

Califon Crier  
The Borough of Califon  
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# Califon Crier

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1994 Founded by Cathy McVicker & Jim Ball (1995)

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### Experiencing Déjà vu

Written by Councilman Mike Medea

As I sit here mulling over ideas for a Crier article, I am once again drawn to writing about our beloved Island Park. I am currently a liaison to the Parks Committee but my involvement with the committee and the park spans more than 10 years. Throughout those years I have been fortunate to work with many dedicated & hardworking volunteers to make significant enhancements to the park. As I set out to compose my article I opened up my article from almost exactly 2 years ago and lo and behold it echoes the identical content I was contemplating. It discusses accomplished projects, hardworking volunteers, plans for the future and unfortunately vandalism.....

### Califon Island Park – A Small Town Treasure

Originally written: 2-17-14

As I write this there is a foot or more of snow and ice on the ground. Rest assured, however, warmer days are ahead of us and with them comes increased use of one of the borough's most treasured assets, Califon Island Park. The Parks Committee, Town Council and numerous volunteers have made a concerted effort to improve park conditions and implement enhancements over the past several years. For example, last Memorial Day marked the ribbon cutting for our new playground, our ballfields are in better shape than ever thanks to a maintenance program we enlisted and the Veterans Memorial Garden is a vast improvement to the pavilion landscape. We have taken strides but the wish list does not stop there. We hope to implement several more projects this coming year and beyond.

We are extremely fortunate to have such a valuable asset within walking distance. It is a natural meeting place for Califon residents and our surrounding neighbors. The park is heavily used by young adults, parents with small children, grade school children and residents of all ages. The Parks Committee is prepared to continue beautification efforts but we need your help. Unfortunately the actions of a few can quickly deteriorate our park's image and condition. It is frustrating to witness a lack of respect for our town's park in the form of graffiti and vandalism and it is saddening when park facilities that volunteers have worked so hard to implement are damaged intentionally. The park belongs to all of us and it is our responsibility to look after it. We need to treasure and care for our local resources, not tear them down and make them less desirable.

In recent history there have been instances where picnic tables, playground equipment, bleachers and signage have been either damaged or tagged with graffiti. This blatant disrespect (and in some instances illegal activity) cannot be allowed to continue. It degrades the condition of our park and it deflates the spirit of hard working volunteers. Furthermore, it diverts much needed funds away from enhancement projects and towards repairs, clean up and replacements. The Parks Committee along with Council have discussed methods to curb vandalism. We have included our police force in on the discussion as well. One option currently on the table is the installation of security cameras. The prevailing opinion is that we would rather focus funds on improvements rather than on security cameras. Nobody is overly eager to install cameras but it is a step that we are willing to take if conditions do not improve.

We need to pull together as a community and protect one of Califon's most valuable assets. We need to insist on respect for public property and refuse to accept vandalism of any magnitude. The Parks Committee welcomes your feedback and input. Feel free to reach out to any of our members or to participate in a meeting. Furthermore, if you witness or have knowledge of the occurrences mentioned above please do not hesitate to contact our police force. Silence and non-action only encourages the behavior to continue.

Spring will be here before we know it. The park will once again be full of activity. Together we can continue to make improvements and ensure that the park will be enjoyed for generations to come.

### End of 2014 Article

As was true two years ago, we continue to improve the amenities in the park but the frustration of vandalism is still lurking. For instance, last year we added a gazebo with seating near the playground. Unfortunately the gazebo is continually vandalized and the banisters have been kicked in on more than one occasion. This is only one example but it highlights what the Parks Committee is contending with. However, the committee will continue to make Califon Island Park the best it can be. A few of the projects being discussed are a pavilion makeover, park signage and a new guardrail. The Parks Committee is looking forward to implementing these projects and it is my sincerest hope that vandalism does not deflate our enthusiasm and that this article can be archived for good.

### Perfect Time to Clean Out Your Closets!!

Want to get organized for the spring and help out the Califon PTA at the same time? Do some spring cleaning in your closets and bring your bags of unwanted clothes, shoes and soft toys to the Califon Municipal Building starting Monday April 25th to Friday May 20th. Proceeds for the donations will go to the Califon PTA and help bring great programs to the Califon School.

### 15th Annual Spaghetti & Meatball Dinner

Come out and Support Boy Scout Troop 288  
When: Sunday March 6, 2016 4:00 pm to 7:00 pm  
Where: Annandale Reformed Church, 2 West St, Annandale, NJ  
Adults: \$9.50 Seniors: \$8.50 Children: 5-12: \$6.00

### 2016 Dog Licenses Are Now Due- Avoid Late Fees!

If you haven't yet licensed your dog, there is still time. An application must be completed for all new dogs along with a copy of the rabies certificate and spay/neuter certificate if applicable. If your dog was licensed last year, you do not need to fill out another application. Just drop the check off at the Municipal Offices (we have a drop box by the back door) or mail them to Karen Mastro's attention. Licenses are \$11.00 for spayed/neutered \$14.00 for non spayed/neutered.

If your dog's rabies vaccination expired since your last licensing, I will need a copy of the new rabies certificate. Applications are available on our website; [www.califonboro.net](http://www.califonboro.net). At the very bottom, click on documents and there will be an application for dog license. Or you can stop by the Municipal Offices and pick one up. Any questions please email Karen at [kmastro@califonboro.net](mailto:kmastro@califonboro.net) or call me Mon-Thurs 908-832-7850 ext. 204.

Get it now to avoid accumulating late fees! (\$5.00 a month, per dog, starting in March)

### **Hop on over to the Easter Egg Hunt!**

The Califon Recreation Committee will host its annual Easter Egg Hunt on Saturday, March 19. Children of all ages are invited to gather at Califon Island Park at 1pm for the festivities. Please bring a basket or bag to hold your eggs. See you there!

### **Danny Boy's St. Patrick's Day Celebration**

Danny Boy's St Patrick's Day Celebration Saturday March 19th at the Califon Fire Co Banquet Hall, doors open at 6:00.

All you can eat buffet dinner /desserts. There will be a cash bar. No one under 21 admitted. Great music by the Gypsy Rose Band and St Anne's of Hampton Pipe & Drum Band. Tickets are \$35.00 per person reservations required this is a sellout Event.

Information & Ticket reservations 908-832-9240 All proceeds benefit the Dan Handy Memorial Fund Inc. A (501 c (3) nonprofit).

We are committed to reaching out to those in need during a desperate time or tragic event. Making a difference one life at a time.

We are looking for sponsors & private donations which will be acknowledged in our program.

If you are interested in what we do and would like to support us, please contact Erika Bergmann 832-6364.

Also for your convenience there is a secure PayPal donate button on the Face Book Page (Dan Handy Memorial Inc.)

### **CALIFON CRIER** [www.califonboro.net](http://www.califonboro.net)

The Califon Crier is published on a bimonthly basis. If you have news, comments, or feedback, please contact the borough with "Califon Crier" in the subject line at [kmastro@califonboro.net](mailto:kmastro@califonboro.net) or [leidsvaag@califonboro.net](mailto:leidsvaag@califonboro.net); phone (908) 832-7850; or fax (908) 832-6085.

### **Contributors:**

Cyndy Behrens, Erika Bergmann, Kenneth Burke, Laura Eidsvaag, Helen Lynn Kerner, Jay Klein, Elizabeth Lake, Susie Lavigne, Karen Mastro, Mike Medea, Linda Patterson and Dan Volkenburgh,

**Deadline for May/June submissions: Friday, April 15.**

### Califon's Kindergarten Round Up

Califon Public School will be holding its annual Kindergarten "Round Up" on Tuesday, March 15, 2016 beginning at 2:00 p.m. Any child living in Califon Borough who will be five years old on or before October 1, 2016 is eligible for Kindergarten this September. Please call the school as soon as possible to obtain the necessary registration and medical forms which are required to be completed for submission when you attend Kindergarten registration on the above date.

### Califon Historical Society Hosts Open House

**SAVE THE DATE!** The Califon Historical Society's Spring Open House is scheduled for Sunday, May 1st from 2:00 - 4:00 pm at the Train Station. Come see artifacts from Califon's past including postal memorabilia as we celebrate the current post office turning 50 this year! The open house will also feature a guided walking tour of downtown Califon. You are sure to have fun with our tour leaders who offer a special perspective on what makes Califon special. New members are always welcome! Our first meeting of the 2016 season will be on Tuesday, May 17th at 8:00 pm at the train station. Come enjoy refreshments while learning about Califon's past from some of our "old timers." Questions, call 832-2012.

### Table of Grace Dinner Church

A new church experience is coming to the Califon area beginning April 7.

Are you unable to get to church Sunday morning? Are you looking for a dynamic and interactive new type of worship experience? Califon, Cokesbury, and North Hunterdon United Methodist Churches are joining together to start Table of Grace Dinner Church. This new and unique church experience brings worship to the table around a simple meal. The dates and locations for Table of Grace Dinner Church are available on our website: [joininourtable.wordpress.com](http://joininourtable.wordpress.com) or contact us at [califonumc@gmail.com](mailto:califonumc@gmail.com) or 908-832-2318

### Upcoming Events at Califon UMC

Upcoming Worship Series and Bible studies

Join us this fall for engaging worship series and Bible studies that speak to your faith and life.

#### **Worship Series Offerings:**

- The God We Can Know: Exploring the "I Am" Sayings of Jesus (current series until March 27, 2016)
- A.D.: Jesus is Risen...Now What? (April 3-May 15, 2016)

#### **Bible Study Offerings (held Sundays from 9-9:45 a.m. in fellowship hall):**

- The God We Can Know: Exploring the "I Am" Sayings of Jesus (Begins February 12, 2016)
- The Book of Ruth: Seeing God in Unexpected Places (Begins April 17, 2016)

#### **Reflections: A Midweek Service of Holy Communion**

A new worship opportunity has begun at Califon United Methodist Church. During this approximately 30 minute gathering, we will reflect on God and God will be reflected to us through prayer, the reading of Scripture, and the celebration of Holy Communion. Reflections will be held on the 1st and 3rd Tuesday evening of every month at 7:00 p.m.

#### **Open Table Neighborhood Lunch**

Califon UMC's Our Open Table free neighborhood lunches are scheduled for the following dates:

- March 5
- June 4
- September 10
- December 5

We invite you to join us for a free meal and stop by our Top O' the Barn thrift shop.

#### **Sunday Night Live Youth Gathering**

Youth in grades 5-12 are invited to this event hosted by the Raritan Valley District Ministry with Young People team on March 13 from 5:30-8:30 p.m. at the Somerville YMCA. We begin with educational and spiritual devotions, have dinner, and then play dodge ball, volleyball, and basket ball and go swimming with youth from local churches. Bring \$4 for pizza, a drink/snack/dessert/fruit to share, and a bathing suit and towel for swimming. Please RSVP with Pastor Kyle one week prior to the event if you would like to go.

### **Easter Sunday Worship and Egg Hunt**

Join us on Easter Sunday for worship at 10:00 a.m. in our sanctuary, immediately followed by an Easter egg hunt. All are welcome to celebrate the resurrection of Jesus with us!

### **Fisherman's Breakfast Returns**

Join us on Saturday, April 2 from 6:30-11:00 a.m. for Califon UMC's annual fisherman's breakfast. Celebrate with us the beginning of the new fishing season here in Califon!

Visit our website, [www.califonumc.org](http://www.califonumc.org) to hear recent sermons and discover everything going on at our church.

### Upcoming Recreation Committee Events

The Califon Recreation Committee is pleased to announce our community events calendar for 2016. We have some great events planned. Mark your calendars – more information regarding each event will be publicized closer to the event dates.

In addition to the events listed below, a **FARMER'S MARKET** hosted at the Califon United Methodist Church is being planned for the summer and early fall months. More information to come soon! Questions or interest in volunteering to help with these events may be directed to Recreation Committee Chair Jason Beard at [JasonTBeard@yahoo.com](mailto:JasonTBeard@yahoo.com).

- Easter Egg Hunt- Saturday March 19th, 11:00 AM, Califon Island Park
- Memorial Day Parade- Monday May 30th 11:00 AM, Main St & Califon Island Park
- Summer Fun Days- Monday – Friday July 11th – 15th 9:30-11:00am, Califon Island Park.
- Cali-thon-Saturday July 16th 9:00 am (TBC) Train Station
- Movie Night Under the Stars- Friday September 23rd, 8:00 PM, Califon Island Park.
- Autumn Street Fair- Sunday October 9th 1pm – 5pm. Main St.
- Christmas in Califon-Saturday December 3rd, 3-5PM.

### What's Happening at The Califon First Aid Squad

The Califon First Aid Squad is pleased to announce that Squad membership has increased dramatically this past year with the addition of 7 new active certified EMT members in 2015 and 5 cadets/probationary members currently in training. We congratulate our new EMTs and welcome our newest recruits! With a larger active member base, we can further improve our service and response times for residents in need of emergency care. The First Aid Squad is still actively seeking new members and anyone with an interest in volunteering should contact Squad President Jay Klein, [jkle8@aol.com](mailto:jkle8@aol.com) or go to <http://califonems.org> and scroll to "Membership".

A proud new American Flag has been recently put on the new 18 foot flag pole installed at the Califon First Aid Station. The Squad is now seeking a Sponsor(s) for the new spot lights that will shine on the flag at night. The Sponsor will have the option of a memorial plaque on the base of the flag pole with an inscription in honor of a loved one or veteran who has served. If you are interested in sponsoring, please contact Squad 2nd Lieutenant Kenneth

Burke, [kburke4495@yahoo.com](mailto:kburke4495@yahoo.com), who is overseeing the project.

A new Stryker Power Stretcher is on the "2016 Wish list" for the Califon Rescue Squad! This special type of stretcher is needed to assist in the transportation and lifting of patients receiving emergency treatment. A Gofundme page has been created by the Squad that details the use & need of the stretcher, as well as listing what funds have been raised towards the purchase to date. If you would like to read about this critical piece of equipment and donate, please go to <https://www.gofundme.com/califonfirstaid> and thank you for all of your support!

### Califon Kids Care Club Provide "Winter Kits" For the Homeless

Califon Kids Care Club at Califon School partnered with the Community Soup Kitchen in Morristown to provide "Winter Kits" for the homeless. Califon community parent, Allison Ramarge, met with the club advisors and members to talk about the homeless in our communities. Ms. Ramarge shared the challenges the homeless face on a daily basis and a storybook that showed how two families met their needs. The club members enjoyed designing a large box to look like a home in their community. The school community was invited to help provide items for the "Winter Kits" focusing on the theme, "Neighbors Helping Neighbors". Once all donations were in, Califon Kids Care Advisors,

Cyndy Behrens and Linda Patterson, helped students sort and package items into large Ziploc bags to be delivered to the Soup Kitchen. At this time of year, the homeless continue to face daily struggles of food, health, shelter, and colder temperatures. Please consider helping the homeless in your community. Visit a local shelter or food pantry to find out what you can do to help.

### 2016 Hunterdon Huskies Football & Cheer Registration

Register today with the 11x National Champion Hunterdon Huskies Youth Football & Cheer Program. Youth athletes will work with the highest caliber coaches, receive premium technique and strategic instruction, and participate in a community-orientated program. The nationally recognized Hunterdon Huskies football and cheerleading program is now accepting registrations from area athletes for the upcoming 2016 season.

### **Huskies Meet the Coaches Day -- March 19, 2016**

Attend our annual *Meet the Coaches Day* -- meet the coaches, ask questions, and register in person!

- Saturday March 19th
- 9 a.m. - 1 p.m.
- @ Huskies Field – Union Forge Field, 1 Washington Avenue, High Bridge; Rain location -- Custom Alloy, 3 Washington Avenue, High Bridge.

### **Register Today!**

Registration Opens in February for the 2016 season! Team sizes are limited – register early! Visit [www.hunterdonhuskies.com](http://www.hunterdonhuskies.com) for more information and to register online for the 2016 season. Join today and start your child on a winning path. If you have any questions about the Huskies, please call Huskies' President Dan VanVolkenburgh at 908-752-1175, deputy Football Commissioner Elizabeth Lake at 908-938-9829, or Cheer Commissioner Susie Lavigne at 908-304-4571.

### Come on Down to the Park for the Spring Stream Clean Up!

Many hands make light work! Please mark your calendars and come on down to the park to help clean up the River banks of Califon. On Saturday April 16th Califon will once again be participating in this valuable yearly event sponsored by the Raritan Headwaters Association. This is a rain or shine event. If you only have one hour to spare between games, that is fine! Clean up starts at 9:00 am and ends at 12:00 pm. This is a great event for Cub Scouts, Brownies, Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, Youth Groups, Families, Neighbors, everyone! If you know you will be able to help out in any way, email or call Karen Mastro at [kmastro@califonboro.net](mailto:kmastro@califonboro.net) or 908-832-7850 ext. 204. All reserved volunteers will get a free t shirt if they register ahead of time.

### Happenings at The Califon Book Shop

Califon's beloved book shop was sold just prior to the Holidays. New owner, Heather Lynn Kerner of Mansfield has many exciting plans for

### 2nd Annual Califon Classic Car Show

Sponsored by Veterans Memorial (FOCIP) & Califon Fire Company

#### **Saturday, August 13, 2016**

9:00 AM to 3:00 PM  
(Rain Date August 14, 2016)

39 Academy St., Califon, NJ (Califon Municipal Building)  
Registration starts at 7:30 AM

Music by DJ Doug ♦ Food & Refreshments ♦ 50/50 Raffle

Multiple Classes will be offered -  
Winners will be announced at 2 PM

Contact: Bruce Morrow  
47 Academy St., Califon NJ 07830 or  
Call 862-219-2911 or 908-832-0418

Sponsorships Available ♦ Platinum \$250 & Up  
Gold \$100 & Up ♦ Silver \$50 ♦ Bronze \$25

the store. To start, a Grand Re-Opening was held in February. Five authors of different genres and a children's book illustrator were on hand to chat with visitors and sign their books. Fulfilling a long-time dream, Kerner says, "I'm very happy to have taken over the shop. I can already tell how much it means to local residents." The new book store owner is a writer herself and an occasional blogger. She is the author of several essays and short stories. Multi-talented, Kerner also works as a realtor, is the president of her children's school PTA and is a closet comedienne. She and her husband, John have three children. Both animal lovers, their family also includes a horse, three dogs, and a cat.

To celebrate Easter, the book shop will host an Easter Egg Hunt on Saturday, March 19th starting at 11:00 a.m. At 11:30 a.m., third grade teacher and author, Becky Kwiatkoski of Long Valley will read and sign copies of her bunny counting book for young readers "Paisley, You're Crazy!" Starring her own Lop Rabbit, Paisley, the author's newest book engages children with beautiful photographs of the adorable bunny as well as entertains them through poetic, numerical rhymes. Young children will not only enjoy counting with Paisley from one to ten but also have fun finding Paisley's missing pet items throughout the borders of the book. Paisley will also make an appearance at the signing.

Other upcoming activities at the store include the Califon Book Discussion Club, a Writer's Critique Group and Introduction to Book Publishing Classes.

Store hours are: Tuesday-Wednesday 10-3, Thursday-Friday 10-5, Saturday 10-4 Closed Sunday-Monday.

For more information about the store visit: [www.califonbookshop.com](http://www.califonbookshop.com)  
To enjoy Lerner's blog, log on to [www.heathersbookcorner.com](http://www.heathersbookcorner.com)

### Califon's Rabies Clinic a Big Success

On Saturday January 9th the Califon Board of Health sponsored their annual rabies clinic. With the help of volunteers from our community we were able to provide FREE rabies vaccinations to over 200 dogs and cats! Dr. Salatiello and assistant Robin Dietz from the Califon Animal Hospital provided their services to administer the vaccination. I would like to thank the following Community residents and students for showing up to help make this important service happen: Renee Carroll, Catherine Jackson, Emma Natale, Carsten Janes, Christian Meyer, Liam Morris, Jacques Pereira, Sarah Whaley, Chris Lankin, Chandra Ramlogan, Micheal Webb, Cassie Oeckinghaus, Kayla Breitkopf, Mary Phillips, Janice Genetti and Susan Nicolich. Special thanks to Jack Mastro who was instrumental in calling in the troops and helping out for the 6th year

The Califon Board of Health would also like to thank Kenney Burke for arranging the Califon Fire Police and Jr. Fireman for once again doing a fantastic job in managing the flow of traffic and making sure the area was safe.

**PRE-REGISTRATION \$15 DAY OF SHOW \$20**  
**Make Check Payable to "F.O.C.I.P."**

**Make:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Model:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Year:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**City, State, Zip:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Phone:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Email:** \_\_\_\_\_

**FOCIP & Califon Fire Company are Not Responsible for Damages or Injuries**

**[www.califoncarshow.org](http://www.califoncarshow.org) [califoncarshow@gmail.com](mailto:califoncarshow@gmail.com)**