



Borough of Helmetta
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Message from Mayor Slavicek

March 29, 2020

Helmetta Neighbors & Friends:

I would be remiss if I didn't commence by extending a sincere appreciation to our community Heroes; Office of Emergency Management, First Responders, Healthcare Professionals and Community Workers for their valiant and tireless care at this most critical time of need. I partake in daily and open communication with our Office of Emergency Management, Dr. Chief Zarro of the Spotswood Police, County Officials and our neighboring township leaders. Yesterday, I took a moment to phone the manager of Spotswood Shop Rite, our local neighborhood supermarket, to extend a heartfelt thank you on behalf of the Helmetta community. We are blessed to have dedicated people, as such, risking their health and families to serve our residents. My outreach efforts to personally acknowledge our community heroes will be endless.

To date, we have three (3) positive COVID-19 cases reported to the Helmetta Office of Emergency Management by the County Health Department within our quaint Borough. As you can see by the news briefings on both state and national levels, New Jersey remains a 'hot spot' for this pandemic; positive cases rapidly rise, and negative outcomes continue to increase. The stay-at-home order is still in effect and social distancing is key. Please take this serious and abide by the Governor's Executive Order. In order to flatten the curve, participation is required, not optional, for the well-being of all. Borough Offices, parks and recreation areas remain closed until further notice. Borough employees are available remotely via email and/or phone.

With the feeling of uncertainty that coincides at this time, it brings joy to see the positive efforts initiated within our community. Students continue distance learning and I must commend the Spotswood PTA for recognizing the importance of 'spirit' through the various programs and events being advertised to keep life quasi normal for our students. Local businesses depicting ease and generosity, neighbors graciously helping neighbors, helpful outreach to our seniors and those in need, a simple, friendly wave and even a candid thank you are recognized and appreciated. It warms my heart to witness these true acts of kindness across our community. This exemplifies our small town, big heart motto.

I welcome and encourage you to join my #LightUpForLives Candlelight Campaign by simply displaying a lit candle on your front porch each evening in hopes of banding together to create a 'shining' example of humanity. The light will signify strength, a sense of community togetherness and that sincere hope for a beam of light to end this pandemic. Our thoughts are with the families of those lives lost and fighting for a positive outcome.

The Helmetta Fire Department has launched 'Red to the Rescue'. This effort is to assist seniors, the disabled or even the less fortunate with necessary errands or essentials. Should you need assistance, please contact Chief Reid via email at hfdchief3650@yahoo.com or leave a voice message at (732) 521-4946 x100.

Please reference www.helmettaboro.com for updated information.

Most importantly, I must reiterate that it is imperative for you to **STAY HOME** to flatten the curve!

Always available,

Chris

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