

Bowie Spotlight

The Official Newsletter of the City of Bowie

September - October 2014

Bowie Police Back-to-School Safety Tips

School buses use yellow flashing lights to alert motorists that they are preparing to stop to load or unload children. Red flashing lights and an extended stop sign arm signals to motorists that the bus is stopped and children are getting on or off the bus.

The area ten feet around a school bus is where children are in the most danger of being hit. Stop your car far enough from the bus to allow children the necessary space to safely enter and exit the bus.

Be alert. Children walking to or from their bus are usually very comfortable with their surroundings. This makes them more likely to take risks, ignore hazards or fail to look both ways when crossing the street.

Never pass a stopped school bus on the right. It is illegal and could have tragic consequences.

All drivers need to recognize the special safety needs of pedestrians, especially those that are children. **Generally, pedestrians have the right-of-way at all intersections.** You as a driver are obligated to exercise great care and extreme caution to avoid striking pedestrians.

Drivers should not block the crosswalk when stopped at a red light or waiting to make a turn. Do not stop with a portion of your vehicle over the crosswalk. Blocking the crosswalk forces pedestrians to go around your vehicle and puts them in a dangerous situation.

In a school zone, when warning flashers are blinking, you must stop to yield the right-of-way to a pedestrian crossing the roadway within a marked crosswalk or at an intersection with no marked crosswalk. Always stop when directed to do so by a school patrol sign, patrol officer or crossing guard.

Children are the least predictable pedestrians and the most difficult to see. Take extra care to look out for children not only in school zones, but also in residential areas, playgrounds and parks. Don't honk your horn, rev your engine or do anything to rush or scare a pedestrian.

Salute to America Concert

The City's Sunday Sunset Concert Series at the Robert V. Setera Amphitheater in Allen Pond Park will conclude with a very special concert on **Sunday, September 7, 2014** from 7 – 8 p.m. The Salute to America Concert will feature the Benfield Brass Band. We will honor and salute members of the Armed Forces both past and present.

Bring your flags, candles, friends and family to the Park for this patriotic evening. All attendees are encouraged to dress in red, white and blue, or wear military attire if appropriate. For more information, please contact Matt Corley, Special Events Coordinator, at mcorley@cityofbowie.org or 301-809-3078.

Inside This Issue...

	Page
<i>Alert Bowie 2.0 is Here</i>	3
<i>Bowie Ice Arena</i>	5
<i>Prepare for the Unexpected</i>	7
<i>Green Bowie</i>	13
<i>News of the City Museums</i>	14

Contact Animal Control About Wildlife If ...

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



You see an animal that appears sick, injured or is behaving abnormally. For example, the animal seems disoriented, is staggering or stumbling, visibly underweight, limping or bleeding, or is unexpectedly approaching people.

Your pet comes into direct contact with wildlife or returns home with a bite or scratch of unknown origin. If you witness the contact, notify Animal Control immediately and try to monitor the wildlife until an Animal Control Officer arrives. If captured, the animal will be evaluated for rabies testing. Verify that your pet's rabies vaccine is up to date. Consult with your vet about the need for medical care and a rabies vaccine booster.

Wildlife is in a dwelling. We will assist with the removal of wildlife from interior habitable spaces to the best of our ability. Monitoring the animal until an Animal Control Officer arrives will greatly increase the likelihood of successful removal. We are unable to conduct full house searches. Animals in areas not readily accessible (e.g. attics, crawl spaces, walls, or chimneys) may require a wildlife removal service.

You have questions or concerns about the presence of wildlife on your property or in your community. Wildlife is becoming more prevalent in our community due to urban development and other factors. We aim to educate and promote a safe coexistence. Most conflicts can be resolved by modifying the environment to exclude or deter animals from the areas of concern, though it is important to recognize some tolerance is necessary. We do not recommend trapping as a means to resolve nuisance issues. Animal Control does not loan traps for this purpose and will not respond to relocate wildlife intentionally trapped outdoors. For most species, individuals wishing to trap healthy wildlife must first obtain a permit from the Maryland Department of Natural Resources (DNR). To reach DNR, call 1-877-463-6497 or visit the website, www.dnr.state.md.us/wildlife/Plants_Wildlife/nw.asp.

Pet Waste

Your pet cannot pick up its excrement, therefore you as the pet owner or custodian have the responsibility to remove it. Use a plastic bag or other implement to remove the waste so others will not step into something you left behind.

For more information, contact Bowie Animal Control at 301-809-3002 or lransom@cityofbowie.org. Please visit our webpage, www.cityofbowie.org/index.aspx?nid=115 and our Facebook page, www.facebook.com/BowieAnimalControl.

Alert Bowie 2.0 is Here!

Create Your New Account Now

The City of Bowie is launching a new alerting system called Alert Bowie 2.0. It is an updated version of Bowie’s current alerting system, which has been in place since 2005. The new and improved system will provide up-to-the-minute notifications from the City to you, wherever you may be in a whole new way, whether it is a hazmat incident, a traffic tie-up, or an event at Allen Pond.

If you are new to Bowie’s alert system, you will find that it’s a great way to get important Bowie information, including emergency alerts, public safety notices, and Bowie E-News updates. You choose the types of messages you receive and how you will receive them.

If you had an account on our old system, you know just how valuable messages from Alert Bowie can be. We encourage you to create an account on Alert Bowie 2.0 today so that you can begin taking advantage of all of the new features of our updated system.

Current Alert Bowie subscribers will continue to receive messages during our transition period, but they will not have the ability to update their contact information or subscriptions, or take advantage of the new features that Alert Bowie 2.0 can provide until they create an account on the new system. By the end of September, the old Alert Bowie system will be phased out and all current Alert Bowie subscribers will need to have an account on the new system in order to continue receiving City of Bowie alerts. For more information, contact Una Cooper at 301-809-3032 or ucooper@cityofbowie.org or visit www.cityofbowie.org/alerts.

Alert Bowie 2.0 Features

With Alert Bowie 2.0, City officials can send important information, of your choosing, to the devices you register. We will also have the ability to pinpoint a particular area or street on the map, when we need to send a specific message to those residents, such as in the case of a water main break or dangerous situation.

What information can I receive?

Emergency Alerts

- Automated severe weather warnings
- Emergency situations – i.e. hazmat incident, evacuation notice, natural disaster

Public Safety Notices

- Traffic problems in Bowie
- Police Department alerts – crime alerts, missing persons, etc.
- Health alerts

Bowie E-News

- Bowie News Flash
- Bowie Spotlight
- Bowie Senior Newsletter
- City Council actions
- City Government closings/service interruptions
- Jobs
- Neighborhood specific news
- Pet Pickup Notices
- Skate Park News

How Will I Receive Alerts?

You can customize how you will receive messages from Alert Bowie 2.0.

Your options include: email; text message to your cell phone (SMS); fax; mobile device application (smart phone app); and telephone call to your cell phone or landline (only for severe weather alerts and on other rare occasions).

Automated Severe Weather Alerts

Alert Bowie 2.0 allows you to enter multiple addresses and receive automated severe weather alerts for these locations. So if you live in Bowie, work in DC, and have a child going to college in North Carolina, you can provide those addresses and receive alerts when there is severe weather.

You choose which alerts you receive (tornado, severe thunderstorm, blizzard, hurricane, high wind warning, etc.) and the time of day you wish to receive them. Please note: The notices will go to all of your registered devices, including telephones. Unless you set a quiet time, you will receive these notices 24 hours a day.

Art Notes

Gallery News **By Invitation** is the current exhibit that runs through Friday, October 17, 2014. Instead of a themed show, the Arts Committee invited a small group from its many favorite artists to choose some of their favorite pieces for this show. It's an eclectic mix of photography and paintings. Visit the gallery to see what the artists chose to display. Hours are City Hall hours: Monday - Thursday, 8:30 a.m. to 9:30 p.m.; Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.; and Saturday 8:30 a.m. to 12 p.m.

Upcoming Gallery Shows **Interior Spaces: Still Life and Interior Scenes** runs October 18, 2014 - January 17, 2015; **Winter Theme Landscapes** runs January 17 - April 15, 2015. Both shows are open juried art exhibits. Information on **Interior Spaces** and an entry form are on the City's website, www.cityofbowie.org, under Arts. Deadline for entries is **September 5, 2014**.

Art Grants The City has arts grants available for individuals or groups that would like to offer art opportunities to Bowie citizens through projects such as public performances, art workshops, or a group art opportunity. Grant applications are available on the City's website, www.cityofbowie.org/community/arts/arts_grants. The deadline for applications is Friday, September 19, 2014, at 5 p.m. **For more information, contact Annette Esterheld at aesterheld@cityof-bowie.org or 301-575-5601.**

Education

Grants The City of Bowie offers education grants that schools can use to fund projects that provide learning experiences and educational enrichment to students within eligible Bowie schools. The grants are administered through the City's Education Committee. The deadline for applications for the 2014-15 grants is **Friday, October 17, 2014**.

Applications may be submitted by teachers, PTAs, PTOs, and individuals. Eligible schools are listed on the City's website, www.cityofbowie.org.

For additional information, contact Annette Esterheld at aesterheld@cityofbowie.org or 301-575-5601.

Support the Food Pantry at the International Festival

The Bowie Food Pantry and the Community Outreach Committee will be at the International Festival on October 4th at Allen Pond Park looking for donations to feed the hungry. Please think about those in our community in need and bring a nonperishable item to donate, as you enjoy a fun-filled day traveling around the world, right here in Bowie!

Currently, the greatest need is for nonperishable food, although other items are also appreciated, such as toiletries (soap, toothpaste), paper goods, and baby supplies (diapers and wipes). Tax deductible contributions and grocery store gift cards are also a great way to donate, as these help to purchase needed items! Checks should be written to the Bowie Food Pantry and sent to The Bowie Food Pantry, 2614 Kenhill Drive, Bowie, MD 20715.

The Pantry is located at the Kenhill Center and is open Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 9 to 11 a.m., and the second and fourth Tuesday of each month from 6 to 7 p.m. Collection containers for nonperishable food, paper goods and personal items are available in the lobby at the Kenhill Center, the Municipal Gym and the Senior Center.

THANK YOU to all who have contributed food or money to support this worthy cause. For more information, contact the Pantry at BowieFoodPantry@gmail.com or 301-262-6765.

Our booth will be one where children can have their "Passport" stamped after playing a fun game of International Food Bingo. Bring a can of food and come see us!

Bowie Ice Arena



Back to School Lessons will be held in September. This is a four-week mini-series of group lessons for all ages and levels.

Series 1 Group Lessons will begin in October. Classes are offered for children as young as 18 months of age through adults – all levels! Special beginner discounts and family discounts are available. Classes meet on Thursday afternoons and Friday and Saturday mornings. For a detailed list of class offerings please visit us online at www.cityofbowie.org or call the Ice Arena at **301-809-3090**.

For information on public skating, pickup figure skating, stick and puck hockey, pickup hockey, birthday parties, frequent skater cards, group rates and family discounts, please call the Ice Arena at **301-809-3090** or visit us online at www.cityofbowie.org.

Halloween-On-Ice Party will be held Saturday, **October 25** from 1 - 3 p.m. Wear a costume or bring a canned good for free admission. Skate rental is \$3. There will be music, games, skating, costume contest and treat bags for all in costume 13 years and under.

\$5 Off Group Lesson Registration

Bowie Ice Arena

Not valid with any other discount or offer.
Coupon expires October 8, 2014.

2 for 1 Admission
Skate Rental Fee is \$3

Bowie Ice Arena

Not valid during DJ session.
Coupon expires October 31, 2014.

Bowie International Festival

Entertainers, artists, crafters, food, and children's activities will overflow at Allen Pond Park for the Annual Bowie International Festival on Saturday, **October 4, 2014** from 11 a.m. – 5 p.m. Experiences at this Festival will take you "Around the World in Just One Day."

Enjoy entertainment on two stages; food from the far reaches of Asia to right here in our own backyard; children's activities such as stories, dance, sports and games from around the world; and vendors of crafts, clothing, jewelry and many other offerings, representative of a variety of countries and cultures. The festival will include something of interest for everyone. Music from Ireland, Africa, Germany, Latin America and Asia will fill the air. Dance groups representing the cultures of India, Ireland, Poland, Greece, China, and Native America will also perform.

Children will have the opportunity to visit many different parts of the world. They may pick up a passport at any children's activity booth or the event information booth and participate in various activities, accumulating stamps at each booth. Activities include dance, music, story time, and arts and crafts from around the world. At the end of the "trip" children receive an international prize.

The International Festival Planning Committee is seeking sponsors to help cover the cost of children's activities and entertainment at the Festival. If you would like to be a sponsor, please contact the City at the email or phone number below. Sponsors will be included in advance publicity and posted at the event.

Join us for a day of celebration and exploration. For further information, check the City's webpage – www.cityofbowie.org – or contact Matt Corley, Special Events Coordinator, at 301-809-3078 or mcorley@cityofbowie.org.

Code Corner

Fall Yard Maintenance

Are you getting prepared for the winter? Raking leaves, trimming shrubs and trees, or ordering firewood? Remember the following tips:

- Trimmings and yard waste should be removed from the property. Piles of yard waste may create places for animals and insects to harbor.
- Raked leaves must be piled in a grassy area close to the street or placed in paper bags for collection. Do not blow leaves or pile yard waste in the curb or street.
- Don't forget to clean your gutters. Leaves and pine needles can block the gutters.
- Firewood should be stored behind the front building line of the house. Be mindful of how close to the house the wood is stacked. Bugs and pests can easily transfer from the wood to the house and cause damage.
- Stack cut firewood evenly on racks which are raised at least six (6) inches off a concrete, asphalt, brick, block, or wood surface or eighteen (18) inches off an unimproved surface such as gravel or mulch.

Home Improvement Planning

Are you planning for a home improvement? Don't forget to include the cost and time necessary to obtain building permits. Here are some common home improvements that require Prince George's County and City of Bowie building permits: additions, decks, driveways, enclosing a porch, fences above four (4) feet in height, garage conversions, pools, sheds larger than 150 square feet, solar panels, and steps or stairs.

Please Note: If you haven't upgraded to sealed smoke detectors with a long life battery, don't forget to change the batteries. Also, carbon monoxide detectors are required in homes with gas burning furnaces or appliances, attached garages, and gas or wood burning fireplaces.

For more information, please contact the Code Compliance Office at 301-809-3008 or dmichelle@city-ofbowie.org. Have a great Fall!

Community Outreach Committee Showcases Bowie Senior Center

Through the Community Outreach Committee's (COC) TV programming efforts, local experts representing a variety of services are interviewed, taped, and broadcast on Bowie government television. Over the years, these programs have served as a valuable resource for the Bowie community.

The most recent COC program is about one of the busiest and most dynamic facilities in our community, the Bowie Senior Center. Tune in to hear the Mayor describe the significant impact the center has had on the Bowie senior community. Listen as Manager Kathy White and her staff enthusiastically describe the exciting programs and activities offered by the Center. See the lively and spirited program participants in classes, on the dance floor, exercising, playing games, and just enjoying the numerous services offered by this facility. This program will air during September on Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Sundays at 12 p.m. on Channel 71 (Comcast) and Channel 10 (Verizon).

This program and a show explaining the services provided by the Bowie Food Pantry and Emergency Aid Fund can be seen on the COC section of the City's website - www.cityofbowie.org.

The COC is open to ideas from the community. Would you like to learn more about other community services and programs available in Bowie? If so, please email the Committee at baugust100@aol.com.

Prepare for the Unexpected

In most years there is at least one, and often several, severe weather events that impact our region. Sometimes dangerous, and always inconvenient, these incidents have a way of causing stress and disrupting everyday life.

By taking the basic preparedness steps listed below, you may be able to reduce your worries and the impact of the next wind event or derecho or tornado or whatever is headed our way!

- Create an emergency contact list. Give every family member a copy.
- Have basic emergency supplies on hand including flashlights, batteries, radio, water, ready-to-eat food and a first aid kit. See a complete list at ready.gov.
- Consider the special needs of pets, and disabled or elderly family members.
- Decide where you will meet your family if you have to leave your home or can't go home.
- Back up your computer regularly.
- Scan important documents and save to a disk or flash drive. Keep in safe-deposit box or send to a friend or family member for safekeeping.
- Review your homeowner's insurance policy. Understand what's covered and what your deductible is. Do you have sewer backup protection?
- Have a "Go Bag" of essentials. What would you grab if you had five minutes to leave your home?
- Keep informed before, during and after an emergency event. Monitor local news, follow the City on Facebook (www.facebook.com/bowiemd) and Twitter (@CityofBowie), and receive messages from Alert Bowie. You can also call City Hall at 301-262-6200 or visit our website, www.cityofbowie.org for updates.

Remember food safety – power outages and flooding may happen as a result of a tropical storm or hurricane, so have a plan for keeping food safe. Have a cooler on hand to keep food cold, and group food together in the freezer so it stays cold longer. Have an adequate communication plan - be sure friends and family know how to contact you. Use text messaging as text messages can often get around network disruptions when a phone call can't get through. Keep in mind, hurricanes bring heavy rains, storm surges, and possible flooding events. Avoid walking or driving through any flooded areas.

Police, fire and rescue may not always be able to reach you quickly, particularly if trees and power lines are down or if they're overwhelmed by demand during an emergency. The most important step you can take in helping local responders manage an emergency is to be able to take care of yourself and those in your care until help can arrive. Consider taking a first aid course. They are often offered at little or no cost by the Red Cross. CPR courses are taught locally by the Bowie Volunteer Fire Department.

The more individuals are prepared, the quicker the community can recover.

For additional information, contact the City's Emergency Management Resource Coordinator Alan Creveling at 301-809-3079 or acreveling@cityofbowe.org.

Refuse and Recycling Tips

Yard Waste Recycling Yard waste is collected **only** on Wednesday. **It will not be picked up with regular trash.** Yard waste consists of leaves, grass clippings, and branches up to three inches in diameter (**no bamboo, dirt, mulch, or sod**). Leaves and grass (free of dirt and rocks, etc.) must be placed in paper bags or trash cans. Branches must be no longer than four feet and should be securely tied in manageable bundles, or placed in paper bags or cans. Yard waste must be at the curb by 7 a.m. on Wednesdays. Bamboo is picked up on regular trash days. Branches/wood exceeding 3 inches in diameter is picked up with regular trash. Landscape timbers are not yard waste – they must be no longer than 4' and go out with regular trash. **Please note:** Do not use the blue recycling carts or bins for yard waste.

Refuse and Recycling Reminders Newspapers, junk mail, catalogs, paper board, cardboard and telephone books should be placed in paper or plastic bags or tied in bundles and placed in the recycling carts or bins. Recycling carts and bins are also for glass, cans (bi-metal and aluminum) and all plastics except plates, utensils, Styrofoam or motor oil containers. When your recycling day falls on your refuse collection day, **please** place refuse on one side of the driveway and recycling on the other side.

Special pickup – by request only – is for metal items such as washers, dryers, water heaters, grills, bicycles, refrigerators, freezers, exercise equipment – anything that is 98% metal. You must call 301-809-2344 prior to 12 p.m. on Tuesdays for **Wednesday's** special pickup.

Large, bulky items such as couches, chairs, console televisions, computer monitors, sliding glass doors with the glass, wood tables – items that are not 98% metal – can be placed at the curb on your regular trash day. These are not special pickup items.

Items not collected: Compact fluorescent light bulbs, sod, dirt, rocks, mulch, car parts, propane tanks, concrete, oil, gasoline, kerosene, oil-based paints or any hazardous materials. Prince George's County collects hazardous waste at the Brown Station Landfill in Upper Marlboro Thursday - Saturday, 7:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Call 301-883-5045 for information.

Beautification Awards

It's official! All of this year's entered yards have been judged, scores have been tallied, and the winners are...

Well, you'll just have to attend the City's Beautification Awards ceremony on **Thursday, September 25, 2014** at City Hall where the results will be revealed!

A slide presentation and refreshments will begin at 7 p.m. and the awards presentation will begin at 7:30 p.m. The City would like to thank all those who beautified their yards this year and chose to enter this wonderful Citywide program.

For more information, contact Matt Corley at 301-809-3078 or mcorley@cityofbowie.org.

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.

As Simple as a Picnic in the Park

With the heat of the summer winding down, early fall is a wonderful time to hold a gathering for family or friends at one of our picnic sites in Allen Pond and Whitemarsh Parks.

The City offers three premier picnic sites that offer a covered site to keep you dry in the event of inclement weather. In Allen Pond Park the East Pavilion and West Pavilion each accommodates up to 80 persons, and there are also several smaller Group Areas that provide space for groups with 32-48 guests. Whitemarsh Park offers a large Pavilion that provides space for a group of up to 150 guests. The Pavilion sites are covered picnic sites, while Group Areas are non-covered picnic sites that are shaded by mature trees. All of the group and pavilion picnic sites have grills and tables; you just need to bring the food and fun!

Resident picnic reservations may be placed up to one year in advance of the picnic date and nonresident picnic reservations may be placed up to six months in advance of the picnic date. Reservations are accepted in person at City Hall Monday through Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. For specific rental information and to check availability, visit the City's website at www.cityof-bowie.org or call 301-809-3011.

City Hydrant Flushing

The Bowie Public Works Department will conduct the annual fire hydrant flushing and testing program in areas served by City water. Hydrant flushing began August 25th and will continue through October in the following sequence:

- Buckingham, Derbyshire and Forest Drive
- Somerset and Bowie Forest
- Tulip Grove
- Foxhill and Long Ridge
- Kenilworth
- Heather Hills
- Meadowbrook
- Gradys Walk & Glenridge
- Chapel Forge
- Victoria Heights and Race Track Road Townhouses
- Idlewild
- Yorktown and Overbrook
- Whitehall
- Rockledge

Visit the City's website, www.cityofbowie.org, for more information and schedule updates for the neighborhoods.

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 contact the Public Works Department at 301-809-2344.

Bowie Youth & Family Services

Bowie Youth & Family Services (BYFS) serves individuals, families and groups in the Bowie community. We offer counseling for all families in the City who have children in the home who are high school age or younger. Other services include outreach activities and a mentoring program for students at Bowie High School. Our staff members are clinicians who each hold a graduate degree in a mental health specialty and who have years of training and experience in treating children, teens and their families.

We will be accepting registrations for two groups in September and October. The first, *The Active Parenting Program*, is run by our Clinical Supervisor Debby Shipler, and is open to parents with school-aged children or teens. The second, *Girls Count*, is an after-school program for 9-12th grade girls. Families are encouraged to call **301-809-3033** for more information or to arrange for an appointment.

Teen Job Bank

Bowie Youth & Family Services sponsors a Teen Job Bank, where residents can find Bowie youth who are looking for opportunities for making extra money, either on an occasional or a regular basis. Residents may use this service to find teens that can help with tasks such as lawn mowing, babysitting, tutoring, shopping or other chores. The particulars of the job and the fees per hour are determined by you and the teen. You may access this program by completing the Teen Job Bank resident application found on the City's website at www.cityofbowie.org or by calling us at **301-809-3033**.

Teens, How Big is Your *Because*?

How do we help youth develop a framework from which to make decisions they can build upon for healthy outcomes?

Youth leadership consultant and author, Mariam MacGregor says, "Kids, teens especially, need a great big *Because*." She explains, "When youth are developing, it is so important to provide access to the tools they need to decide just what kind of person they want to be. It is easier to choose something positive *Because* you have a really good reason. It is more straightforward to identify one's self as a nonsmoker (or whatever the behavioral decision facing them at the moment) *Because* they want to make the swim team or track, or *Because* their girlfriend likes them to have good breath, or *Because* they are saving for a car, or *Because* a grandparent died of lung cancer. The best navigational tools adults can give to preteens and teens are ones that help them take hold of their own personal and big *Because*."

The Bowie Prevention Network helps build a healthier community through prevention, interaction and education. We are committed to helping youth and their families navigate the growing up, decision-making years in the healthiest ways possible. Residents of all ages are invited to take part in the Bowie Prevention Network. We can use your help in a variety of ways.

If you have energy and interest in the issues youth wrestle with during their formative years; if youth engagement and the empowerment needed to make constructive healthy choices are topics that resonate with you, please contact Andra Berry, Prevention Coordinator at Bowie Youth & Family Services at 301-809-3033 or aberry@cityofbowie.org. The Bowie Prevention Network meets monthly. Your participation is encouraged. Please call for information.

Imagine An Hour That Impacts a Lifetime...

Imagine Mentoring. Mentoring makes a difference and now is the time to volunteer. If you are at least 21 years of age, you have the ability to positively influence the life of a teen that needs you by stepping up, having fun, and becoming a friend, a listener, a guide, a supporter and a confidante. The City's Teen Mentoring Program can help you do just that.

When you volunteer to mentor a Bowie High School student, you will spend one hour a week building a positive relationship with a student, and supporting their success in school, in their family and in the Bowie community.

To apply, visit www.cityofbowie.org and link to Community Services/ Youth & Family Services, email Rhonda Simon, Program Coordinator, at mentor@cityofbowie.org, or call Bowie Youth & Family Services at 301-809-3033.

Important Thoughts on Ash Trees in Bowie

I'm sure many of you have heard of the alert concerning the arrival in the last decade of the invasive insect known as the Emerald Ash Borer to our region. And you have probably seen some weird looking purple box-like structures (State of MD sampling traps) hung in ash trees throughout the City. This alert remains real and continues to determine the need for the quarantine that started in Prince George's and Charles Counties prohibiting the movement of any wood products across county lines. Since last year, this pest continues to spread geographically, and this quarantine has been extended to the entire western shore of Maryland. In other words, wood products such as firewood and wood chips cannot be moved from west of the Chesapeake Bay to the Eastern Shore of Maryland or over any state line. This is an effort by the State of Maryland to contain and eradicate this pest that destroys the ash trees in our area. So, here are some of the important things to know regarding this bad bug:

- It is not a native insect. It has mistakenly been imported from Asia with overseas shipments to the U.S. and Canada.
- So far, its one destructive target here in North America has been the highly valued ash trees (millions of them).
- This bug came to our area in Maryland on an illegal shipment of ash trees from already-infested Michigan.
- Once found, a huge program was instituted by the State of Maryland to control the spread of this infestation by way of tree removals, monitoring, and quarantining affected areas such as ours, which continues today.
- While ash trees already had many insect and disease issues, this problem is the worst of all.

To identify the borer and its life cycle, please note: The adult beetles are bright green and are active in and around June - July, depending on weather conditions. They feed on the foliage of the tree. The females lay 60-90 eggs during this period which hatch in 7-10 days and quickly become larvae, chew through bark, and then tunnel under the bark throughout the infested area. At first, this puts the tree under stress, but soon cuts off the flow of water and nutrients which kills the tree. This process may take anywhere from two - four years. These tunnels or "galleries" can easily be seen when the loose bark is removed. This feeding and damage to the tree is completed in the fall and the pupae overwinter there. In or around April - May, the adults emerge through a D-shaped hole that is very distinct, and the cycle begins again.

Find more information at www.na.fs.fed.us/spfo/eab/ and www.mda.state.md.us/plants-pests/eab. We have informational flyers available as well. If you suspect that this pest is invading your property, I'd be happy to inspect the site. Hoping for the best - Rick Kellner, Community Forester, rkellner@cityofbowie.org or 301-809-3061.

Bowie Farmers' Market

The Bowie Farmers' Market is entering the final months of operation for the season. Patrons will find various types of fresh fruits and vegetables, beef and goat meat, breads and baked goods, jams and jellies, salsa, herbs, fresh cut flowers and bedding plants, and ice cream.

The Market is open **Sundays, 8 a.m. - 12 p.m.**, through **October 26, 2014**. The Market operates in the parking lot of the Bowie Center for the Performing Arts at Bowie High School, 15200 Annapolis Road. For more information, contact Matt Corley at mcorley@cityofbowie.org or 301-809-3078.

Upcoming Special Events

September 21 "Farm Days" Farm animal petting zoo, 9:30 - 11:30 a.m.

October 26 "Octoberfest" Free scarecrow making (participants supply a long-sleeved shirt and trousers). Free pumpkin painting (pumpkins available for purchase at market). Activities start at 10 a.m.



Bowie Playhouse Presents



BRIGHTON BEACH MEMOIRS -- 8/29 - 9/13

Fifteen-year-old Eugene Jerome narrates the trials and experiences of his family, fighting the hard times and sometimes each other in 1937 Brooklyn during the heart of the Depression. Dreaming of baseball and girls, Eugene must cope with the mundane existence of his family life which includes a formidable mother, an overworked father, and his worldly older brother Stanley. Throw into the mix his widowed Aunt Blanche and her two young daughters and you have a recipe for hilarity, served up Neil Simon-style. 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, www.pgl.t.org or 301-937-7458.

CHILDREN OF EDEN A MUSICAL -- 9/26 - 10/25

Based on the story of Genesis, Children of Eden is a frank, heartfelt and often humorous examination of the age-old conflict between parents and children. Adam, Eve, Noah and the "Father" who created them deal with the headstrong, cataclysmic actions of their respective children. The show ultimately delivers a bittersweet but inspiring message that "the hardest part of love...is letting go." Produced by 2nd Star Productions. Performances are at 8 p.m. on Fridays and Saturdays and matinees are at 3 p.m. on Sundays. For tickets, www.2ndstarproductions.com or call 301-832-4819.



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

City Offers Reimbursement for National Wildlife Federation Backyard Habitat Fee

If you haven't certified your yard as a National Wildlife Federation (NWF) Wildlife Habitat yet, now is a great time! Usually, it costs \$20 to certify your yard, but now the City of Bowie will reimburse that amount to 50 incorporated City of Bowie homeowners.

Reimbursements will be given on a first come, first served basis until 50 have been claimed or until the program ends on June 5, 2015.

Go to www.nwf.org/certifiedwildlifehabitat to learn more about the certification and to complete the application. Then email or mail the receipt of your application certification fee along with your name, address, and phone number to klarson@cityofbowie.org or Kristin Larson, Bowie City Hall, 15901 Excalibur Road, Bowie, MD 20716. Allow two to four weeks for the City to send a \$20 reimbursement check to your home address. Electronic certification and reimbursement submissions are preferred for this program. If you need assistance applying online or have any questions about this program, contact the City's Sustainability Planner, Kristin Larson, at 301-809-3044.

Green Team Recruiting

Are you interested in helping Bowie preserve its environment but don't know where to start? Are you a professional working in the energy, natural resources or business community and wish to put your knowledge and experience to use in your backyard? The Bowie Green Team is looking for additional members. It is made up of resident volunteers with a mission to improve the economic, environmental, and social sustainability of the community by working with City government, residents, schools, businesses, and other local organizations. The Green Team's work plan covers five broad categories: Natural Resources, Food and Wellness, Energy and Climate, Local Economies and Outreach.

The work plan covers three years and includes about 25 activities that support the four broad categories. Some of these activities include: invasive species removal events, residential composting education, local and green purchasing promotion, residential energy and water conservation guidance, and finding ways to include all Bowie residents to increase the City's environmental initiatives.

The Green Team meets the third Monday of each month, except August. For more information, contact the City's Sustainability Planner and Green Team Liaison, Kristin Larson, at 301-809-3044 or klarson@cityofbowie.org.

Weed Warrior Work Day Whitemarsh Park

Sunday, September 14, 2 - 5 p.m.

The City's Green Team is in need of volunteers to help remove English ivy from Whitemarsh Park. As an invasive, non-native plant, English ivy spreads quickly and easily, and is very destructive to native ecosystems. 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. To participate, please register by contacting Kristin Larson at klarson@cityofbowie.org or 301-809-3044. This is a great Student Service Learning opportunity. However, children age 14 and younger must be under the direct supervision of a parent/guardian or Troop Leader at all times, and no volunteers under age 16 can use tools but may participate by pulling and bagging vines.

\$100 Green Rebates Are Back

Both the \$100 BGE comprehensive energy audit rebate and \$100 tree rebate for Bowie homeowners will continue later this year. For rebate program start dates and more details, visit www.cityofbowie.org/greenbowie.



News of the City Museums



Mark Your Calendar

The Enemy Nearly All 'Round Us ... The War of 1812

Belair Mansion hosts this exciting exhibit through September 14th detailing the impact of the War of 1812 on the local area. The exhibit can be viewed during the Mansion's regular open hours – Tuesday through Sunday, from 12 - 4 p.m. Free.

Fun for Kids in 1812

Sunday, September 7, 12 - 4 p.m. at Belair Mansion. Visit the Belair Mansion during open hours and try your hand at draughts, skittles, pick-up sticks and other popular amusements for youngsters during the War of 1812. Suitable for ages 5-11; children must be accompanied by an adult. Enjoy the exhibit while visiting! Free.

Collector's Corner – Cleaning Your Antique Silver

Monday, September 8, 2 p.m. at Belair Mansion. Got an old dish, ladle or any other silver heirloom? Bring it along to Curator's Corner! Curator Samantha Dorsey will offer instruction on the best cleaning methods and some hands-on practice on your own object. Free. **Reservations required.**

Second Tuesday Lecture Series

Tuesday, September 9, 7:30 p.m. at Belair Mansion. Alex Myers will speak on Deborah Sampson, his ancestress and her military role in the American Revolution. Free.

Rochambeau's March Through Bowie!

Saturday, September 13, 11:30 a.m. - 4 p.m. at Belair Mansion. Join the annual commemoration of General Rochambeau's march to Yorktown to rout the British at the end of the American Revolution! Reenactors, children's games, colonial market place...18th century fun for all Free.

Kids Kaboose

Tuesday, September 16 and October 21, 10:30 a.m. at Bowie Railroad Museum. Railroad fun and games for ages 4-11. Free.

Second Tuesday Lecture Series

Tuesday, October 14, 7:30 p.m. at Belair Mansion. Topic to be announced. The Second Tuesday Lecture Series, in cooperation with the Robert Bowie Chapter, NSDAR, covers topics of historical interest on many subjects. Free.

Collector's Corner - Quilt Quest

Monday, October 21, 2 - 4 p.m. at Belair Mansion. Learn about identification, care and conservation for these important artifacts. Bring yours along for "show and tell" – and advice if needed. Free. **Reservations required.**

For reservations or information on these, or any museum program, contact 301-809-3089 or 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 and older.

Surfing the Web

Wednesday,
September 3, 5:30 p.m.
or Saturday,
September 6, 9 a.m.

Surfing the web is just another term for the activity of searching the internet for websites of interest. Learn helpful hints.. Sign up early, space is limited.

Why Do My Ears Ring?

Thursday, September 11
10:30 a.m.

Common causes and ways to help alleviate it. Presented by Doctor Gwyneth Newcomb of Bowie Hearing Center.

National Senior Center

Month Open House

Tuesday, September 16
10 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Tour our well-appointed and multifaceted facility. Meet our instructors. Learn about our services. Enjoy music, entertainment and refreshments.

Active Adult 55+

Armchair Tour: The Ins and Outs of Cruising

Wednesday, September 17, 12:30 p.m.

Armchair Tour: Paris

Wednesday, September 24, 1 p.m.

Flu Clinic

Friday, September 26, 9 a.m. - 12 p.m.

Traditional flu, pneumonia and high dose flu vaccines will be available. We only accept traditional/original Medicare. Other individuals must pay for the vaccine at time of service if participating in a Medicare PPO or HMO or other plan. Payments can be made by cash, check or credit card.

Native American-style Flute Music

Friday, October 3, 12:30 p.m.

Randy "Windtalker" Motz returns to perform his distinctive style of contemporary Native American-style flute music set against a backdrop of photos from the Appalachian Trail.

Continuing Education Class Registration

Fall semester begins the week of October 6. Registration is underway. The Center is fortunate to partner with Prince George's Community College SAGE (Seasoned Adults Growing Educationally) to offer over-65 classes weekly at the Center.

Halloween Party

Friday, October 31, 12:30 p.m.

DJ music and light refreshments. Fun for all. \$5 for Bowie residents, \$6 for nonresidents.

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**

Need Help Growing Your Company? Bowie BIC Has What You Need

The Bowie Business Innovation Center (Bowie BIC) is a comprehensive business incubation program located at Bowie State University and designed to help accelerate the growth of young companies in the Greater Bowie area. Bowie BIC has the business support programs and facilities that young companies need, so companies can focus on what is truly important—growing their business. Bowie BIC is ideal for: Growth-oriented professional service firms and technology companies; Businesses with existing clients; and Businesses committed to accelerating growth and profitability.

Business Support Programs:

Business counseling specialists on-site each week; Technical business advice at free business clinics; Access to business and market research; Monthly “Coffee Breaks” highlighting business resources; Networking events with customers, partners, funders; Invitations to exclusive business workshops; and Access to Bowie State University interns.

Business Facilities:

Affordable, furnished private offices; Internet and telephone; Conference/meeting space; Printing and scanning; Reception services; and Kitchen and break room. All available on flexible lease terms at an all-inclusive rate to simplify budgeting and minimize overhead. If you would like to schedule a tour of Bowie BIC and meet with the team to discuss how your company can grow at Bowie BIC, please contact Crystal Simpkins, Operations Director, at 301-383-1550 x105 or crystal.simpkins@bowiebic.com.

Bowie BIC is a nonprofit organization whose work to accelerate the growth of young companies is supported by the City of Bowie, Prince George’s County, Bowie State University, CliftonLarsonAllen, Maryland TEDCO, the Maryland Women’s Business Center and the Bowie BIC client companies.
