

CALIFON CRIER

39 ACADEMY STREET | 908-852-7850 | CALIFONBORO.ORG

ISSUE | DECEMBER/JANUARY 2023-2024

Final Leaf Pick Up

The final leaf pick up will be December 6th.

[Click here](#) for more info

Pancake Breakfast

The Califon Fire Company's Pancake Breakfast with Santa will be Sunday, December 3rd, from 7:00AM-11:00AM in Creamery Hall.

Tree Lighting

The Annual Califon Christmas Tree Lighting will be Sunday, December 3rd.

[Click here](#) for more info

Menorah Lighting

The Califon Menorah Lighting will be December 9th at 6:30PM.

[Click here](#) for more info

Dog License

All dog owners must register their dogs by January 31st, 2024.

[Click here](#) to view the application

A Piece of Califon's History Restored By Patty Nanna

"Let's Go Down To Califon" is a poem written by James Alexander Elliott describing a trip into town to shop, chat with neighbors and see what was going on in Califon's hub. At the turn of the century, our town was a bustling community of stores and businesses providing essential goods and services to the surrounding area. One of the businesses operating during the late 1800s - early 1900's was the Apgar Wagon Repository,



owned by David Apgar and his younger brother, Mancius Apgar, which was located on Frog Hollow Road (now Philhower Avenue). The Apgar brothers were dealers of wagons, carriages, buggies, surries & sleighs; the business also maintained, repaired and painted horse-drawn vehicles. They operated this Repository from about 1895 until 1913 when the building was destroyed by a fire. David built a new repository in late 1914 (now the Upholstery Shop) and operated it until 1917 when the automobile industry was emerging.

As a member of the Califon Historical Society, I am always excited when we acquire a piece of Califon's history. This recently happened when Stan Knapik, a Connecticut resident, contacted the Society to inquire if we would be interested in purchasing a sleigh sold by D.K. Apgar between 1910 and 1914. Mr. Knapik originally purchased the sleigh from eBay in 2008 from its owner in Trenton, N.J. The sleigh, which was described as a "cutter", is a lightweight, fast sleigh with a single seat that can accommodate two people. It has a small, brass nameplate inscribed with "Sold & Warranted By D.K. & M.H. Apgar, Califon, NJ." At the time Mr. Knapik purchased the sleigh, it was a little over 100 years old and was in poor condition. However, after six months of careful restoration, it looks much like it did when it was originally sold by the Apgar Repository.

The Califon Historical Society is proud to "unveil" the sleigh at our Holiday Open House on December 3rd and 10th from 1:00 - 4:00 pm. Both the Hoffman House & Cabin by the River (on River Road) are decorated for the holidays showcasing old-tyme toys of Califon residents, antique trains, holiday memorabilia & vintage holiday decor. There is also a photo display of the sleigh's complete restoration. Santa visits both weekends for photo ops with children, adults and pets. Stop by to see the beautiful restoration done on the sleigh, enjoy some holiday cheer and refreshments!

ANCHOR Program

If you need to apply for the ANCHOR Program, the deadline to do so is December 29th, 2023.

[Click here](#) for more info.

Rabies Clinic

The Califon Board of Health is hosting a free rabies clinic on Saturday January 6th from 1:00PM - 3:00PM

[Click here](#) for more info.

Toys For Tots

The Toys For Tots donation boxes are currently around town.

[Click here](#) for drop-off locations

St. John Neumann

An Advent retreat with confession is offered on December 12th, 13th and 14th with Fr. Mike Drury.

Christmas Eve Mass will be held at 5:30PM, 7:30PM as well as a Midnight Mass.

Christmas Day Mass will be held at 9:30AM

For more information you can call 908-832-2513 or send an email to sjn@ccjn.org

St. John Neumann is located at 398 County Road 513 in Califon.

December 2023 Meeting Dates

Borough Council

December 7th & 21st

Environmental Commission

No meeting

Parks and Rec Committee

December 13th

Historical Society

December 19th

Planning and Zoning Board

December 20th

January 2024 Meeting Dates

Borough Council

January 4th (Reorganization)

January 18th

Environmental Commission

January 9th (Reorganization)

Parks and Rec Committee

January 10th

Historical Society

January 16th

Planning and Zoning Board

January 17th (Reorganization)

Califon UMC

Simplified Living Nativity will be held on December 9th from 2:00PM - 4:00PM at the UMC's Gazebo located at 15 River Road.

There will be animals for petting, Mary and Joseph and "Papa Panza's Christmas Special." Hot coco and cider will be served.

The church will also be decorated for Advent.

Online Tax Portal

The online property tax portal is now up and running.

[Click here](#) for more info and to register.

Parks and Rec

The Parks and Rec Committee is in need of a new Chair. Anyone who is interest can email Karen Mastro at

KMastro@califonboro.net

Crier Submission

Have important information that Califon Residents should be aware of?

If you want to submit something for the next issue of The Crier please email your announcement to Jay Ruggiero at jruggiero@califonboro.net no later than January 29th for the February/March issue.



The first marking period at Califon School included special themed weeks along with the day to day learning activities. Students celebrated the Week of Respect as designated by the NJDOE for anti-bullying, Red Ribbon Week for Drug Free life, and Fire Safety Week which included a visit from our own Califon Fire Department. Students and staff always enjoy the visit from the fire fighters riding in on the fire truck! October concluded with our Halloween traditions of the annual poster contest, the Guess the Pumpkin weight contest, the Halloween parade at school and classroom celebrations prior to trick-or-treating in the borough. The Califon School PTA sponsored our contests and provided prizes for the students.



Our co-ed soccer team finished their season mid-October with a playoff game at Delaware Twp School. Students bounced their way into the basketball season mid-November. Our girls and boys teams will play teams from other NHVHS sending districts through January 2024.

Other Califon School activities include our goal of service learning. Students have been involved in several projects locally as well as to our troops. Students are making cards for soldiers for the holiday season to express their gratitude. The students are also organizing food drives for our local food banks. Locally, students are excited to be involved for the 2nd year in partnership with Pets, Pets, Pets to support pet adoptions and local shelters. We are proud of our students and their aspirations to help others.

We are excited about an upcoming event to take place at the Califon School. TREP\$ MarketPlace on Jan 26, 2024 where student entrepreneurs create and sell their products. Stay tuned for more information for this exciting event. We hope to see you there!

All of us at the Califon School wish the Califon Community a wonderful holiday season!

Dr. Michele Cone