



# Ingrid M. Turner, Esq.

## Prince George's County Council - District 4



Dear Friends:

As the 2011 Legislative Year for the County Council comes to an end, as well as my term as Chair of the Prince George's County Council, I am honored to end this year knowing that Prince George's County is on the path of continued success as we, the County Council Works for YOU.

I am proud of the work of this Council. We met every challenge with a clear focus on serving the residents of this great County and together we achieved many accomplishments on behalf of YOU - the citizens we are privileged to serve. This Council was consistently diligent in our pursuit of positive change and committed to enhancing the quality of life for our residents - creating tools for economic stability and growth; attracting businesses; supporting the work of non-profits; making our communities safe; working for healthier residents; engaging citizens as partners in Council processes; enhancing the Council's oversight role; and improving transparency in Government.

During this Legislative Year, we worked to make the tough decisions that were presented to us including the difficult budget challenges that the County, as well as the entire state and governments across the nation had to battle with. Economic belt tightening continues to be a major focus of the County Council to ensure that YOU the residents of District 4 and Prince George's County residents as a whole continue to enjoy living in this illustrious county. Working with my colleagues as well as County Executive Rushern L. Baker III, to find solutions to our economic situation has been challenging, however we also have generated a number of initiatives/programs that will make this county greater.

Most notably, I am proud of this year's Council work with County Executive Baker with regard to healthcare. We represent two separate branches of County Government but effective service to citizens requires working well together. Doing so, we achieved the signing of a historic and long-awaited MOU with the University of Maryland Medical System, the Governor and state of Maryland, and Dimensions Healthcare for a new hospital in our County!

In another major Legislative Year 2011 triumph, the County Executive and the County Council collaborated on the establishment of the \$50-million Economic Development Incentive (EDI) Fund. We believe the EDI Fund will greatly benefit the County in terms of economic development, job creation and growth for our County. As the County's Fiscal Authority, this Council worked to ensure that an important system of checks and balances are set in place for proper management of these critical tax dollars and an optimal return on investment for the County occurs.

As involved citizens, I heard your desire for more openness and transparency in governance and this Council acted. This legislative year we launched live streaming of Council sessions, a positive development that provides citizens with even greater access to Council proceedings on their desktops, laptops, and smart phones.

We held five well-attended Town Hall Meetings all across the County, engaging our residents in constructive dialogue about issues important to them—the County Budget, Education and Workforce Development, Healthcare, Improving the County's Permitting Processes, and Economic Development.

As always, I will continue to value your input as a public servant of District 4. In my leadership I will continue to work with my Council colleagues, the County Executive, Municipal, State and Federal officials, the Board of Education and all stakeholders to focus on those priorities that are important to you and me - education, public safety and job creation. I am happy to report that I am the President-Elect for the Maryland Association of Counties (MACo) and will be sworn in on January 5, 2012 by our Governor. I am humbled and excited to be elected to this state-wide position and look forward to continuing to work for YOU to make things greater for Prince George's County and throughout the state.

Working for YOU continues to be an honor and a privilege. I wish you and your family a happy and safe holiday season. Peace and many blessings to you.

Working for YOU!

Ingrid M. Turner

## Christmas Toy Give-A-Way

Council Member Ingrid M. Turner, partnered with Men Aiming Higher Inc. to give away toys to 100 children in need on Thursday, December 8, 2011, 2:00 p.m. at Benjamin Tasker Middle School in the City of Bowie.

The partnership is part of Council Member Turner's initiative to boost community impact for non-profit organizations in Prince George's County. Men Aiming Higher Inc. holds a toy drive each year to provide underprivileged children in the County with toys during the holiday season.

Council Member Turner was excited about the partnership with Men Aiming Higher and the opportunity to provide toys to children in need. As Council Member Turner stated, "this partnership with Men Aiming Higher provides a wonderful opportunity for greater community outreach and to bring organizations together to make a bigger impact. During these tough economic times, we have to work together to maximize our

resources. I am delighted about the toy give away and I look forward with great anticipation to seeing smiling children's faces."

Frederick Thornton, of Men Aiming Higher noted that the organization is pleased to partner with Council Member Turner. "Men Aiming Higher is very pleased to partner with Council Member Turner to provide toys to underprivileged youths in Prince George's County. We hope that in doing so, it will remind kids that regardless of their situation there are still people who care about them and their future. We also hope that it provides them with an example of local politicians and residents in their communities taking an interest in their lives by giving back and encourages them to do the same when they become adults."

Men Aiming Higher, Inc. was created in 2009 with the mission to successfully mobilize at-risk young men between the crucial ages of 16 to 19 through



*Council Member Ingrid M. Turner along with Men Aiming Higher, Inc. President, Mr. Darryl Barnes addressing the students of Benjamin Tasker Middle School during the Christmas Toy give-A-Way*



educational tutoring, leadership training, mentoring programs and community service projects. For more information on Men Aiming Higher Inc., you may call 301-358-0589.

## Bowie State MARC Station Development Board

The Bowie State MARC Station Development Board, established by the Prince George's County Council under Council Resolution 5-2011, convened on Monday, December 5, 2011, in the County Administration Building to further discuss plans for the area.

The Bowie State MARC Station Development Board is charged with implementing recommendations for development, redevelopment, and financing of County-owned property within the Bowie State MARC Station Sector Plan Area.

## City of Bowie Snow Removal

With winter upon us, please remember to remove your vehicles from the street if snow or ice is in the forecast. This will allow plows and/or salt and sand vehicles to more thoroughly treat your street. A Snow Emergency is declared whenever snow reaches a depth of two inches. All vehicles must be removed from City of Bowie streets. The City of Bowie begins plowing when the snow depth reaches two inches. All main drives, hills and collector streets are treated and/or plowed first. Plowing continues until all streets have been cleared. In the event of a snowfall less than two inches, all main drives, hills and collector streets are treated with salt and/or sand. Streets and cul-de-sacs that are flat or have only slight inclines with limited intersections are only treated in extreme icing conditions. During a snow or ice event only, it is acceptable to park your vehicle on your grass. Each resident and commercial property owner is responsible for removing snow and/or ice from the sidewalk in front of their property. To report hazardous conditions within the City of Bowie, call 301-809- 2344. A detailed explanation of the snow policy can be found on the City's website - [www.cityofbowie.org](http://www.cityofbowie.org).

## City of Bowie Youth & Family Services

The mission of Bowie Youth & Family Services (BYFS) is to provide community-based mental health services for the families of the Bowie community, to improve understanding and communication between parents and youth, to prevent youth from entering the formal juvenile justice system, and to increase the safety of our community through drug and alcohol prevention activities. BYFS is dedicated to providing excellent professional services and innovative programming in order to help and support those citizens who are experiencing emotional difficulties and family stress. BYFS believes that “every child deserves a seamless web of support—made up of parents, friends, neighbors, community, government, and the private sector through which no child will slip. It is everyone’s responsibility to help weave that web.” Family counseling services are provided to residents within the corporate limits of the City of Bowie for \$20 per session, and to those in the greater Prince George’s County area for \$30 per session. Families with children up to age 18 are encouraged to call to make an appointment. Groups are offered for those who want guidance with parenting skills, social skills for young children, helping your children in coping with divorce, and a group for high school girls. Each group runs between four and eight weeks and varies from \$60 to \$120 per group. Call 301-809-3033 for more information.



*Council Member Ingrid M. Turner is pictured here along side of County Executive Rushern L. Baker III and other Prince George's County Elected Officials, County Staff and guest, during the signing of the Economic Development Incentive Fund on November 17, 2011, at Hunter Memorial AME Church.*



*The Economic Development Incentive (EDI) Fund document signing is a great step toward economic progress for Prince George's County. The \$50-million fund will lead to future fiscal success and repair that is much needed during these tough economic times.*

## City of Bowie Teen Job Bank Needs Workers

Teens are needed for snow shoveling this winter. If you know a teen interested in signing up for occasional work, including housework, babysitting, leaf raking, yard work and snow shoveling, please call for an application at 301-809-3033. It's a great way for a teen to earn a few extra dollars. For Bowie citizens, who want to hire a teen, call 301-809-3033 for more information.

## Bowie Youth Chorus

Signups for the Bowie Youth Chorus began in November and continue throughout December. The Youth Chorus will hold rehearsals on Thursdays at Kenhill Center, 2614 Kenhill Drive, beginning on February 2, 2012. All youth, grades 5 through 8, who live in Bowie or attend Bowie schools, are invited to join this musical group directed by Eleanor Minor and Assistant Director Mary Ann Jenkins. The Chorus is expanding to include a high school group, Summit Singers. High school youth, grades 9-12, are invited to try out for this audition-only performing musical group. Both groups will rehearse on Thursdays at Kenhill Center. The Bowie Youth Chorus will meet from 5:30 to 7 p.m. and the Summit Singers from 7:30 to 9 p.m. Registration is \$50 for Bowie residents and \$55 for non-Bowie residents. There will also be a costume fee for all students. Bowie Youth Chorus members can register in person at the Community Services Department at City Hall, 15901 Excalibur Road, or at the first three rehearsals, February 2, 9, and 16. There is no audition for the Youth Chorus. High school students wishing to audition for Summit Singers will need to arrive at 7:30 p.m. on Thursday, February 2, 2012, to sign up to audition that night. The audition will include singing a prepared song, testing in vocal exercises, and sight reading. Questions? Contact Arts Specialist Annette Esterheld at [aesterheld@cityofbowie.org](mailto:aesterheld@cityofbowie.org) or 301-575-5601.



*Council Member Ingrid M. Turner is pictured here with Ms. Maya Nabors, a student at Bowie State University, during the United States Military Academy at West Point 2011 National Conference on Ethics in America (NCEA) Conference, October 17, 2011-October 19, 2011, in West Point, New York. Council Member Turner was selected to serve as a Senior Leader at the conference.*



*On December 6, 2011, newly elected Council Chair Andrea C. Harrison of Councilmanic District 5, presented Council Member Ingrid M. Turner with a plaque to commemorate the successful 2011 Council year under the leadership of Council Member Turner.*

## City of Bowie Art Gallery News

Visitors are invited to view the first art exhibit at the new Bowie City Hall. To celebrate the last 50 years of Bowie's history, this first exhibit, located in the East and West Art Galleries on the second floor, is entitled "Belair-at-Bowie," and includes artwork by area artists that feature landscapes and activities that reflect Bowie. This juried art show will run from October 8 through December 2011. Starting in January, the Arts Committee is planning another juried show that will feature works by many local artists. Later, exhibits in the second floor galleries will also be juried by the Arts Committee. Plans are to hang the work for two months. Artists interested in having their work shown in the galleries need to read the Requirements for Exhibition that include filling out an application and submitting a portfolio representative of their work. Requirements for artists are on the City's website, [www.cityofbowie.org](http://www.cityofbowie.org). A future gallery that will feature the work of young artists is planned for a first floor gallery. For additional information, contact Arts Specialist Annette Esterheld at [aesterheld@cityofbowie.org](mailto:aesterheld@cityofbowie.org) or 301-575-5601.

## Thanks for the Donations!

The Community Outreach Committee (COC) appreciates the generosity of community members in support of their efforts to collect food and other items for the Bowie Interfaith Pantry and Emergency Aid Fund. Your donations at the International Festival and at all other times really make a difference! Tax deductible contributions and grocery store gift cards are also a great way to donate! Checks may be written to the Bowie Food Pantry and sent to 3120 Belair Drive, Bowie, MD 20715. The Pantry is located behind the Christian Community Presbyterian Church and is open Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 9 to 11 a.m. There are also collection containers at the Kenhill Center (old City Hall), the Bowie Gym and in the lobby of the Senior Center, where you may drop nonperishable food, paper goods and personal items. For more information, visit the website at [www.bowiefoodpantry.org](http://www.bowiefoodpantry.org) or contact the Pantry at 301-262-6765 or [BowieFoodPantry@gmail.com](mailto:BowieFoodPantry@gmail.com).

## Greenbelt Middle School Construction Update

The construction of the new Greenbelt Middle School is currently at 55% complete. Gymnasium, Stage, and Locker Room Areas: Exterior door and window frame installation is 39% complete; Exterior Masonry and Interior Brick and CMU wall installation is 70% complete; Plumbing rough-in installation is 45% complete; Electrical conduit and sleeve rough-in installation is 30% complete. Roof installation is 75% complete. HVAC Duct Work installation is 30% complete. Loading Dock, Kitchen, Cafeteria and Tech Ed Areas: Concrete pour for slab on grade is 98% complete; Electrical conduit and sleeve installation below grade is 98% complete; Exterior and Interior door and window frame installation is 30% complete; Masonry exterior and interior brick and CMU wall installation is 40% complete. Plumbing Rough-in installation is 10% complete. Built up roofing installation is 25% complete. Additionally, exterior masonry waterproofing application is 80% complete. Built up roof installation is 100% complete. Finally, HVAC duct work installation is 20% complete.

If you would like to be included in our mailings, please forward your name and address to [LCFerguson@co.pg.md.us](mailto:LCFerguson@co.pg.md.us). Please also pass this information on to other concerned citizens. Remember, as a team working together, much can be accomplished.

Together  
Everyone  
Accomplishes  
More