



Califon Crier

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1994 Founded by Cathy McVicker & Jim Ball (1995)

Editor, Nancy Dean
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Califon Island Park: Sometimes Jewels Need Polishing

By Councilman Michael Medea

As residents of Califon, we are fortunate to have access to such a fine park as Califon Island Park. Over the years it has hosted many a picnic, sporting event, birthday party, and town-wide celebration. But in order for the park to keep “giving,” it must be tended and maintained.

In Califon, wherever there are areas of need, we repeatedly see how volunteerism helps fill in the gaps and keep us moving forward. This holds true in our park as well. The Parks Committee, a small group of volunteers, can't do it all and we rely on others to help, such as Friends of Califon Island Park (FOCIP), the Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts, residents, and area merchants. I have been a member of the Parks Committee for a number of years and I continue my involvement as a council liaison. Our budget is small and our wish list is long, but our hearts are determined.

It has been well publicized that our playground is in need of replacement. FOCIP has been fundraising toward this goal and has a number of events in the works. For instance the Bridge-to-Bridge run is back. Come out for a run on October 3 to help the playground cause, then stick around to enjoy the Harvest Fest celebration. Check the Califon Borough website for details or to sign up: <http://www.califonboro.net/>.

Our area Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts have offered hours of their time in support of the park. The snack shack was refurbished, the guardrail was sealed, clean-ups have been performed, and so on. Currently, Connor Daniel is working on his Eagle Scout project, which involves developing a memorial garden dedicated to our nation's veterans. He plans on incorporating engraved pavers that will help raise the necessary funds (see related article). If you would like to contribute, Connor can be contacted at rhcp18@embarqmail.com.

It's difficult to walk through the park and avoid noticing that trash clean-up can sometimes be a challenge, especially during the busy sports seasons. Using the trash receptacles and picking up that stray water bottle on the ground will ensure our park looks the best that it can. Recently a group of skateboarders took it upon themselves to organize a clean-up day. They deserve thanks from all of us. It proves that, with a little teamwork, we can keep our park beautiful. Let's keep it up!

Townwide Tag Sale Is September 18

Register Your Site and Support Califon First Aid

The town wide tag sale—a major fundraiser for Califon First Aid Squad (CFAS)—will be held Saturday, September 18 (rain date, Sunday, September 19). Dozens of Califon households take part in this annual event, selling bargains large and small. Sellers who register their site (\$25 registration fee due by September 12) directly support CFAS and will receive a 2'x3' tag sale lawn sign and inclusion on the tag sale map. Sellers may also set up shop at the Flea Market location on Academy Street. To register or for more information, call Kim Vliet at 832-9343. Registration forms are also available at the Municipal Building.

Household/Metal Goods Collection Follows Tag Sale

Curbside collection of household and metal/white goods will take place on Wednesday, September 22. Have all items at the curb by 6:00 AM. Please note:

- **Freon does not need to be removed** from refrigerators and air conditioners
- There will be **no pickup** of construction debris, hazardous waste, dirt/rocks/concrete, tree limbs or vegetation (watch for leaf pickup in November).

“Fall” Into Community Fun

Califon Harvest Fest Sunday, October 3

“Leave” your cares behind and head to downtown Califon on October 3 for a day of fun and fundraising. The annual Califon Harvest Fest, sponsored by Califon Area Merchants and Professionals Association (CAMPA) will take place from 12:00 PM to 4:00 PM at Califon Island Park. This year's Harvest Fest features games for kids, pumpkin painting, music, refreshments, and displays and items for sale by local merchants and vendors. The Bridge-to-Bridge 5K run will be held that day at 1:00 PM, along with a fun run for kids (*see related article on next page*) at 2:00 PM.

Have Costume, Will Party!

Saturday, October 16, at Fire Company

The Califon Fire Company Ladies' Auxiliary will host a Halloween Party and Costume Contest on Saturday, October 16, at the Califon firehouse. Tickets are \$30 per person, which includes buffet dinner, DJ, contest, and prizes. A cash bar will be available. For more information or to order tickets, contact Holly at (908) 303-6435 or Nancy at (908) 638-4642.



Go to www.califonboro.net

Your New Hometown Home Page

Califon Borough officials are pleased to announce that the new Borough website, www.califonboro.net, is up and running. Please take a moment to view the site. While there are some changes that still need to be made, and the site will continue to evolve, Borough officials think you'll be pleased.



Along with the new website, the Borough has a new email system to better serve your needs. All email addresses for Borough staff are located on the website under the "Staff" tab; addresses for council members are under the "Government" tab. Everyone's email address is the initial of their first name, followed by their last name, with the suffix @califonboro.net. If you experience any problems using the site, please contact the Borough Clerk at (908) 832-7850.

Cool Evenings Bring Hot, Homemade Meals at Califon Methodist Church

Califon United Methodist Church, 15 River Road, will serve a Roast Pork Dinner on Friday, October 8, from 5:00 PM to 7:30 PM. The meal includes roast pork, mashed potatoes, gravy, applesauce, sauerkraut, green beans, choice of beverage, and dessert. Requested donation is \$10.00 for adults, \$5.00 for children aged 12 and under. Mark your calendar for Friday, November 12, when the church hosts its annual Ham Dinner.

Veterans' Memorial Planned For Califon Island Park

Connor Daniel of Califon Boy Scout Troop 192 is currently constructing a veterans' memorial in Califon Island Park for his Eagle Scout project. The memorial will be placed in the garden next to the gazebo. The flagpole and stone veterans' monument next to the parking lot will be relocated to a central point in the garden. Brick pavers will surround the flagpole and monument in a circular fashion. Pavers within the circle will include the engraved names of any veteran whose name is to be included in the project. Friends and family members are invited to have a veteran's name engraved within the paver circle. Contact Connor at (908) 832-5866 for more information, or to offer other support toward the Eagle project.



Local Scout To Catalogue Califon Historic Sites

Over the summer, Stephanie Beers, a Girl Scout from Washington Township, has been assisting the Hunterdon County Cultural and Heritage Commission in updating records on historic sites in Califon Borough. As part of a Girl Scout Gold Award project, Stephanie has been taking pictures and gathering information; she thanks the Borough and its residents for cooperating in this endeavor. Please direct any questions to the Califon Planning Board office at (908) 832-7850, ext. 203.

Bridge-to-Bridge 5K Run During Harvest Fest

The Bridge-to-Bridge 5K run returns to Califon on Sunday, October 3 at 1:00 PM, rain or shine. Runners and walkers of all ages are welcome. The approximately 3-mile route travels the Columbia Trail between the Califon and Hoffmann's Crossing bridges. A Kids' Fun Run for children aged 10 and younger will be held at 2:00 PM during the Harvest Fest; the awards ceremony will be at 2:30 PM.

Participants may register online at www.active.com or www.califon.org, or at Califon Island Park on the day of the race. The early registration fee of \$15 includes a t-shirt (for the first 100 registrants); after September 15 the fee is \$18. The fee for the kids' race is \$5 per child. All children 12 and under participating in the races will receive a prize. The race is sponsored by CAMPA and FOCIP and proceeds will benefit the playground fund at Califon Island Park. Please call or email Jessica Hickman-Beard at 520-0109 or at jjcb20@comcast.net for more information or to volunteer to help.



Ghosts and Goblins—

Coming to a Parade Near You

On Sunday, October 31, the annual Califon Halloween Parade, sponsored by Califon Fire Company, will start at 7:00 PM at Califon School and proceed down Main Street to the firehouse for costume contests and refreshments. Trick-or-treating will be from 3:00 PM to 7:00 PM only on October 31.

Califon Board of Health Advises:

Do Not Feed the Animals!

Currently, Califon does not have an ordinance prohibiting the feeding of wild animals and waterfowl, but it may be necessary to adopt one if the Borough continues to receive alerts from residents concerning "feral cats" living in neighborhoods and bears wandering into back yards to get to cat food.

Because of the threat of rabies and other health and safety issues, the Califon Board of Health is asking everyone: please **do not** leave food outside for your own cat(s) or dog(s) or for "neighborhood" cat(s). There have been increasing reports of bear and feral cat sightings in town and it is necessary to take steps to eliminate these animals' food sources.

CALIFON CRIER

P.O. Box 368, Califon, NJ 07830

- Articles, suggestions, comments welcome
- E-mail: kmastro@califonboro.net
- Phone or fax: 832-7850

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Submission deadline for the November/December 2010 Crier: Friday, October 15

Califon School: Lessons in Change

Califon School opened for the 2010-2011 school year on Tuesday, September 7. Two familiar faces were missed by staff and students: Linda Owens (grade 4) and Ann Gunther (physical education), both of whom have retired after years of service to several generations of Califon students. They are wished many happy years of retirement. That said, the school is pleased to welcome many new teachers: Ms. Kyle Mershon (3rd grade), Ms. Christine Orlando (4th grade), Ms. Marie Heyduke (5th grade), Ms. Allison Wiesel (middle school science), Ms. Amanda Sypniewski (6th and 8th grade math), Mr. G. Thomas Cutshaw (PE), Ms. Meredith Weil (Library/Media), and Ms. Carolyn King (library aide). This year, the school also proudly launched an inclusive pre-kindergarten program, headed by Ms. Lori Montesion.



The Califon Board of Education (BoE) is also working to “make lemonade out of lemons” in the wake of recent, severe funding cuts. The BoE will strive to communicate regularly with the Califon community regarding school and student achievements, budget issues, and the ways tax dollars are being spent. The BoE is also in the process of setting goals for the year, which will include: further improving student performance on the statewide NJ ASK tests, improving academic rigor, particularly at the middle school level, and further improving student writing performance. Board members welcome community participation and input and encourage your attendance at upcoming BoE meetings, scheduled for Monday, September 27, and October 11.

A Time to Say Goodbye

By Nancy Dean, Outgoing Editor

In May of 2004, I accepted the position of editor of the *Califon Crier*, taking the reins from Richard (Dick) Johnston, who served as editor for the previous 6 years. In his farewell editorial, Dick praised then-publisher Carol Neuwiesinger for her “magic with the computer.” My experience working with publisher Cathy Smith has been much the same. Cathy has added her style and organizational touches to make each issue of the *Crier* come to life. Working together with Cathy and the many *Crier* contributors over the years has been an exercise in teamwork, citizenship, neighborliness, volunteerism, fun—and loss of sleep.

Late nights aside, deciding to make this issue of the *Califon Crier* my last was not easy. I will miss the regular interaction with Califon folks and officials and the satisfaction of creating something that benefits this place that has been my home for 16 years. But I have to concede that the demands of life—3 young children, 2 part-time jobs, one busy household—now surpass the time I can allow for the *Crier*. I take comfort in knowing that, “To everything there is a season, and a time for every purpose under heaven.” I am grateful for my time as editor of the *Califon Crier*.

Best wishes to Karen Mastro, who is temporarily transitioning the publication of the next *Crier* edition. **Anyone interested in assisting with the publication of the *Califon Crier*, please call Karen at 832-7850, ext. 204.**

<u>SEPTEMBER 2010</u>			
1	Board of Health	MB	8 pm
5 & 19	Historical Museum Open	MUS	2-4 pm
6 & 20	Council Meeting	MB	8pm
7	Parks Committee	MB	8 pm
13 & 17	Board of Education	CPS	7:30 pm
14	Environmental Commission	MB	8 pm
14	Recycling Committee	MB	8 pm
19	Town-wide Tag Sale (rain date 9/19)	MB	8am – 3pm maps/food
21	Historical Society	MUS	8 pm
22	Planning Board Meeting	MB	8 pm
22	Household/Metal Pickup	Town wide	6 am
28	Police & Finance Meeting	MB	8 pm
<u>OCTOBER 2010</u>			
3	Firemen’s Breakfast	Fire Hall	6am – 12pm
3	CAMPA Harvest Fest	CIP	12-4 pm
3	Bridge-to-Bridge 5K Run	CIP	1 pm
3 & 17	Historical Museum Open	MUS	2-4 pm
4 & 18	Council Meeting	MB	8 pm
5	Parks Committee	MB	8 pm
6	Board of Health	MB	8 pm
8	Roast Pork Dinner	UMC	5-7:30 pm
11	Board of Education	CPS	7:30 pm
12	Environmental Commission	MB	8 pm
12	Recreation Committee	MB	8 pm
12	Recycling Committee	MB	8pm
16	Halloween Party	Fire Hall	
19	Historical Society	MUS	8 pm
26	Police & Finance Meeting	MB	8 pm
26-31	HALLOWEEN CURFEW – no minors on streets	Town wide	10pm -5am
27	Planning Board Meeting	MB	8 pm
31	Trick-or-Treating Parade	Town wide Parade	3-7 pm 7 pm

MB = Municipal Bldg, Academy St.
MUS=Museum, Academy St.
CPS = Califon School, School St.
CIP = Califon Island Park, Bank St.
UMC=United Methodist Church, 15 River Rd.

