APRIL 2026

HELMETTA HAPPENINGS

Official Newsletter of the Borough of Helmetta

Helmetta In Bloom

BY MAYOR CHRISTOPHER SLAVICEK

Birds chirping, daffodils breaking ground, playground bustling- it's the sign that Spring is here and Helmetta is in full bloom!

I'd like to take a moment to thank the Department of Public Works team for their hard work and dedication with tending to the winter weather this season. Thank you, neighbors, for abiding by the no parking on snow covered roadway Ordinance, as it truly was helpful to the clean-up process.

With change in season, also comes change in personnel. I would like to congratulate Carol Feig, Utility Collector, on twenty years of service and wish her well on her retirement. We welcome Jennifer O'Brien to our Helmetta family in this capacity. We also welcome Brandon Bandoy, Laborer, to the Public Works team.

Administration and council remain steadfast in making Helmetta a great place to live. We are engrossed in the budget process with sound fiscal responsibility at the forefront with cost of living in mind. Additionally, we continue to seek grants for roadway and recreational enhancements. It is our goal to make Helmetta 'blossom' even more.

With the warmer weather on the horizon, I strongly encourage you to take advantage of the parks and Pavilion areas and spend time outdoors enjoying the fresh air amongst friends and neighbors.

On the home front, my niece and nephew keep 'growing like weeds'!

Wishing you all a beautiful spring season and hope to see you around town!

Always available,
Mayor Chris Slavicek

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Community Calendar

April 2nd	Party with my Peeps	Community Center 6:00pm
April 3rd	Borough Hall Closed	Good Friday
April 15th	Council Meeting	Borough Hall 7:00pm
April 18th	Earth Day	Maple Street Pavilion 10:00am
May 16th	Touch a Truck	Maple Street Pavilion 10:00am
May 16th & 17th	Town Wide Yard Sale	Around Town 8:00am
May 20th	Council Meeting	Borough Hall 7:00pm
May 25th	Borough Hall Closed	Memorial Day
June 6th	Fishing Derby	Helmetta Lake 8:00am
June 17th	Council Meeting	Borough Hall 7:00pm
June 19th	Borough Hall Closed	Juneteenth
June 19th	End of Summer Celebration	Maple Street Pavilion 1:00pm
June 27th	Spark in the Park	Spotswood 6:30pm

"A town in bloom is a reminder that growth, beauty, and community flourish together."

Department of Public Works

BY PAUL REED, CPWM

Spring Safety & Seasonal Tips

As we transition into warmer weather, it's a great time to get outdoors and prepare your property for the season ahead. Please keep the following in mind:

- Stay hydrated and take breaks when working outdoors
- Use proper lifting techniques when handling heavy yard debris or equipment
- Wear gloves and protective gear when cleaning or landscaping
- Be mindful of changing weather conditions, including spring rain and slippery surfaces
- Check walkways and driveways for hazards after winter wear and tear

Don't forget your pets—ensure they have access to clean water and shaded areas as temperatures begin to rise.

Yard Cleanup & Waste Guidelines

Spring cleanup is in full swing. To help ensure smooth and uninterrupted collection services:

- Keep trash and recycling areas clear and accessible
- A friendly reminder that leaves and brush are picked up almost every morning
- Avoid overfilling recycling containers to ensure pick up

Maintaining organized and accessible collection areas helps our teams operate efficiently and keeps our community looking its best.

Community Message

Spring is a time of renewal—not just for our homes, but for our community as well.
Small actions can go a long way:

- Checking in on a neighbor
- Offering a helping hand
- Taking pride in keeping our shared spaces clean
- Spring Street sweeping will take place April 7th (Please keep roadway clear of vehicles)
- Keep an eye out for our week long hydrant flushing notification which will be scheduled in the coming weeks

A simple gesture—whether it's a wave, a kind word, or lending support—helps strengthen the sense of community that makes Helmetta special.

Jamesburg Police Department

Lucky Leprechaun Leap

Clerk's Corner

BY MELISSA HALLERMAN, RMC, CMR

As spring approaches and the first signs of blooming flowers appear around Helmetta, it is a fitting time to reflect on growth, renewal, and the ongoing commitment to serving our community. Recently, I had the opportunity to attend the annual conference of the Municipal Clerks' Association of New Jersey, where municipal clerks from across the state gather to share knowledge, learn about new laws, and strengthen the skills that help us better serve our residents.

The theme of this year's conference was "Municipal Clerks are practically perfect in every way." While the phrase was shared in a lighthearted way, it reflects the dedication, professionalism, and wide range of responsibilities that municipal clerks carry out every day. Much like the changing season, the conference was a reminder that learning and professional growth are always in bloom.

One of the most interesting topics discussed was the growing role of artificial intelligence in government operations. Sessions explored how AI tools may assist with tasks such as document organization, drafting communications, and improving efficiency in municipal offices. At the same time, presenters emphasized the importance of responsible use, transparency, and protecting sensitive information when integrating new technology into government work.

The conference also addressed new public notice laws that affect how municipalities share official information with residents. These updates reflect the ongoing shift toward digital communication while maintaining traditional methods to ensure that public notices remain accessible to everyone in the community.

Election updates were another important part of the conference. Clerks reviewed changes in election procedures, coordination with county election offices, and ongoing efforts to ensure that voting remains secure, accessible, and efficient for all eligible voters.

Continuing education is an essential part of the municipal clerk profession in New Jersey, and conferences such as this provide valuable opportunities to stay informed about legislative changes and evolving best practices. Bringing this knowledge back to Helmetta helps ensure that our municipal operations remain responsive, transparent, and efficient.

As spring arrives and our borough begins to bloom, the lessons and insights gained from this conference will help support the continued growth and success of our community. It is truly a privilege to serve the residents of Helmetta and to contribute to the daily work that helps keep our local government running smoothly.

Wishing everyone a wonderful spring season in Helmetta!

Spring Safety Newsletter

As the weather warms up and we spend more time outdoors, spring brings new safety considerations for our community. Your fire department is here to help you stay safe, prepared, and informed all season long.

Spring Fire Safety Tips

Watch for Outdoor Fire Risks

Spring yard work can increase fire danger:

- Avoid burning yard debris on dry or windy days
- Keep a water source or hose nearby if burning is permitted
- Fully extinguish fire pits and brush piles before leaving

Always check local regulations before starting any outdoor fire.

Grill Safely This Season

Warmer weather means grilling season is back!

- Keep grills at least 10 feet away from structures
- Never leave a grill unattended
- Clean grease buildup to prevent flare-ups
- Check propane tanks and connections for leaks

Be Prepared for Spring Storms

Spring storms can develop quickly and cause damage:

- Secure outdoor furniture and loose items
- Have flashlights and fresh batteries ready
- Avoid downed power lines—always assume they are live
- Review your family emergency plan

Spring Cleaning for Fire Safety

A little cleaning goes a long way in preventing fires:

- Clean out dryer vents and lint traps
- Safely dispose of old chemicals and flammable liquids
- Declutter storage areas to reduce fire hazards
- Test smoke alarms and replace batteries if needed