

SUNDAY, APRIL 30, 2006  
1:30PM (1330 HOURS)

THIS WILL BE THE 20<sup>TH</sup> YEAR THAT THE AMERICAN LEGION, CLIFFORD DUNN POST # 117, INC. WILL BE HOLDING THERE POW/MIA DAY OF REMEMBRANCE AND WALK. THE WALK SHALL START FROM IN FRONT OF BOGOTA BOROUGH HALL AND END UP IN OLSEN PARK . THE PUBLIC IS INVITED TO COME AND JOIN US ON THIS VERY MOVING WALK OF REMEMBRANCE OR MEET US AT OLSEN PARK WHERE A SERVICE WILL BE HELD FOR ALL OUR BROTHERS THAT HAVE NOT YET BEEN RETURNED FROM ALL WARS. NAMES OF NEW JERSEY POW/MIA'S WILL BE READ AND TAPS WILL BE PLAYED FOR ALL OUR BROTHERS AND SISTERS THAT HAVE MADE THE SUPREME SACRIFICE FROM ALL WARS. WE WILL THEN MOVE INDOORS FOR THE COMPLETION OF OUR PROGRAM.

**Bogotaonline.org.**

**Pay Your Taxes on line using your credit card or debit card, and save on gas too. You can also visit our website for News and Events Find the Bogota Quarterly and Contacts for All Borough Services Visit us at Bogotaonline.org**

### Did You Know?

Items in a freight shed would be the many items needed for domestic use that would not be made locally. Lumber, furniture, plumbing fixtures, tools, and machines would be some examples. The sheds were the final delivery point for the factories of the day. Even things like shoes, candy, soap, and many food items would be delivered.

### Bogota Forms Municipal Alliance

The Bogota Municipal Alliance Council to Prevent Alcoholism and Drug Abuse (BMAC) came to life on January 16<sup>th</sup>, 2006 when its organizational meeting was held. BMAC, as it has been nicknamed, came to life as a result of the effort to conform to state legislation created in 1989 when the Governor's Council on Alcoholism and Drug Abuse was passed. BMAC is a result of borough ordinance passed in December, which was introduced by Mayor Lonagan and Moved by council members Schnipp and Shalhoub. Subsequently Mayor Lonagan appointed Jim Moore, Carol Nicolay-Ramirez, Anita Viaud, Nikki Speigel, Karol Misa, Nivia Rojas-Lopes, Detective Rob Peterski Councilman George Shalhoub and himself to the commission.



Steven Lonagan  
Mayor  
Council  
George Shalhoub  
Patricia Kearns  
George Silos  
Joseph Noto  
Pat McHale  
Melissa Schnipp

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Contents: Newsletter and Recycling Calendar



# The Bogota Quarterly

Recycling Calendar Inside

April, May, June, 2006

## County mandates property reval, Mayor says "NO"

Bergen County has ordered the Borough of Bogota to undergo yet another property reval less than five years after the Borough completed its last mandated survey.

The Borough is still paying off the previous revaluation and as Mayor I plan to vigorously appeal the order sent by the County Board of Taxation. The Council has joined me in authorizing the Borough to appeal this order with an affirmative vote of all members present.

"I'm absolutely not going to pay one penny. To do revaluations every three or four years is ridiculous."

While revaluations are typically ordered when a town's residential and commercial property falls below 85% of value, historically, revaluations are usually at least

ten years apart and some communities in New Jersey have not completed revaluations in over thirty years.

Bogota still has a debt of \$50,000 remaining of the \$125,000 cost from the last County ordered revaluation conducted in 2001. Those assessments went into effect in 2002. Now, less than four years later the County has mandated another reval.

Property values in Bogota have increased dramatically and this is in great part due to the borough's low taxes. This is no reason to penalize the residents of Bogota with yet another reval so soon after the last.

*Excerpted from story appearing in the Bergen Record, written by Brian Aberback*

### From The Mayor

Dear Neighbor

With the arrival of spring our DPW will be working hard to prepare our parks and playgrounds for your enjoyment. Please visit our new one mile long jogging track at Olsen Park Leonia Ave Park is undergoing a complete renovation and will reopen this May.

As I have done in the past I am urging Bogota residents to join our volunteer emergency services. Our ambulance corp is seeking new members and this is a great opportunity to serve your community and learn the valuable techniques of life saving practices in which ambulance corp members are trained. If you are interested in serving your

community please contact me at 201-342-1736.

Once again Bogota will hold it's annual Memorial Day Parade. The parade kicks off at 1:00P.M., Monday May 29th. In honor of all those heroes who have given their lives for our freedom and those young men currently serving in Iraq, I hope you will join me at this annual Memorial Day celebration.

Very truly yours,  
Mayor Steven Lonagan

### Disposal of Flags

The VFW would like to remind all residents that they may properly dispose of old, worn and unused flags by placing them in the Flag Painted mailbox in front of the library. The library is located at 375 Larch Ave, immediately adjacent to Borough Hall. Flags placed in the "Flag Box" in front of the library will be collected and properly retired by members of the VFW.

## Bogota's Web Page

bogotaonline.org is up and running. Pay your taxes online, download building permits, or contact borough officials without leaving home. The Borough's interactive website is now available.

## The Bogota Quarterly

Is produced throughout the year for the benefit of the residents of Bogota, New Jersey. Special thanks to contributors Captain Mike Brophy, Henry Komorowski, Jonna Davis, Don Viviani, Jim Moore, Steve Lonagan, Lorraine Lonagan, Jeanne Cook, Daniele Fede, Fran Garlicki

## RECREATION PROGRAMS AND EVENTS

**FOOTBALL AND CHEERLEADING:** The registration for cheering and football will be sometime in early May. Fliers will be sent out to all the schools. You must sign up EARLY as registrations will close, and you may miss out.

**OVER-30 BASKETBALL:** Games will continue till sometime in June. You can still join; just go to Steen School gym on Tuesday Nights and register.

**JUNIOR BASKETBALL:** The Bogota Junior Basketball League has ended and once again I would like to thank Steve Brown and all of the people who helped make it a success.

**FLOOR HOCKEY:** The Floor Hockey season has a few more weeks left, and I think that Donald Zwernemann did a great job for a short notice season. I promise next year it will be a lot better.

**DANCE:** The dance classes are going strong with a large turnout. There will be a Recital at the end of May at the High School, all are welcome.

**SUMMER CAMP:** The fliers will be going out to the schools sometime in late April. Registrations will begin no later than May 15th.

**EASTER EGG HUNT:** The egg hunt is scheduled for April 8th, 2006 beginning at 8:30am. Exact times and grades will be going out to all the schools, the last week of March.

Any questions regarding any recreation programs or events please contact Jim Moore at (201) 487-4368.

## POLICE DEPARTMENT NEWS

Continued from page 11

### Lock It!!

Protect your bicycle from theft. A bicycle can be stolen from just about any place at any time. But simple precautions can deter would-be bike thieves. One thing that most stolen bikes have in common is that they were not locked-up. Always lock your bicycle securely, whether you're gone for a few minutes or a few hours. Use a U-lock, securing both wheels and the frame to a stationary object such as a post, fence, tree, or bike rack. For extra security, add a chain or cable with a good padlock. Record the serial number of your bicycle and keep it with the sales receipt and a photograph of the bike. Mark your bicycle with an engraver to deter thieves and to help the police in identifying and returning a stolen bike to the rightful owner. Use a unique number or code.

**Bogota Police Department Website**  
[http://www.bogotapolice.org/Division of Highway Traffic Safety](http://www.bogotapolice.org/Division%20of%20Highway%20Traffic%20Safety)

**Division of Highway Traffic Safety**  
<http://www.njsaferoads.com/bike.html> or Call 800.422.3750

- OBEY** all signs and signals.
- WALK** your bike across the street.
- CROSS** the street at the corner
- NEVER** ride after dark or in bad weather.
- STOP** and **LOOK** left, right and left again before entering traffic (roadways, driveways, sidewalks, alleys or parking lots).
- STAY** on the right-hand side of the road, and ride in the same direction as traffic.
- ALWAYS** ride single file.
- ALWAYS** use your hand signals:

**TURN LEFT:** Left arm straight out.

**TURN RIGHT:** Left arm out and hand up, like you're saying "Hi".

**STOP:** Left arm out, hand down at your side.

**NEVER** "double" your friends or hang on to moving vehicles.

**WEAR** bright clothing and reflective gear to help motor vehicle drivers see you.

**IMPORTANT NOTE:** Only a well-fitted bicycle helmet can properly protect your child's head.

**MAKE SURE** your child's bike is the right size and in safe condition.

**Is Your Bike in Safe Condition?**

- Tires are inflated properly.
- Seat secure and adjusted properly.
- Brakes are working properly.
- Bell or horn.
- Chain is oiled and tight.
- Front reflector.
- Pedal reflector.
- Rear reflector

**Is Your Bicycle the Right Size?**

- Does it fit?
- You can touch the ground while seated.
- The handle bars are within reach and easy to turn.
- Wear a helmet that fits properly and is safety approved.

**Parents** - insist on the rule - no helmet, no bike.

- Take lessons on how to skate, stop and fall safely.
- Choose skates that give your ankles strong support.  
And select skates and skateboards that best suit your skill level.
- Always wear safety gear including:  
a properly fitted, safety approved helmet, knee and elbow pads and wrist guards.

**Always follow the basic rules of the road:**

**CROSS** the road at the corner of the street or at a marked crosswalk.

**OBEY** pedestrian lights. Cross street only when you see the walk sign and ONLY when all cars have stopped.

**NEVER** skate out between parked cars or buses and always watch for cars backing up.

Skate in areas where skating is allowed.  
Make sure the surfaces are smooth and free from water, rocks and fallen branches.

Be alert at all times. When passing people, blow a whistle or call out "passing on your left."

Remember, do not skate at night or in bad weather.

## POLICE DEPARTMENT NEWS

With warmer weather on the horizon more and more people will be taking to the streets with their bicycles, skateboards and rollerblades. The Bogota Police Department Bicycle Patrol Unit will also be "hitting the road" and would like to remind everyone of some important safety guidelines. As always please feel free to stop by and meet with one of our Bicycle Patrol Officers for more information or assistance.

**\*\*\*Effective March 1, 2006 New Jersey's Bicycle Helmet Law will change. Young people under the age of 17 will be required to wear an approved helmet when cycling, roller skating, in-line skating, or skateboarding.**

### Bicycle Safety Tips

A bicycle is more than a means of basic transportation. Riding can be fun, exciting, and a great way to exercise. Remember though, when you ride, you're not alone! You share the road with cars, trucks, pedestrians, and other cyclists. Accidents are the quickest way to turn a bicycle adventure into a bicycling tragedy. Here are some tips to help make your ride a safe and enjoyable one.

### Protect Your Head - Wear a helmet

Wear a helmet! Studies have shown that using a bicycle helmet can reduce the chance of head injuries by up to 85%. Select a helmet that has a snug, but comfortable fit. Look for helmet labels that show they are recommended by either the American National Standards

Institute (ANSI) or the Snell Memorial Foundation.

### See and Be Seen - Wear proper clothing

Wear proper clothing for riding. Clothing should be light in color so that you are easily visible to others around you, and close fitting to avoid being caught in the bicycle's moving parts. Also, be sure that books and other loose items are secured to the bike, or are carried in a back pack.

### The Safe Way Is The Right Way

Go with the flow of traffic; ride on the right side of the road. You must obey the rules of the road when you ride. This includes traffic signs, signals, and road markings. The safe way to ride is in single file. Don't weave from lane to lane or tailgate to hitch rides on moving vehicles. Learn and use proper hand signals.

### Look ALL Ways

Be aware of traffic around you; 7 out of 10 car-bicycle crashes occur at driveways or other intersections. Check for traffic—always look left-right-left. Walk your bicycle across busy streets at corners; use crosswalks when possible.

### Stay Alert

Keep a look-out for obstacles in your path. Watch out for potholes, sewer gratings, cracks, railroad tracks, loose gravel, and broken glass. Before going around an object, look ahead and behind you for a gap in traffic. Plan your move, and signal your intentions. Be

especially careful in wet weather; water can make you slide, and make your brakes work improperly.

### Beware of the Dark Side

Be cautious when biking at night. If you have to ride at night, display front and rear reflectors on your bicycle. Wear light colored clothing and reflective markings or materials, especially on your ankles, wrists, back, and helmet. Ride in areas that are familiar, and on streets that are brightly lighted.

### Off-Road Biking

Follow designated bike routes where available. Bicycles routes are marked by special signs or lines, and are reserved for cyclists. Become familiar with such places in your area. Don't forget, courtesy rules for the road apply to bike paths too!

### Fix It Up

Make sure your bicycle is adjusted properly for you. Before using your bike, check to make sure that all parts are secured and working. The handlebars should be firmly in place and turn easily; the wheels should be straight and secured. You should always check all parts of your bicycle after a fall, or after transporting it. Make sure the tires are properly inflated.

### Stop It

Check your brakes before riding. When using hand brakes, apply the rear brake slightly before the front brake. Remember to ride slowly in wet weather; roadways may be slippery and your brakes will have less friction to stop the bicycle. It's important to apply brakes earlier in wet weather since it takes more distance to stop.

Continued on page 2

## Contractor Fraud Season

With spring almost upon us it becomes that time of the year when people posing as contractors come around and attempt to use your need of repair as a profit-making scheme. Never let an unsolicited contractor come into your home, make them send you information through the U.S. Mail. If they are a scam they more than likely will pass you by and never send anything. Typically contractors who will be trying to scam you will promise you the world and will not haggle with you on cost. The scammer is just trying to be agreeable so he looks friendly and unassuming.

Once the contractor has you thinking he or she is a decent person they will ask you for

a deposit and they will often tell you that if you give them a bigger deposit they will be able to put off other work to get to you quicker. Other scams are that if they get a bigger deposit they will be able to get better prices on the supplies and therefore will pass the savings on to you. The old rule of thumb still applies, if it sounds too good to be true it probably is.

The Bogota Police Department has worked cases where some of the scammers have web sites dedicated to their fraud. They will tell you to look at their site and see their work and read the testimonials. What it comes down to is that they take pictures of homes being built and go to nice areas to take pictures and they upload them onto a site. The

testimonials are just their words typed into the program of the website.

What we recommend is contacting the Better Business Bureau and the State Division of Community Affairs. They both have websites where you can check out the people in question. Use your best judgment and try to use contractors who are reputable or have worked well with people that you know. If there is any doubt just pass on their services, there are so many reputable contractors in the area you should not have a problem.

If you feel you may have been scammed or you think you are getting scammed please contact the Bogota Police Department at 201-487-2400 and ask to speak to the Detective Bureau.

### WARNING SIGNS

- The repairperson drives an unmarked truck or van with an out-of-state license.
- The worker has no business identification, local address or telephone number.
- You are offered a "special price" if you sign today.
- The worker wants upfront cost or fees, or accepts only cash.
- No written estimates or contracts are provided.
- The worker does not have any references.
- The offer sounds "too good to be true"
- The vehicles have out of state license plates
- The worker cannot provide any contractor's license, permits, insurance, or bonding information.

For an online list of other scams and descriptions of scams go to <http://www.nabihq.org/en-us/>

### PLEASE CURB YOUR DOG

Respect your neighbor's property and public property meant to be enjoyed by all. Clean up after your dog. Bogota has an ordinance requiring anyone walking a dog on a public street or property to carry a pooper-scooper or other device for cleaning up after the dog. Anyone failing to be so equipped or failing to clean up after a dog is subject to a \$50 fine.

## BOGOTA HEALTH DEPARTMENT

# Beware-Springtime Ticks May Carry Lyme Disease

With spring season upon us, it is important to alert citizens that this is the time of year during which people are at the highest risk for getting bitten by a tick and infected with Lyme disease. The relatively mild winter could also lead to a rise in the number of increasingly prevalent Lyme disease cases noted in the past few years.

Lyme disease can be a crippling illness caused by a bacteria which is transmitted to humans through tick bites. The tick picks up the disease by feeding on an infected reservoir host, most commonly a mouse.

While the most common sign of an infection in humans is a red bulls-eye around the bite, in fact only about 30% of all Lyme disease victims show obvious symptoms of the disease including a rash.

Several measures may be taken in order to minimize risks:

Keep clothing tucked into shoes and use tick repellent products when walking through thick shrubbery and tall herbaceous vegetation.

Regularly mow lawns.

If a tick is found on the body:

Use tweezers to remove it  
Grasp the tick as close to skin as possible with the tweezers.

Remove the entire tick with a steady pull. If you have broken off the mouth parts under the skin, consult a physician immediately.

Do not crush or puncture the body of the tick. If you do get any of the fluids on you, wash with rubbing alcohol and the soap and water immediately.

After it is removed, cleanse your skin with rubbing alcohol and wash with soap and water immediately.

If you want to know whether the tick is a carrier of the bacteria that causes Lyme disease, it may be kept in a small zip-lock bag with a cotton ball moistened with water, not alcohol, and mailed as soon as possible (i.e. to avoid dehydration) to a lab for testing for a fee of around \$60. Call the local health department for information.



Kevin and Barbara Blaze attend annual rabies clinic with their dogs Paco and Sonny. Greeting them are Council President George Shalhoub and Councilwoman Melissa Schnipp

## Library News

"Reading" comes in many forms in local libraries

Downloadable audiobooks, the newest initiative in BCCLS libraries launched in January 2006 has produced some impressive numbers in its first month. The latest statistics for the 73 member libraries of BCCLS, the Bergen County Cooperative Library System, reveal that library users are interested in getting their literature in many formats.

Within the first month of its debut, more than 1,200 library cardholders have opened accounts to download more than 2,200 audiobooks to their computers or MP3 players.

"I am thrilled with these numbers", said Robert White, Executive Director of BCCLS. "Our goal is to have 10,000 accounts set up by December 2007 and with these first figures, we are off to a great start. These numbers tell us that in addition to satisfying their traditional reading needs, people are looking to libraries to offer the newest formats."

"Our libraries added over 340,000 books to their collections in 2005. In addition, they added over 69,000 pieces of media including music cds, DVDs, and audiobooks", White continued. "Patrons borrowed more than 9,000,000 items in 2005. We are excited to be able to offer downloadable audiobooks in addition to the vast array of materials available at our public libraries."

Downloadable audiobooks is another way that people can make great literature a part of their busy lives. For those who can't find the time to sit down and read, audiobooks on cassette and cd have

Continued on page 4 **3**

## BOGOTA POLICE DEPARTMENT FRATERNAL ORDER OF POLICE LODGE 161



## Special Olympics

New Jersey

## TRICKY TRAY

to support the  
NEW JERSEY SPECIAL OLYMPICS  
to be held at

## THE COTTILLION

454 Midland Avenue  
Garfield, NJ  
on

WEDNESDAY, MAY 3, 2006

DOORS OPEN 6:00 P.M.  
(ONLY 500 Seats Available)

DONATION: \$30.00  
Sit Down Family Style Dinner

Soda Dessert Coffee Tea and  
a Sheet of Raffle Tickets Included

Posters printed & donated by Blue Line Consultants **BLC**  
[www.bluelineconsultants.com](http://www.bluelineconsultants.com)

For tickets  
call Jim  
at  
201-647-7301