

Bowie News Flash

September 2014

News

Labor Day Holiday - Monday, September 1

City offices and facilities, including the Senior Center, the City Gymnasium, the Kenhill Center, and the Ice Arena will be closed for the holiday on 9/1. No refuse or recycling collection.

City Hydrant Flushing Continues Through October

The City's Public Works Department began the annual fire hydrant flushing and testing in areas served by City water. The program will continue through October in the following sequence:

- Buckingham, Derbyshire and Forest Drive - completed
- Somerset and Bowie Forest - completed
- Tulip Grove - completed by 9/2/14
- Foxhill and Long Ridge - week of 9/2/14
- Kenilworth
- Heather Hills
- Meadowbrook
- Gradys Walk and Glenridge
- Chapel Forge
- Victoria Heights & Race Track Road Townhouses
- Idlewild
- Yorktown and Overbrook
- Whitehall
- Rockledge

Some discoloration of your water may occur, so clothes washing is discouraged. If your clothes become discolored, keep them wet and rewash them using a rust remover. Rust remover is available, at no cost, at City Hall. The water is safe for drinking and bathing even though it may be discolored. The discoloration is a result of rust and sediment buildup in the water lines and is not harmful. The discoloration should clear in approximately 24 hours. However, since the water mains are all interconnected, flushing of hydrants in adjacent sections could affect your water as well. For more information, please call the Public Works Department at 301-809-2344 or visit www.cityofbowie.org/flush.

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.

It’s Back to School Time – Drive Carefully and Watch Out for Pedestrians

Public schools opened in late August. Stay alert, drive within the posted speed limit, and remember to stop for school buses that are loading and unloading. Read more Back to School Safety Tips at our link at www.cityofbowie.org.

Tulip Grove Elementary School Now Located on Moylan Drive

Neighbors and local drivers can expect a lot more activity on Moylan Drive as Tulip Grove Elementary School occupies the former Meadowbrook School site for two years while the Tulip Grove School building is renovated. Be on the lookout for more cars, more buses, and more little walkers in the area.

Salute to America Concert at Allen Pond Park

The Salute to America concert will be held on Sunday, September 7th from 7 - 8 p.m. The Benfield Brass Band will perform patriotic music. The concert will be held at the Robert V. Setera Amphitheater. Be sure to bring a blanket or chair for seating. Concerts are canceled in case of inclement weather.

Alert Bowie 2.0 is Here!

The City has launched 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. 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.

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.

Art Grants Available

The City has arts grants available for individuals or groups that would like to offer art projects such as public performances, art workshops, or a group art opportunity for Bowie residents. The deadline for applications is Friday, September 19, 2014 at 5 p.m. For more information, contact Annette Esterheld at aesterheld@cityofbowie.org or 301-575-5601. The application form may be found at www.cityofbowie.org.

September is “National Preparedness Month”

It's a great time to replenish your emergency supplies and review your emergency preparedness plans. View checklists and links to more information at www.cityofbowie.org/emergencyprep.

Get Reimbursed \$20 Application Fee for Certifying Your Yard as a Backyard Habitat

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 starting July 30th, the City of Bowie will reimburse that amount to 50 homeowners in the corporate limits of Bowie. Reimbursements will be given on a first come, first served basis until all have been claimed or until the program end date on June 5, 2015.

Go to www.nwf.org/certifiedwildlifehabitat to learn more about the certification and to complete the application. Then e-mail or mail the receipt of your application certification fee along with your name, address, and phone number to klarson@cityofbowie.org or Ms. Kristin Larson, 15901 Excalibur Road, Bowie, MD 20716. Allow 2 to 4 weeks for the City of Bowie 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.

Tree Rebate Program

On September 1, 2014, the City of Bowie Tree Rebate Program will begin again. Tree rebates of \$50 and \$100 values are available on a first come, first served basis for City of Bowie residents who would like to purchase up to two trees at Patuxent Nursery (2410 Crain Hwy in Bowie). This program will be available until \$10,000 in rebates are exhausted or until June 5, 2015. There are 10 species of trees eligible for the rebate, although some tree species availability may be limited. An eligible tree species list and more details about the program are available on the City of Bowie website at www.cityofbowie.org/treerebate.

Events

8/29 - 9/13 – “Brighton Beach Memoirs” at Bowie Playhouse 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. This play is produced by Prince George's Little Theatre. Performances are at 8 p.m. on Fridays and Saturdays and matinees are at 2 p.m. on Sundays. For tickets, visit www.pglt.org or call 301-937-7458.

9/2 – City Council Regular Meeting 8 p.m. at City Hall.

9/3 – Teen Safety Awareness Program 3:15 p.m. at the Bowie Library. The Police Department and the Bowie Branch Library have teamed up to offer a free program for teens on safety awareness. Light refreshments will be available. The library is located at 15210 Annapolis Road, next to Bowie High School.

9/3 – Surfing the Web 5:30 p.m. at the Senior Center. Surfing the web is just another term for the activity of searching the internet for websites of interest. Learn helpful hints for using the internet. Sign up early, space is limited. For more information, please contact the Center at 301-809-2300.

9/6 – Surfing the Web 9 a.m. at the Senior Center. (Same event as 9/3 at 5:30 p.m.)

9/7 – Fun for Kids in 1812 12 - 4 p.m. at Belair Mansion. Try your hand at draughts, skittles, pickup sticks and other popular amusements for youngsters during the War of 1812. Suitable for ages 5-11; children must be accompanied by an adult. Free. For more information, please contact 301-809-3089 or museumevents@cityofbowie.org.

9/7 – Salute to America Concert 7 - 8 p.m. at Allen Pond Park. The Benfield Brass Band will perform patriotic music. The concert will be held at the Robert V. Setera Amphitheater. Be sure to bring a blanket or chair for seating. Concerts are canceled in case of inclement weather.

9/8 – Collector's Corner – Cleaning Your Antique Silver 2 p.m. at Belair Mansion. Have 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. For reservations and more information, please contact 301-809-3089 or museumevents@cityofbowie.org.

9/9 – Second Tuesday Lecture Series 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. For more information, please contact 301-809-3089 or museumevents@cityofbowie.org.

9/11 – Meat Cutting Competition at Bowie Ice Arena to benefit Special Olympics. Competition takes place between 10:30 a.m. and noon. Following that, enjoy a steak lunch for a minimum donation of \$10 per person between noon and 1 p.m. (first come, first served to the first 150 attendees). All proceeds will go to Special Olympics. This event is cosponsored by Texas Roadhouse, the Bowie Police Department and the Bowie Ice Arena. See flyer at <http://www.cityofbowie.org/DocumentCenter/View/2375>.

9/11 – Why Do My Ears Ring? 10:30 a.m. at the Senior Center. Learn common causes of ringing ears and ways to help alleviate it. This program is presented by Dr. Gwyneth Newcomb of Bowie Hearing Center. For more information, please contact the Center at 301-809-2300.

9/14 – Weed Warrior Work Day at Whitemarsh Park 2 - 5 p.m. Help clear trees being strangled by invasive English ivy vines in Whitemarsh Park. 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.

9/15 – City Council Regular Meeting 8 p.m. at City Hall.

9/16 – National Senior Center Month Open House 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. at the Senior Center. Tour our well-appointed and multifaceted facility. Meet our instructors. Learn about our services. Enjoy music, entertainment, and refreshments. For more information, please contact the Center at 301-809-2300.

9/16 – Kids Kaboose 10:30 a.m. at Bowie Railroad Museum. Railroad fun and games for youngsters ages 4 - 11. Free. For more information, please contact 301-809-3089 or museumevents@cityofbowie.org.

9/17 – Armchair Tour: The Ins and Outs of Cruising 12:30 p.m. at the Senior Center. Cruising has become the most popular and probably the least expensive vacation. It is the ultimate in self-indulgence. Join Bill Cramer for this delightful sea fest. For more information, please contact the Center at 301-809-2300.

9/20 – Bowie Health Fair 11 a.m. - 3 p.m. The Bowie Health Fair offers a variety of screenings, activities, and informational sessions for residents of all ages. The Health Fair will take place at multiple locations along Health Center Drive, including the Firehouse, Senior Center, Gym and several medical buildings where you can park and ride the free shuttle bus between locations. There will be free flu shots for the first 200 adults as well as medical screenings such as high blood pressure and cholesterol. There will be many different medical professionals and health and wellness vendors. There will also be children's activities, including a moon bounce and face painting. For more information, visit www.bowiehealthfair.com.

9/21 – “Farm Day” at Bowie Farmers’ Market 8 a.m. - 12 p.m. in the parking lot of the Bowie Center for the Performing Arts at Bowie High School. Farm animal petting zoo, 9:30 - 11 a.m. For more information, please contact Matt Corley at 301-809-3078 or mcorley@cityofbowie.org.

9/24 – Armchair Tour: Paris 1 p.m. at the Senior Center. Visit the sites of Paris. Hosted by Frank Evans. For more information, please contact the Center at 301-809-2300.

9/26 – Flu and Pneumonia Vaccines 9 a.m. - 12 p.m. at the Senior Center. 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. For more information, please contact the Center at 301-809-2300.

9/26 - 10/25 – “Children of Eden A Musical” at Bowie Playhouse 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." This show is 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.

9/27 – Prescription Drug Take Back 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. at Bowie Police Department. Safely dispose of over-the-counter and prescription drugs at this event. This event is sponsored by the Bowie Police Department and the US Drug Enforcement Administration. For more information, please contact the Bowie Police Department at 301-575-2480.

Mark Your Calendar

10/4 – Bowie International Festival 11 a.m. – 5 p.m. at Allen Pond Park