



# Califon Crier

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1994 Founded by Cathy McVicker & Jim Ball (1995)

Editor, Katie Vreeland

## Future Plans for Califon Island Park

*By Councilman Mike Medea*

Since its inception, Califon Island Park (CIP) has provided a place to celebrate, participate in sporting events, jump in on a pick-up game of basketball, learn to ride a bike, gather with friends and neighbors, and watch our children run and play. Our dedicated Parks Committee has had numerous conversations about what the park offers and how to improve upon it. CIP has by no means reached its full potential. We need your help to ensure a successful future for our town's park. 2011 has marked some notable accomplishments at the park, but I would like to focus on a dominant feature in our park that is in desperate need of attention—our playground. Through a dedicated town-wide effort in the early nineties, our beloved playground was planned, purchased, and installed. Our children have enjoyed this playground for years and it has become a destination for parents with young children for the entire area. Unfortunately, the years have weighed heavy on the structure and it is showing obvious signs of wear and tear. Additionally, our pressure-treated wood structure no longer meets New Jersey playground safety standards and must be torn down no later than October 2014—just three years away. Regardless of the reasons, the structure needs to be removed. Failing to replace it would be incredibly unfortunate!

Faced with limited municipal resources, Friends of Califon Island Park (FOCIP) has been the primary force behind fundraising for the playground replacement. FOCIP needs your help! Considerable funds have been raised but there is much to be done. Membership in FOCIP must increase if they are to have the resources necessary to undertake this endeavor. FOCIP will be meeting at the Park Pavilion on Thursday, Sept. 15, at 7pm and I strongly encourage you to come out! You will hear ideas on what can be built to replace the current structure as well as ideas for raising the needed funds. Your input is much needed and most welcomed! If you cannot make the meeting, please contact Susan Laffler at 578-2999 or Carolyn Murin at 832-9682 or [cermurin@gmail.com](mailto:cermurin@gmail.com) for more information. Thanks so much for supporting this very important effort!

### Upcoming Town-wide Tag Sale

The 26th annual town-wide tag sale to benefit Califon First Aid Squad will be held Saturday, Sept. 17 (a rain date is set for Sept. 18). A flea market area will be provided at the Califon Train Station Museum Parking Lot on Academy Street. To reserve your space, the cost is \$25. A sign will be posted in your yard prior to the tag sale. To make a donation or reserve your space, pick up a form at the borough office. Return all forms by Sept. 10 and make all checks payable to Califon First Aid Squad, Inc., P.O. Box 253, Califon, NJ 07830. With questions or to volunteer on the day of the sale, call (908) 509-8190.

### Upcoming Annual Harvest Festival

On Sunday, Oct. 2, CAMPA will again sponsor the Annual Harvest Festival at Califon Island Park. The

Bridge-to-Bridge 5K run will kick off the event. (More info about the 5K run in the article to follow.) The run will end at Califon Island Park where the Harvest Festival will take place. Come and enjoy the bountiful events, which will include:

The Bloody Callan gang will be there to rock the crowd with a blast of Irish rebel tunes and rock 'n roll, tasty bites from local restaurants will be available for purchase, and there are tons of fun activities planned for kids of all ages. The Califon Green Team will be conducting demonstrations on Leaf and Vermiculture Composting. CAMPA members will be featuring products you can purchase locally to make your Thanksgiving a Sustainable Celebration. Craft and green product vendors are wanted! If interested, contact Judith Salisbury at (908) 832-2805 or

jsalisbury@califon.net or Karen Mastro at (908) 832-7850, ext. 204. Come run, rock, and relax in the park on what should be a beautiful fall afternoon!

### **Bridge-to-Bridge 5K Run**

The Bridge-to-Bridge 5K run returns to Califon Sunday, Oct. 2, at 11am, rain or shine. Runners and walkers of all ages are welcome! The 3.1-mile route travels River Road and the Columbia Trail between the Califon and Hoffmann's Crossing bridges. Participants may register online at [www.active.com](http://www.active.com) or [www.califon.org](http://www.califon.org), or at Califon Island Park the day of the race. Preregistered entrants will receive a race T-shirt. (T-shirts not guaranteed for registrants after Sept. 15). The early registration fee is \$15.

A Kids Fun Run for children ages 10 and younger will be held at 1pm during the Harvest Festival in Califon Island Park; the awards ceremony will be at 2:30pm. The fee for the kids race is \$5 per child. All children 12 and under participating in either race will receive a prize. The race is sponsored by CAMPA and FOCIP and proceeds will benefit the playground fund at Califon Island Park.

Contact Jessica Hickman-Beard with questions or to volunteer at [jjcb20@comcast.net](mailto:jjcb20@comcast.net) or (908) 520-0109.

### **"Bark In the Park"**

Girl Scout Olivia Baggstrom of troop 967 is organizing a "Bark in the Park" event for her Gold Award (equivalent to Eagle Scout). She is helping the S & L Rescue by raising donations and helping with dog adoption. "Bark in the Park" will be a fun day to spend with your dog, learn to take care of your dog, and even adopt or foster a dog. There will be raffles, food, and entertainment. This event will coincide with the annual Harvest Festival Oct. 2. It is free, but donations are appreciated. The rescue group needs: dog/puppy food (wet or dry), dog biscuits, dog beds, blankets, crates, collars, leashes, food/water bowls, toys, towels/washcloths, garbage bags, paper towels, laundry detergent, and bleach. Any questions, contact Olivia at (908) 328-5507 or [livbags3@aol.com](mailto:livbags3@aol.com).

### **Califon UMC News**

Califon United Methodist Church Fall Fest will be Saturday, Oct. 15, from 10am to 2pm at 15 River Rd. The event will host live music, children's activities, crafts, food, vendors, and more! All proceeds will benefit the Califon UMC Good Samaritan Fund. For additional information, or to secure a vendor spot,

call Janine at (908) 8320 84944 or e-mail [jnrasceno@comcast.net](mailto:jnrasceno@comcast.net).

Swing by Califon UMC (15 River Road) for one or all of the following scheduled fall dinners. All dinners are on Thursdays and run from 5pm to 7:30pm. Take-out is also available. Sept. 9: Spaghetti Dinner, Oct. 7: Pork Dinner, Nov. 11: Ham Dinner. For more information, call (908) 832-2318.

### **Moon Bash Promises to be a Howlin' Good Time**

The Tewksbury Education Foundation (TEF) 1st Annual Moon Bash will be held rain or shine from 3pm until 9pm Saturday, Sept. 10, at the Hickory Grove Opry Farm (14 Farmersville Road). The event will feature live music by Citizens Band Radio and Saddle Tones, activities including hayrides, a scavenger hunt, 50/50 cash raffle, and tons of delicious food. Advance tickets are \$20/adults and \$7/children 14 and under. Tickets are available online at [www.tewksburytef.org](http://www.tewksburytef.org) and at various businesses throughout the community. Tickets will be available at the door for \$25/adults and \$10/children 14 and under. For more information, e-mail [moonbash@tewksburytef.org](mailto:moonbash@tewksburytef.org) or call (908) 832-9042. All proceeds will benefit Tewksbury Schools.

### **Love Califon...Shop Califon**

As part of an initiative to encourage supporting local businesses, CAMPA is launching a "Love Califon...Shop Califon" campaign. CAMPA will be selling shopping bags and bumper stickers as part of the effort. All profits from sales will be donated to Califon groups, in particular Friends of Califon Island Park. Stay tuned to the next issue of the Crier to keep up-to-date with CAMPA's exciting new initiative, or "Like" them on Facebook—just search for CAMPA.

### **Help Keep Califon Mischief-Free**

For the past several years, "mischief night" in Califon has become infamously known as the night before Halloween. Significant damage to both public and private property has occurred. Califon Island Park, Califon School, streets, sidewalks, signs, and many private residences have been vandalized or spray-painted with crude words and images. This year, Califon residents are being asked to please have youngsters home by 9pm Oct. 30. This town curfew and local ordinances will be strictly enforced. An increased number of police will also be patrolling the borough. Report any unusual activity to the police by calling (908) 876-8315 or (908) 876-3232.

### **Metal and Appliance Recycling Service Available**

Mr. Scrap Recycling, LLC, based out of Somerset, is a fully-insured company that offers free pick-up and removal services from residential and corporate facilities of any and all metal items and appliances. For more info, including a list of items that can be picked up, visit [www.MrScrap.net](http://www.MrScrap.net), call (908) 616-0004.

### **Happy Face Nursery School**

Happy Face Nursery School still has openings for the 2011-2012 school year. Happy Face has preschool classes for children 2 1/2 to 5 years old. Unique to our area are Happy Face's 2 1/2 year old program, for the youngest preschoolers (who do not even have to be potty-trained!), and Happy Face's Fabulous 5's program, for children needing an extra year before Kindergarten or for Kindergarten enrichment. Call the school at (908) 832-7510, e-mail [info@happyfacenurseryschool.com](mailto:info@happyfacenurseryschool.com), or visit [www.happyfacenurseryschool.com](http://www.happyfacenurseryschool.com).

### **Election News**

Tuesday, Oct. 18, is the last day to register to vote in the November General Election! Tuesday, Nov. 8, is General Election day. Polls will open at 6am and close at 8pm at the Municipal Building on Academy Street. Stay tuned to the next issue of the Crier for more information and other important dates. To obtain a mail-in ballot or a change of party form, or with any questions, call (908) 832-7850, ext. 201 or ext. 204, or e-mail [leidsvaag@califonboro.net](mailto:leidsvaag@califonboro.net) or [kmastro@califonboro.net](mailto:kmastro@califonboro.net).

### **New Sign at Califon Island Park**

Many thanks go to Gerald Andersen, resident of Mill Street, and members of Hunterdon Co. Parks and Rec., who volunteered much time and effort to build the new sign erected at the entrance to Califon Island Park! Ed McCaffery, of the Hunterdon Co. Parks and Rec., and his crew designed the wooden sign and volunteered their time building and erecting it, heralding the entrance to the park—something that has been needed for some time. Gerald Andersen organized and assisted the county in this project. It is a beautiful sign and an enhancement to our community. On behalf of the Borough of Califon, we are very grateful to Gerald Andersen and Hunterdon County!

### **New Webpage Offering Bicycle Tourism Info**

HART Commuter Information Service has developed an exciting new webpage, [www.bikehunter](http://www.bikehunter)

in our county and allows you to click on routes to view photo galleries of what you will see along the ride. An interactive Google map feature allows potential bikers to view amenities along the routes including restaurants, bed and breakfasts, and other lodging. A full list of all local bike shops as well as where to rent a bike is also included. Cyclists are encouraged to leave feedback on the site detailing their Hunterdon County biking experience. Visit [www.bikehunterdon.org](http://www.bikehunterdon.org) today!

### **Activities for Seniors**

The Hunterdon County Senior Center (located on Route 31 in Flemington) has the following classes and activities available for seniors on Tuesdays from Sept. 20 through Oct. 25: Art Class: 6-9pm; Zumba Gold: 6:30-8:30pm (except 10/11); Woodcarving: 6:30-8:30pm; Computer Classes: 6:30-8:30pm; and Introduction to Medicare: 6:30-8:30pm (except 10/4 and 10/25). Some classes may require a registration fee. For more info, call (908) 788-1359.

The Senior Center is also sponsoring a cruise on the Delaware River aboard an old time paddle wheel steamboat! Bring a bagged lunch or dine locally and plan to walk through town and browse art galleries and other shops. A Link bus will transport you to and from the boat. This is a limited-capacity event! Buses will depart the Hunterdon County Senior Center at 9:30am and return at 2:30pm Monday, Sept. 26, or Tuesday, Sept. 27. The cost is \$5/person. To register, call (908) 788-1359.

### **Household/Metal Goods Collection Day**

Curbside collection of household and metal goods will take place Monday, Sept. 19. Have all items curbside by 6am. Please note: Freon does not need to be removed from refrigerators or air conditioners. Please note—there will be no pick-up of construction debris, hazardous waste, dirt/rocks/concrete, tree limbs, or vegetation. (Stay tuned to the next issue of the Crier for dates regarding leaf pick-up in November!)

### **Halloween Parade**

The Halloween Parade this year will be Monday, Oct. 31, at 7pm. The parade will begin at the school and make its way down Main Street to the firehouse where there will be prizes for best costumes as well as cider and donuts. Come be a part of this fun annual tradition!

**\*\*Urgent Police Bulletin: For nonemergency calls to Washington Township Police Dept., residents should no longer call (908) 832-7400. Effective immediately, please call (908) 876-3232. For emergencies, dial 911.**

**Califon Crier**  
The Borough of Califon  
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Califon, NJ 07830

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*www.califonboro.net*

The Califon Crier is published on a bimonthly basis. If you have news, comments, or feedback, please contact Editor Katie Vreeland at [kvreeland@califonboro.net](mailto:kvreeland@califonboro.net); phone (908) 832-7850; or fax (908) 832-6085.

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***Deadline for November/December 2011 submissions: Monday, October 17.***