



Califon Crier

Quarterly Newsletter

1994 Founded by Cathy McVicker & Jim Ball (1995)

Editor, Hunterdon County
Central Services

2021 - GAINS & LOSSES - A MUNICIPAL MARKETPLACE

By Mayor Charles J. Daniel

If you think this article is about the borough's budget or financial picture, think again. If you are interested in that, attend a Council Meeting, particularly during the first quarter of 2022, where the new budget is built by the Borough Council. Contact the borough office for more details and dates.

This writing is about the people in our community who have had an incredibly positive impact for many years, personally contributing to the Califon experience. These people are my 2021 role models of municipal investments, working and volunteering to make Califon a wonderful place to live.

Gains & losses across the Municipal Marketplace.....

It is with both sadness (for me) and happiness (for her) that I announce that, after 33 years, Laura Eidsvaag, our Municipal Clerk and Registrar, announced retirement, as of the end of 2021. If you lived in Califon for at least a month, no doubt you have worked with Laura on something, anything, many things! Laura was the 'backbone' of our community. I always stated "Laura runs the day to day show!" Her professionalism, empathy, compassion and concern for Califon residents always came through. Laura created a working family in the borough office, and I will miss her tremendously. (A tough loss!)

Now the gain..... Karen Mastro, the Borough's Deputy Clerk and Registrar for 16 years, has taken over as Municipal Clerk, as of January 1, 2022. There is no doubt that Karen will pick up where Laura left off. Her tenacity to get the job done, as well as her good-natured spirit will serve the community well, just as it has for the past 16 years. Karen.....go for 34 years! The borough's family remains intact with a new leader.

Another gain.... 2021 welcomed a beautiful and solemn tribute for the veterans of the Vietnam War, directed and orchestrated by Bruce Morrow, with the arrival of the Vietnam Traveling Memorial Wall Ceremony at Califon Island Park. Bruce brainstormed this idea, not knowing how much time, energy and effort it needed to become reality. And when the opening ceremony took place, the 500+ attendees were overwhelmed with thanks, praise and support for our Vietnam veterans. Incredible job, Mr. Morrow!

A loss for Califon's Fire Company account.... Rich Bergmann, who has served as Fire Chief for 7 years (2009, 2010, 2011, 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021) is once again stepping down (but not out). Rich volunteered for the Fire Company in October, 1994, at the age 18, and has been a volunteer ever since. Rich's dedication, leadership, and relentless energy to do the 'right thing' for the Fire Company and the residents of Califon is what volunteerism is all about! His focus, drive and determination has been to improve community and Council relations with the Fire Company and he has truly succeeded in this endeavor. As one of Califon's fireman stated to me a few years ago..."If you knew that, during a true fire emergency, Rich was the firefighter who covered your back, you knew you were in good hands!" Thank you, Rich, for your service, and stay with it.

And the gain for Califon's Fire Company account.... Liam Morris, Deputy Chief in 2021, will take charge as the Fire Chief for 2022. Liam started his Fire Company volunteering in 2009, when the junior membership was opened to 14 years old volunteers. Liam stepped up, stepped in and has been active ever since. Rich has worked with Liam during these years, so when Liam stated he was ready to become Fire Chief, Rich totally agreed and knew that Liam had the skills – firefighting, emergency management and leadership – to take charge. I have personally witnessed Liam's ability to take charge of a difficult situation with professionalism, excellent communication skills and an amazing sense of camaraderie with his fellow firefighters. Congratulations and thank you!

Gains and losses, but our losses are truly gains, as knowledge has been passed down from one expert to the next. Of course, there are more gains, such that I can write many more pages about the Council, the Recreation Committee, the Environmental Commission, the Planning Board, our school crossing guards, our professionals, the Califon First Aid Squad, the Washington Township Police Department, our emergency management team, etc. Lots of investment tools to chose from.

Your financial assignment is to figure out how you can become a volunteer for our wonderful community of Califon. Become a “gain” for your Municipal Marketplace! Call me when you are ready to invest.

Best wishes to you for a safe and happy holiday season and successful 2022!

Mayor Charles J. Daniel



SNOW MAY SOON BE FALLING.....

According to Borough ordinance the following rules will go into effect in the event of snow:

Owner(s) and/or tenant(s) of any property abutting public roads of the Borough shall remove all snow and ice from the sidewalks within 12 hours of daylight after the snow has fallen and accumulated.

Placing snow and or ice in the Borough or County roadways, whether paved or unpaved, is strictly prohibited. Whenever snow has covered Borough streets and an emergency exists, no vehicles can park on the streets until they have been plowed sufficiently. At that time, parking on the streets will resume so long as it does not interfere with the normal flow of traffic. Violators of these rules may be subject to their cars being towed at the owner's expense.

Please make sure your house number and mailbox are clearly visible from the road to make it easier for first responders to find you in an emergency.

Thank you for your cooperation with these rules for the safety of all residents in the Borough.



CHRISTMAS TREE PICK UP

Curbside Christmas Tree Pick – **The Califon Fire Company** will be picking up discarded Christmas trees, curbside, on **SATURDAY, JANUARY 8TH** and **SATURDAY, JANUARY 15TH**. Please make sure all of your ornaments and lighting have been removed!

Trees can also be brought down to the Fireman's Field behind the municipal building by the red center stand.

TREES only! No wreaths, garland or other holiday decorations.

Your cooperation is greatly appreciated!

WELCOME ABOARD!

The Califon municipal offices are excited to announce that Barbara Thomas will be taking over as the new Deputy Clerk beginning January 3, 2022. Barbara will be working part time Monday through Thursday and comes to Califon with some municipal deputy clerk experience. Barbara has earned the certified municipal registrar designation and is excited to continue her education in municipal government. Barbara will be wearing many hats which include; Dog Register, Board of Health Secretary and Environmental Commission Secretary. She can be reached at: 908-832-7850 ext. 204 or bthomas@califonboro.net.

RECYCLING NEWS!

County offers A Hazardous Waste Recycling on Saturday, March 5th 9 am to 1 pm at the Route 12 County Complex in Flemington. Contact the Hunterdon County Health Department at 908-788-1351 for questions.

HUNTERDON COUNTY TRANSFER STATION- RESIDENTIAL RECYCLING

Please note the residential recycling area at the Transfer Station on Petticoat Lane have been moved across the lot and now have green bins. The drop off is safer and more streamlined for residents. **PLEASE** pay strict attention to the 5mph speed limit at the transfer station and **PLEASE** take any bags you may have used to collect recycling back with you to discard. **Plastic bags cannot be recycled at this station.**

RECYCLE COACH

Hunterdon County Division of Solid Waste and Recycling Services has recently joined in the state wide launch of Recycle Coach - a free app designed to help make recycling and solid waste information more accessible to County residents and engage the public. **"REDUCE - REUSE - RECYCLE"**. The NJ Department of Environmental Protection is the first state to purchase the Recycle Coach app and make it **available to all NJ Residents FREE of charge.**

Recycle Coach provides accurate, up to date information with a click of a button for Hunterdon County's Special Recycling Events for Electronics Recycling, Hazardous Waste

Clean up Days, and other special events offered by the County. Hunterdon County's 26 municipalities have also been asked to join in on the venture and share their curb side pick up schedules (if their municipality provides those services) and other special recycling/solid waste events they may hold for their residents.

The Recycle Coach App provides personalized collection schedules based on your residence which can also automatically be added to your calendar app. You will also be alerted of any change in recycling schedules to holidays or weather.

CALIFON ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION IS GOING STRONG!

The Califon Environmental Commission will be partnering with the Borough's planner, members of the planning board as well as members of the parks and recreation committee in the development of an open space and recreation plan for the borough. In preparing for this project, members of the Califon Environmental Commission have come up with several great ideas that would benefit our beloved Califon Island Park, our beautiful river as well as the health and wellbeing of our residents.

Some of the ideas that have been suggested are:

- Remediate the Pond
- Construct a "Skate Shed" and fire pit for ice skaters in the winter
- Creation of a walking path along the river and park
- Create a meadow in the lower field in the park (close to Main St) using native plants.
- Children's Garden – at the park.
- Create an access path from the Columbia Trail to the Park.

Of course, these all depend upon the availability of grants and good old volunteerism!

START THE NEW YEAR BY SERVING YOUR COMMUNITY

If you have thought about getting involved but are not sure where or how why not try serving on either the Board of Health or Planning Board where members are needed.

- Califon Board of Health – this board only meets when there is a septic waiver being sought by a homeowner. The local board of health is required to review septic plans for alterations or repairs when certain requirements cannot be met, usually due to lot size. If you have any interest or would like to know more about this appointment, please contact Karen Mastro @ 908-832-7850 ext. 201. Note we usually meet no more than 5 times a year!
- Califon Planning and Zoning- The planning board meets the third Wednesday of the month. As a member you hear applications and make decisions regarding subdivisions, site plans and conditional uses. Members also work with non-conforming land use proposals are considered by the Planning Board among many other duties!

CALIFON FIRST AID SQUAD

Califon First Aid Squad would like to wish everyone a safe & healthy 2022!

If you are interested in possibly joining the squad, please contact President, Jay Klein at 908-500-0105.

Happy Holy Days to all & please remember that your local First Responders are always here for you.



CALIFON'S ANNUAL RABIES CLINIC



January 8, 2022
1:00 pm to 3 pm

39 Academy St, Califon
Please follow the directions of the Jr. Fireman
upon arriving at the clinic.

All dogs must be on a leash and cats must be in a transport cage

NOTICE TO ALL DOG OWNERS

Dog Licenses must be obtained by January 31, 2022.
Please complete the application upon receipt of this mailing to avoid
accruing late fees!

N.J. Fees as scheduled should be enclosed with your application
along with a certificate of your dog's current rabies inoculation.
Rabies inoculation must not expire during this year of
licensing.

Two surcharge fees have been imposed by the State of N.J.- (1)
N.J. Pilot Clinic Fund Surcharge of \$0.20; (2) N.J. Animal Control
Population Fund Surcharge- \$3.00. Along with a copy of the
rabies certificate we will also need a veterinarian's certificate, or
and affidavit stating the animal has been altered. **The proof of
alteration only needs to be submitted the first time you are licens-
ing your dog with Califon after the alteration takes place.**
Our system will store this information for future reference.

Fee: Spayed or Neutered Dogs \$15.00
Unaltered Dogs \$20.00

Checks should be made payable to "Borough of Califon"

It would be appreciated if you could enclose a self-addressed
stamped envelope for the return of your license.

******* Please note a DELINQUENT FINE OF \$5.00 PER MONTH
PER DOG WILL BE ASSESSED AFTER FEBRUARY 28TH.**

Please avoid this late fee and get your applications in early!

** Note they can be dropped off in our drop box by the back door.

FOR DOG OWNERS

Name: _____

Road: _____

Phone: _____

Dogs Name: _____ Male () Female ()

Date of Birth: _____ Breed: _____

Is Dog Neutered or Spayed? () Yes () No

Hair: Short () Medium () Long ()

Colors or Markings: _____

RABIES INOCULATION INFORMATION

Date Rabies Expires _____

Fee Enclosed \$ _____

OUR HOLIDAYS ARE ALWAYS BRIGHT

If you have had your eyes open while coming down Main St then you had to have noticed the festive Christmas wreaths aligning Main St and the festive and merry decorations that adorn our little island at the intersection of Main and Academy.

Who did this? Well, it is not our DPW, not the mayor, not the staff but residents that wanted to help brighten a town they hold near and dear. We would like to thank these residents for their thoughtfulness and contributions to brighten our main street for residents and visitors.

CALIFON CRIER

www.califonboro.net

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

Charles J. Daniel, Laura Eidsvaag & Karen Mastro

***Deadline for the Spring Quarterly Newsletter -
April/May/June 2022 submissions: Friday, March 4.***