

# Florham Park Eagle

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THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 9, 2021

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## Passaic leaps banks, stranding drivers

Police rescue several from submerged vehicles in flash flood

By ALEX PARKER-MAGYAR  
MANAGING EDITOR

**FLORHAM PARK** - Floodwaters from the Passaic River reached as high as waist-deep Wednesday night, Sept. 1, into the following morning in the borough, as Hurricane Ida left several motorists stranded on flooded roadways.

Florham Park police rescued several drivers from submerged vehicles starting at about 8:40 p.m. Wednesday, according to Police Lt. Brian Ford.

Vreeland Road, Heritage Road, East Madison Avenue, Lincoln Avenue, Columbia Turnpike and other local streets all saw extensive flooding, Ford said Thursday.

He said some cars on Vreeland Road were seen floating amid the floodwaters.

"There were several stranded motorists inside vehicles that officers responded to help remove them from the vehicles and get them out of floodwaters," he said. "There were also a lot of pump-out requests for several homes that were forwarded to the fire department for assistance when that was available and when that was possible."

Several local roads were closed temporarily during the height of the storm, whether due to flooding or fallen tree branches. While several large branches blocked roadways, there were no closures due to fallen trees or utility poles, Ford said.



The parking lot of CenterCourt Sports on Columbia Turnpike in Florham Park was more swamp than driveway Thursday morning, Sept. 2, in the wake of Hurricane Ida. Please see more photos on Page 3.

All borough roads had been reopened by Thursday morning, though flooding conditions persisted on a handful of sites, including the CenterCourt Sports facility

and Open Road Cadillac dealership on Columbia Turnpike, and Brooklake Country Club. Numerous vehicles at the car dealership had been moved to higher ground as several inches of water covered much of the parking lot. At CenterCourt, where most of the parking lot remained flooded in the days after the storm, a number of cars were parked on the front lawn along the road.

Police performed the last vehicle extraction of the evening at about 2:47 a.m., Ford said, rescuing a driver and a passenger. Police transported several stranded drivers to nearby hotels during the storm.

In addition, Ford described a call "that was pretty scary for us," in which officers from Florham Park and East

Sunny skies and a touch of fall weather greeted residents on Saturday morning, Sept. 4, as they emptied their garages for the first-ever town-wide yard sale.

Shoppers followed an online map to more than 20 participating Florham Park homes, as well as to a handful of local sellers who set up shop outside the Community Center off Ridgedale Avenue.

The event, organized by the Florham Park Jaycees in collaboration with the borough, attracted local residents as well as bargain-seekers coming from as far away as Pennsylvania and New York.

And there was no shortage of bargains. Residents eager to part with old children's toys, furniture, clothing and more sold items for as little as \$1 or less. Shoppers walked away with CDs, DVDs, picture frames and bed frames – not to mention any number of knickknacks, tchotchkes and seasonal decorations – for just a few dollars cash.

One seller, Sandra Rosenberger of Briarwood Road, offered dozens of discounted Halloween decorations outside the Community Center.

Danielle Glancey of Cathedral Avenue showcased a veritable fleet of strollers and baby bouncers alongside handbags, shoes and



Photo by Alex Parker-Magyar

Sandra Rosenberger of Briarwood Road, left, and sister-in-law Manuela Rosenberger sell an endless array of Halloween decorations outside the Florham Park Community Center on Saturday, Sept. 4.

## Bring on the bargains

One's trash, another's treasure at inaugural yard sale

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Please see more photos from the event on Page 11.

sporting goods.

A treasure trove of board games new and old were stacked on a folding table outside Theresa Wisniewski's Keyes Street home.

Florham Park children got in on the fun as well, learning salesmanship as they sold off the toy cars and action figures they've outgrown over the years.

Residents who missed out on the deals will have another chance on Saturday, Sept. 25, in Madison, Chatham and Chatham Township, where local environmental commissions will host a tri-town yard sale to benefit the Great Swamp Watershed Association.

For those large items and pieces of furniture that didn't sell in Florham Park on Saturday, residents are invited to call the Department of Public Works at (973) 410-5330 for bulk item pickup.

Residents are also encouraged to consider donating additional unsold items to the Market Street Mission in Morristown or the Habitat for Humanity ReStore. Learn more about the organizations at www.marketstreet.org or http://morrisrestore.org/donate.

## Town to continue deer cull

**FLORHAM PARK** - The borough will allow deer hunting on a handful of designated sites for the second consecutive year.

The Borough Council voted to authorize the bow-hunting program at a meeting on Aug. 19, seeking to control the deer population in town.

While last year's program "wasn't a huge success," Mayor Mark Taylor said following another meeting on Thursday, Sept. 2, the cull is needed to rein

in a "population that has just grown out of control."

"Here's what we're finding: car accidents, front lawn damage, danger to people," he said, citing a recent incident in which a roughly 400-pound buck struck a resident's car in what could have been a fatal accident.

The mayor said public safety is the council's principal goal through the cull.

Hunting will be limited to a handful of borough-owned sites – "isolat

ed areas with tree stands that are not open to the general public," Taylor said.

Signage at the sites will indicate the dates of the program. The mayor said about six hunters participated last year, a number the borough likes to keep small for the safety of the hunters.

The borough had previously allowed a bow-hunting program from 2008 to 2011 before re-authorizing the cull in 2020. The council resolution notes the pro-

gram was "very successful" in those years, killing more than 150 deer.

The mayor reiterated that the borough needs to step in to control the number of deer in town, considering they have no natural predators.

"We've got winter coming and then spring, so now we're seeing (does) having three babies," he said. "There's plenty of food, there's nobody fighting them and there's nobody killing them."

PLEASE SEE FLOOD, PAGE 3

>> HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL PREVIEW INSIDE



**High School Football 2021**, a special 64-page section focusing on the upcoming season, is included in this issue. The section is filled with stories, written by sports writers with New Jersey Hills Media Group, publishers of this newspaper. You'll find in-depth stories on each team in the company's circulation area (28 in all), schedules, photos and more.

The section can also be found online at [florhamparkeagle.com](http://florhamparkeagle.com). You may need to double-tap the link if you are on a mobile device. You can find the section by scrolling down to the "Special Sections" on the home page. We hope you enjoy the section.



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**INSIDE**

Calendar	12	Opinion	4-5
Crossword	5	Public Notices	14
Obituaries	7	Sports	8-10

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