

The Calais Courier

thecalaischool.org

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The Calais School

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The Calais Foundation Annual Gala Raises over \$65K

Jennifer Tedeschi

The Calais Foundation raised over \$65,000 at their Annual Gala themed "Beating the Odds". The cocktail reception style event took place Thursday, April 14, 2011 at The Park Avenue Club in Florham Park, NJ. The Gala's keynote speaker featured the critically acclaimed NYC firefighter, motivational speaker, and author of *The Long Run*, Matt Long. Dr. Vincent Aniello Retired Assistant Superintendent of Special Services for Parsippany-Troy Hills, and Howard Buxbaum Vice President for Finance at Drew University were honored for their commitment and dedication to improving the lives of special needs children.

The money raised by The Calais Foundation will be used to sponsor specialized learning activities and purchase a Smart Board for the Calais School. The Calais Foundation will also provide financial and volunteer support to other organizations serving the learning disabled community throughout Northern New Jersey. Donations to the Calais Foundation can still be made on the website by visiting www.calaisfoundation.org or by contacting Jennifer Tedeschi at 973-884-2030 x 251.



The Calais School founders Charlotte Leitner and Lionel Leitner along with the Calais School Executive Director David Leitner.

On right Calais School Foundation Board members pictured along with Dr. Diane Manno, Assistant Principal.



School Board Member and Gala Honoree Howard Buxbaum and wife Paula Barber



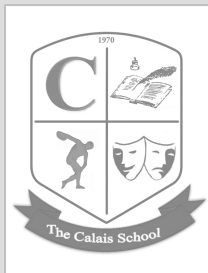
Gala Honoree Dr. Vincent Aniello



Calais Board Members with Matt Long



Photo above from left to right: Charles McClafferty Calais Foundation Board President, Mary-Anna Holden Madison NJ Mayor, David Leitner Calais School Executive Director, Matt Long Keynote Speaker & Author, and Savannah Schechter Miss New Jersey Teen USA 2011. Photo on Right, Calais Student Nicole R. introduces keynote speaker Matt Long to the audience.

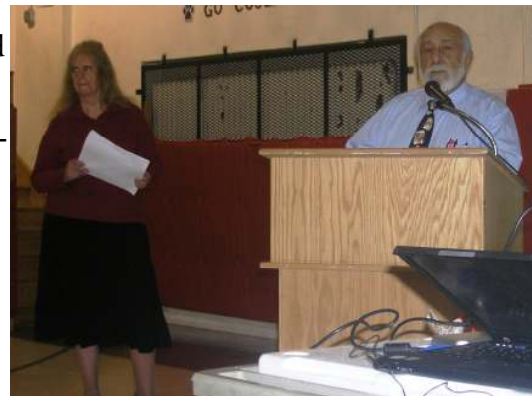


Visit our Websites: www.thecalaischool.org and www.calaisfoundation.org

Transition Education and Career Exploration

Cynthia Polles

On April 6, 2011, The Calais School hosted a tremendously successful workshop, Transition and Career Exploration: *Mapping the Road to Independence*. The event focused on how Calais assists students in making the transition from a secondary educational environment toward self-sufficiency in adulthood. Over sixty parents, students, educators, and guest speakers interested in transition planning attended. According to attendees, "One of the greatest features of the workshop was the availability and accessibility of information." Students and parents were able to listen to presentations and have personal concerns addressed by key professionals in their respective fields. Proctors from Ramapo College, County College of Morris, Eastwick College, Lincoln Institute, Anthem Institute, Capri Cosmetology, Dawn Center, Employment Solutions, Jespy House, Enable, and Social Security Administration presented brief summaries of their programs, distributed print information, and met individually with families. Beacon University and Landmark College also sent materials for distribution. In addition, Dr. Joseph Orlando, Principal, and Cindy Polles, Transition Teacher, spoke on career and technical education programs, and career planning opportunities available through The Calais School. The Calais School is proud to be able to bring together in one place many resources from colleges, technical schools, job training programs, career planning services, independent living programs, and government services.



New Career and Technical Education Program at The Calais High School

Dr. Diane Manno

The Calais School is planning to implement two new Career and Technical Education (CTE) courses for the September 2011/2012 school year. The CTE framework for study includes a strong academic component coupled with specific technical skills training. These programs will help students build on a clear vision for a career path. The skills and knowledge obtained will give students the edge in becoming gainfully employed in their particular field of study, or to pursue postsecondary education and training. The National and State Initiative for CTE programs support the goals and opportunities to achieve certification or an industry-recognized credential at the secondary or postsecondary level. Courses in Business Management and Administration, as well as Early Childhood Development are planned for September. Please call for more information.

Program Updates and Notes

After-School Programs

The students in The Calais After School Program ventured into horticulture, puppetry, and new culinary creations. The flowers are growing nicely and we planted them outside in mid May to decorate our schools' grounds.

Puppet making with Ms. Martino has become another long-term project that the kids love to work on. Ms. Martino brought in some of her finished puppets to show the kids just how cool their puppets can turn out to be.

We made pepperoni bread, chicken fingers and french fries from scratch, as well as chocolate chip cookies and matzo ball soup. Needless to say, there were no leftovers!



Scouting at Calais

The Patriot's Path Council of the Boy Scouts of American has been holding den meetings at The Calais School with Mrs. Haft's and Mrs. Tacinelli's classes. Our scouts meet with the Patriot's Path Council den leaders every other Friday. The children have been engaged in a variety of activities including arts and crafts, folklore, and first aid training.



St. Hubert's Animal Welfare Center Visits

An exciting time of the week at The Calais School is when dogs visit our school as part of the *St. Hubert's Paws for People Program* (Pet Therapy). Every week one or two of our four legged friends and handler trained in pet therapy, bring pleasure and excitement to our students. Pet therapy provides Calais students an opportunity to practice socialization and engage in pro-social interaction.

It is wonderful to watch our children play with the dogs and see how a simple lick of love or a wag of the tail can stimulate conversation among the students. These furry friends provide unquestioning and constant sources of affection and the dogs always succeed in bringing a smile to the faces of our students and faculty.



The Calais School Radio Station



Mrs. Doreen Trontell and students of The Calais School Broadcasting Station which airs Thursday mornings on 88.1 FM.

Student's Voices Thru Poetry

Angela Territo

The Magic Bell....Katie M.

Silver and shiny
It's not that tiny
Sparkly glitter
Makes me shiver
Ring , ring goes the magic bell



Abracadabra alakazam
Sparkly and full of glam
Circle the bell round and round
Become enchanted with the sound
Ring , ring goes the magic bell

Adorned with stars, bright and bold
With shiny streamers with gold
Silver and shiny
Full of magic
Ring, ring goes the magic bell

The Adhesive....Jeffrey I.

I stick to you like glue
When I first saw you my heart flew
Every "I love you" that is whispered into my ear at night
It lets me know everything will go alright
Every morning I wake up with you
It gives a feeling like my heart grew
Every time you cross my mind
I go blind to the outside world as images and memories
Of you are projected onto the insides of my eyelids.
Every moment we spend together
Just remember we have the strongest tether
Every time you feel blue
Just remember..... I stick to you like glue

Hate.... Christina G.

Hate is a bitter feeling.
It produces a void.
Within that void,
There is no satisfaction.

Obsession replaces it,
As the hate festers and boils.
If not in check, then can explode

Hate can be dangerous
It is important to let it out,
So it does not consume the soul.

The Earthquake.....Jack, Carlie, & Nathaniel

Loud noises, sounds like danger,
Falling things dropping to the ground.
People can't balance, people can't stand.
Nervousness.....loss of everything.

Loud yells, screams
Fill the air,
It feels like everyone
Is being physically assaulted.

The electricity went out,
People can't find their flashlights,
It feels like
A giant is conquering the world.

Houses collapsing,
Babies crying,
Gangsters running,
Cops throwing tantrums.

Buildings on fire,
Cars crashing,
Water pipes broken,
Telephone poles falling down.

Firefighters rushing
To every building on fire,
They can't put out the fires.
Too much damage.

People lying
On the ground,
Many injured,
Dead.

Look!
A sky scraper is wobbling!
Thank the Lord
It didn't fall down.

The massive disaster
Was very severe.
Everyone's relieved
The ground stopped rumbling.

Hopefully, this won't
Happen again,
Everyone should
Pray to God!



The Cycle..... JP, Katie & Christina

Billions Burning
Millions dying
The world's ending, we know it all.
Everywhere you go, someone falls.
Buildings once stood tall,
Now a wreck once and for all.
But from the ashes,
A new man will rise,
Humans death will be nigh.
Days...months...years go by
The population again begins to fly.
Buildings once again shoot up into the sky.
Humanity's hopes sore up high.
As they look to the sky.
Such is the cycle.

The Magic Bracelet...Carlie S.

People who are so very sick
Put the bracelet on.
Their illness will be gone.

Those who feel sorrow.
Put the bracelet on
It will disappear by tomorrow.

If you are very depressed
Put the magic bracelet on.
You will rejoice and get dressed.

If you want chaos to cease
Put the magic bracelet on.
There will be world peace.



Spring.....Nathaniel

Spring is a season during the year. Great things happen during the spring.
Birds chirp, trees bloom, sunshine, grass grows
People play outside, grow flowers, enjoy the warmth, everything!
Couples walk outdoors hold hands, no one wants to be indoors during spring.

Student Perspective on Bullying

Hello Calais Students! My name is Nathaniel and I am a freshman at the Calais High School. I read an article in the last newsletter about “bullying”. The article was very interesting to me and I felt like sharing my experience of being bullied. I have been bullied by kids in public school before I started coming to The Calais school. It went on mostly in my middle years.

I was bullied a lot in 6th, 7th and 8th grade. It was mostly at school. It wasn't from just one kid. It was from many kids, but not every single one. I've got into trouble with those kids and it wasn't good. My actions towards them weren't the type of actions that people would want to see. I was called names from kids like gay boy, jerk, and so on. My parents put me at Calais to remove me from these kids so that they wouldn't get phone calls and e-mails everyday about trouble from me with bullies. I personally didn't like what they did, but believe me, they really did the right thing.

My advice to all of you students is to stay away from bullies if you ever go to a public school. And if a bully comes up to you and tries to get you angry, just ignore the bully or just don't take whatever the bully said to you so personally. Just move on and forget about that particular bully. And committing suicide **IS NOT** the right move. Everyone is here at Calais for a reason, including me. The social workers here have helped me change my behavior since I've come here. I would really like to thank them for their help and support.

Autism 5K Walk

Members of the Calais School staff along with Calais School students recently participated in the 2nd Annual *Go the Distance for Autism* 5K run/ walk at Caldwell College. The event which raised over \$46,000, supports the college's Center for Autism and Applied Behavior Analysis.



Giving Back to the Community

Marjane Vitaletti, Karen Liberato



All the students at The Calais School are participating in community service projects that are sponsored by The American Cancer Association and St. Clare's Hospital Cancer Care. The first event is called Relay for Life of Greater Parsippany sponsored by The American Cancer Society. The second event is Survivor Day celebration sponsored by St. Clare's Hospital Cancer Care. These events give communities a chance to celebrate the lives of people who have battled cancer, remember loved ones lost, and fight back against the disease. The relay takes place on May 14 - 15, 2011 at Veterans Memorial Park in Parsippany, NJ. Survivor Day celebration takes place at St. Clare's Hospital, Dover Campus on June 5th.

As our contribution, The Calais School staff, parents and students donated items to fill "Survival Bags" which will be given out at the events. Calais students decorated and filled all the bags.



Teen Arts Festival

Chris Catalano

On Monday, May 16th, seven high school students attended the Teen Arts Festival at the County College of Morris.

While at the festival, students were able to participate in two workshops. Some students chose Art and others chose Creative Writing. The art majors had their artwork on display in the college library, which all students went to view.

The students who attended were Chris M., Christian V., Christina G., Brian D., James R., Andrew P., and Michael B. They learned a great deal while having a great time.



The Calais School, James R. 12th grade student

Tranquil hall
Helpful to all
Essential classes
Careful teachers
Artful prodigies
Lovable therapists
Adjustable schedules
Incredible lunches

Successful students
Sincere principal
Care about many
Halcyon scholars
On my way
Opportunities to learn
Learning is fun

Calais Student Earns Prestigious Scholarships

Karen Liberato



Russell R is a senior at The Calais School who, because of his diligent academic effort, has many opportunities open to him when he graduates this June. An exceptional student since arriving at Calais midway through third grade, Russell recently has been accepted at Ramapo College and Fairleigh Dickinson University and has been offered their most prestigious scholarships.

Ramapo College of New Jersey has offered him their Presidential Scholarship which is an \$80,000 award to be used over four years. To qualify for this award, a student must have a minimum 3.5 GPA in high school and SAT scores of at least 1230 in Critical Reading and Mathematics.

Fairleigh Dickenson University offered Russell the Colonel Fairleigh S. Dickinson Scholarship. This scholarship is an achievement-based award that provides \$24,000 annually for a maximum of four years. The minimum academic criteria for consideration of this scholarship are 1200 SAT on a 1600 scale (27 ACT) and a 3.50 GPA.

In addition to the academic achievements Russell is a sensitive and kind student who has been involved in numerous community service projects while attending The Calais School. He has been a wonderful role model and we look forward to learning about his achievements in the coming years.

The Calais Library

Bodil Degginger

The Calais School Library has had a great school year. Elementary and middle school students have come for library hour weekly. Students at that time have the opportunity to borrow a book, or to just sit down and read in the library. Some of our most favorite books have been *The Stinky Cheese Man*, *The True Story of the 3 Little Pigs*, and *Dust Devil* and *The Widows Broom*. Older students enjoy *The Watertower* and *The Faithful Friend*. In Mrs. Perillos' class we are currently reading "*Freak the Mighty*" by Rodman Philbrick and upon completion the class will watch the film version "*The Mighty*".

The Calais School Library is currently accepting fiction and non-fiction grade K-12 story and resource books in new condition. The library greatly appreciates all the contributions we have received from the Calais School community and looks forward to your continued support



The Calais Sports Program

Vincent Femia & Patti Russo



The Calais sports programs have continued to excel. Our middle school students have been getting involved in the intramural sports program by playing with the teachers in a volleyball game. The Calais cheerleaders were there to cheer everyone on and motivated the audience and athletes. We also recently completed a fitness competition between all the physical education classes. Each class participated and displayed excellent effort and teamwork. During this challenge the students completed a 16 station fitness course each class period. Students spent a minute at each station and wore pedometers. At the end of the class we averaged the class total number of steps taken by looking at their pedometers. This proved to be a huge motivation to the students and they worked hard to improve upon the number of steps taken each day.

We would like to congratulate our homeroom #203 physical education class for winning the competition and averaging 1715 steps per student. In second place was our third period high school physical education class with 1629 steps per student. In third place was homeroom 303 with 1524 steps averaged per student. Most recently in our Calais sports program we have completed a high school basketball tournament. During this tournament there were three basketball teams formed and each team was able to play two different games. Practices were held during physical education class. Cheerleaders and classmates were there to support their teams. During this tournament, students felt like a part of a team and enjoyed working together toward a common goal. We look forward to upcoming events that include field day and a student vs. staff softball game!



2010-2011 School Year: Important Dates

- Monday, May 30, Memorial Day, School Closed
- Monday, June 20, Graduation Ceremony, 9:30 am and Dismissal at 1:20 pm
- Wednesday, June 22, Last staff day
- Extended School Year July 5- August 15, 2011

We want to hear from you!

Please contact us at: josephine.mucciolo@thecalaischool.org -attention: Newsletter Committee



.....Moving?.....Let us know your new Address.

If a duplicate mailing or you want to be removed from our list, email jennifer.tedeschi@thecalaischool.org Thank you.

If you use a Target REDcard™, Target will contribute up to 1% of your purchase to The Calais School as part of their "Take Charge of Education Program." The school is already receiving donations this way. Register to have Target donate by calling 1-800-316-6142 or you can register online: https://redcard.target.com/redcard/content/rcw_manage. Please use School ID #22646. Thank you for your consideration and support.



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Have a great summer! See
you in September!

