decisions that will impact a lifetime, please contact Andra Berry, Prevention Coordinator, Bowie Youth & Family Services at 301-809-3033 or aberry@cityofbowie.org.

Bowiefest

The City is busy planning Bowiefest 2014 for **Saturday, June 7, 2014**. If you would like your organization or business to be part of this Bowie tradition, visit the City's website - www.cityofbowie.org - and search *Bowiefest* to obtain a vendor application.

Local nonprofit groups, including environmental and civic organizations, are encouraged to participate in order to share valuable information and extend invitations to join their groups. Nonprofit and commercial food vendors are invited to apply, although limited spaces are available. Registration deadline is April 11, 2014.

The Business Expo, sponsored by the Greater Bowie Chamber of Commerce (GBCC), will be held in the Bowie Ice Arena and will showcase many local and regional companies. For information about the Business Expo, see the online application or contact the GBCC at 301-262-0920.

The arts and crafts area, sponsored by Soroptimist International of Bowie-Crofton, will feature vendors from far and wide selling their handicrafts. For information about the arts and crafts area or to become a vendor, see the online application or contact the Soroptimist International at 301-262-0953 or 301-464-0610.

Entertainment will once again be held on both the main Amphitheater stage and on a smaller stage near the Boathouse and will continue throughout the day. If you have a group based in Bowie, contact the City at 301-809-3078 for consideration. For general information about Bowiefest, contact Matt Corley, Special Events Coordinator, at 301-809-3078 or mcorley@cityofbowie.org.

Bowie Playhouse Presents



DARK PASSAGES -- 2/28 - 3/16

Mark and Bret's little college town used to be a great place, but not anymore. Women have been attacked in the area, and Bret is terrified that her missing best friends are the latest victims. Mark is more worried that Bret is cheating on him. Bret's creepy landlord is watching their relationship implode through a mirror in her apartment, unbeknownst to them both. When a detective with a colorful past arrives in town to investigate the disappearances, this little whodunit twists and turns its way to a scary conclusion.

Produced by Bowie Community Theatre. Performances are at 8 p.m. on Fridays and Saturdays and matinees are at 2 p.m. on Sundays. Closing show is a matinee on March 16. For tickets, www.bctheatre.com or 301-805-0219.

SHAKESPEARE'S HAMLET -- 3/28 - 4/13

The Tragedy of Hamlet is a play originally done by Shakespeare and is set in the ancient kingdom of Denmark. It is about the revenge of a prince after his family members including the king, King Hamlet, are murdered by his uncle, Claudius, so that he can inherit the throne as well as the wife of his kinsman. The play culminates when the young prince finally kills Claudius and manages to take back the throne of his father. The theme of the play is that of revenge, family ties and corruption. It is Shakespeare's longest play. Produced by Annapolis Shakespeare Company. Performances are at 8 p.m. on Fridays and Saturdays and matinees are at 2 p.m. on Saturdays and 3 p.m. Sundays. For tickets,

www.annapolishakespeare.org or 410-415-3513.



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

News of the City Museums



Mark Your Calendar

Games People Played - Saturday March 1, 12 - 4 p.m. at Belair Mansion. Enjoy 18th and 19th century table games for kids and adults. Free.

18th Century Ladies Day - Saturday, March 8, 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. at Belair Mansion. Speakers, plus hands-on activities, will explore colonial women's history. Bring a brown bag lunch; coffee, beverages and snacks provided. \$25 per person. Reservations required.

The Ladies of Belair Brown Bag Lunch Lecture - Monday, March 10, 12 p.m. at Belair Mansion. A look at some of the ladies who were "Mistresses of the Mansion." Bring your lunch; coffee and tea provided. Free.

"Female Spies of the American Revolution" Second Tuesday Lecture - Tuesday, March 11, 7:30 p.m. Donald Markle, author of Spies and Spymasters of the Civil War, will discuss "spyladies" from an earlier war! Free.

Kids Kaboose - Tuesday, March 18, 10:30 a.m. - 12 p.m. at the Bowie Railroad Museum. Railroad fun for ages 1-10. Free.

Bytes of Maryland History - Monday, March 24, 10:30 a.m. at the Bowie Senior Center. Museums Manager Pam Williams takes time travelers on a quick ride through Maryland History in celebration of Maryland Day. Free.

Kids Kaboose - Tuesday, April 15, 10:30 a.m. - 12 p.m. at the Bowie Railroad Museum. Railroad fun for ages 1-10. Free.

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 the above City
Museums, or for more
information, please call
301-809-3089.*

**The National Capital 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.), 12219 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.

Computer Class

Registration

Sign up will continue at the front desk until the first day of class on **March 10th.**

Classes include:
Introduction and Basics;
Skills Development &
Text Editing; Hardware,
Software, and
Applications; Word
Processing - Using MS
Word 2010; Intro. to
Windows 8 and
OneDrive; Free
Computer Lab
(Wednesdays, 1-2:30
p.m.); Email and
LibreOffice and MS
Excel 2010.



Bowie Police Department Senior Safety Presentation

Friday, March 21 at 12 p.m.

Topics include identity fraud, personal and home safety, and theft from auto prevention.

Falls Prevention Presentation

Thursday, March 27 at 10:30 a.m.

Crofton Podiatry will give information on foot care and preventing falls. Complimentary foot screening will be provided.

Aging Muscles

Thursday, April 10 at 10:30 a.m.

Arthritis and Pain Associates will give information on coping with muscle and joint pain.

Senior Information Fair/Open House - Save the Date!

The Bowie Senior Center will sponsor a Senior Information Fair **May 21 - 23**, "Finding the Piece to the Puzzle that Fits!". Areas to be highlighted are housing, health, assisted and independent living, meals, transportation, finances, trips and employment. Includes a two-day panel discussion and ends on the third day with a vendor fair. Do not be left out of this power-filled Information Fair and Open House. For more information, please contact Gloria Gaddy, Information & Referral Specialist, at 301-809-2377 or ggaddy@cityofbowie.org.

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

Upcoming Events

Education & Arts Scholarships

Deadline

*Monday, March 17, 2014
5 p.m., Bowie City Hall*

Fourth Annual Green Expo

*Saturday, April 12, 2014
1 - 4 p.m., Kenhill Center*

Arbor Day Celebration

*Saturday, April 26, 2014
10 a.m., Acorn Hill Park*

Bike to Work Day

Friday, May 16, 2014

2014 Bike to Work Day

Friday, May 16, 2014

Two Bowie Pit Stops:

**Bowie Town Center Food Court and
Old Town Bowie Fire Station, 9th Street**

Gear up for Bike to Work Day 2014 - 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. For more information, contact Frank Stevens in the City's Planning Department at 301-809-3053 or fstevens@cityofbowie.org. Registration will begin March 1st at www.biketoworkmetrodc.org.

