

CALIFON CRIER

39 ACADEMY STREET | 908-832-7850 | CALIFONBORO.ORG

ISSUE | AUGUST/SEPTEMBER 2025

Rock The Park

Califon PARC is holding a Rock The Park event on August 17th from 10:00am till 12:00pm

[Click here](#) for more info

Vietnam Wall

The Vietnam Traveling Memorial Wall is coming back to Califon in May of 2026. They're currently looking for donations and volunteers.

[Click here](#) for more info

Town Wide Tag Sale

The Califon First Aid Squad will host the annual town wide Tag Sale on Saturday, September 6th, from 9am till 4pm

[Click here](#) for more info

Sensory Garden

There's a new sensory garden in Califon Island Park!

[Click here](#) for more info

End Of Summer

As an educator, I find that the end of summer is always bittersweet. I'm sad to see the warm weather and long nights end. I'll miss the extra time I got to spend with my family over the summer. However, I always appreciated the fresh start that a new school year brings.

As I've gotten older, I've enjoyed this "second new year" that comes with each September. It acts as a reset and a need to prep for all the fun and exciting things the last quarter of the year has to offer. Fall is our family's favorite time of year. I always eagerly welcome the cool autumn days and all the fun activities that this time of year has to offer.

Califon residents are lucky to have a few events coming up in the next few months to usher in fall. For instance, on Sunday August 17th, the 2nd Annual Rock The Park event will be taking place in Califon Island Park from 10-12pm. This event is a great way to spend a few hours enjoying some of the last days of summer.

The Annual Califon Street fair is close behind as well. The Califon Street Fair will be taking place this year on Sunday, October 12th, from 11-4. Look on califonstreetfair.com for more information on vendors and entertainment.

I encourage all residents to enjoy the last few weeks of summer, soaking in quality family time and making lasting memories. Embrace the change of seasons and the new routines that come with it. Let's close out 2025 on the right foot.

Clayton's Corner

Thanks to the Califon Historical Society, Clayton's Corner got new plantings.

[Click here](#) for more info

Household Goods

The household goods pick up will be on Monday, September 8th. No electronics or items with coolant will be picked up.

Califon Car Show

The 10th Annual All MOPAR Car Show will be held on Saturday, September 20th at Califon Island Park.

[Click here](#) for more info

NJ Anchor Program

The window to apply for the NJ Anchor Program is opened till October 31st.

[Click here](#) for more info

Deputy Clerk

Califon Borough is seeking a Part-Time Deputy Municipal Clerk and Deputy Registrar.

[Click here](#) for more info

August 2025 Meeting Dates

All listed meeting are open to public

Borough Council

August 19th

PARC

August 27th

Environmental Commission

August 12th

Historical Society

August 20th

Planning and Zoning Board

August 20th

September 2025 Meeting Dates

All listed meeting are open to public

Borough Council

September 2nd & 15th

PARC

September 10th

Board of Health

September 3rd

Environmental Commission

September 9th

Historical Society

September 17th

Planning and Zoning Board

September 17th

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 September 25th for the October/November issue.

Town Subscription

Califon Borough will no longer be sending out notifications in the mail. Residents can subscribe to receive alerts via email.

[Click here](#) to sign up

Califon Island Park

Did you know you can reserve the Island Park Pavilion for your next outdoor gathering?

[Click here](#) on info how to reserve the park.



Welcome to the 2025-2026 School Year at Califon School!

Professional Development and Staff Preparation

The 2025-2026 school year officially begins on August 25 with three dedicated days of professional development for our teaching staff. During this important preparation period, our educators will be busy setting up their classrooms, exploring new educational resources, and aligning their teaching strategies with our district's core goals for the upcoming year.

Our district has identified three primary focus areas that will guide our educational initiatives: Literacy, Social Emotional Learning, and Service Learning. These foundational pillars will enhance our students' academic growth while fostering their personal development and community engagement.

Student Return and Opening Day

We are thrilled to welcome students back on August 28, 2025! To celebrate the start of this new academic journey, we invite all families to join us in the school courtyard at the beginning of the day. Together, we'll create an energetic and supportive atmosphere as we cheer for the opening bell, marking the official start of another exciting school year.

Welcoming Our New Staff

We are delighted to welcome both returning and new staff members who will contribute to our students' success throughout the year. We're pleased to have Mrs. Swimmer and Ms. Corman returning for another year of dedicated service to our school community.

Joining our team this year, we welcome several new faces who bring fresh perspectives and expertise:

- Mrs. Wright will lead our library media program, fostering a love of reading and research skills
- Ms. Johnson will inspire creativity and artistic expression in our art room
- Ms. Arismendi joins us as an instructional aide, providing additional support for student learning
- Ms. Wurtemberg will serve as our new Pre-K aide, helping to nurture our youngest learner

Summer Facility Improvements

Throughout the summer months, our dedicated team has been hard at work preparing our facilities for the return of students and staff. We've completed several important improvement projects, including the installation of new carpeting in both the library and Resource Room. These updates will provide our students with fresh, comfortable learning environments.

We extend our heartfelt gratitude to our exceptional summer custodial team, whose tireless efforts and attention to detail have ensured that every corner of our school is ready to welcome back our learning community. Their hard work and dedication do not go unnoticed.



Cross-Grade Learning Opportunities

One of the unique strengths of Califon School is our commitment to fostering connections across all grade levels. Students particularly enjoy our Preschool Buddies program, where older students have the opportunity to visit our Preschool classroom and engage with our youngest learners. Through collaborative projects, hands-on experiments, and reading partnerships, this program creates meaningful relationships while reinforcing learning for students of all ages.

Athletic Programs and Community Engagement

As we launch into the new school year, our Califon School co-ed soccer team will begin practicing and competing against other districts within the coming weeks. We encourage our entire community to show their support by joining us at Califon Park for our home games. Your presence and enthusiasm help create the school spirit that makes our athletic programs so special.

Looking Ahead: Traditions and Celebrations

We are eagerly anticipating a school year filled with beloved traditions and exciting student activities. The calendar will be packed with engaging events that bring our community together. Before we know it, autumn will arrive with all its festivities – Halloween parades, classroom parties, and the annual trick-or-treating celebration throughout the Borough will create lasting memories for our students and families.

A Message of Gratitude

As we embark on this new academic year, we want to express our appreciation for the continued support of the Califon community. The partnership between our school, families, and local community members creates the foundation for our students' success and personal growth.

Wishing the entire Califon Community a wonderful and enriching Fall season ahead!

Dr. Michele Cone