



25th
ANNIVERSARY
OUR HISTORY
1998-2023

In 1997 Developer Schorr-Depalma proposed 550 homes and 13 detention basins for the environmentally sensitive 416 acre Chase Tract





Then one April evening 1998 a man and his daughter were watching a Township committee meeting when he heard plans to sewer southern Holmdel allowing for 1000 homes.

Russell Dronne



Overdevelopment and its consequences loomed





HOLMDEL'S PARKS AND
OPEN SPACES



Community members organized into CIU to Preserve 416 Acre Chase Tract

Protect the watershed
(68% of Holmdel in Swimming River
Watershed)

Connect all the green spaces along the
Ramanessin River

CONNECTING HOLMDEL'S PARKS AND
OPEN SPACES • HOLMDEL'S GREENWAY TRAILS

EXISTING TRAILS ———
PLANNED TRAILS ·····

It wasn't easy. People worked hard
Spreading the word.



Building Community



Going on walks of our beautiful land



RALLYING FOR THE ENVIRONMENT — Martin Sayne of the Sierra Club addresses environmentalists Feb. 3 at a press conference at the Ramanessin Brook Greenway in Holmdel on the clearing of trees for a parking lot at the PNC Bank Arts Center.

(Jackie Pollack/Greater Media)



Creating a festival celebrating our Earth

Mr. R. E. Cyle



Then Mission Accomplished June 28, 2001

THE COVER

Chase site in Holmdel

About 226 acres of Chase Manhattan's 416-acre property will be preserved as parkland under a \$10.3 million funding package. The state will buy the remaining 190 acres for about \$8.6 million and resell it for farming use only.



ballot

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FRIDAY, APRIL 27, 2001

ASBURY PA

FROM THI

**Holmdel Town-
ship Commit-
teeman Larry
Fink (left) and
committee can-
didate Ralph
Blumenthal,
both backers of
the plan to pre-
serve the Chase
tract, tour the
property last
weekend.**



MICHAEL J.
TREGOLA
Staff Photographer

Preservationists take walk on the wild site

“They told us it would never happen.” Russell Dronne



2/7/2001 Ind.

THIS IS A CASE WHERE
TOO MANY COOKS MAKES IT DELICIOUS.





Clare Pond, Chase Tract

Partnership to save the Chase Tract

Chase Manhattan Bank
 DEP—State Green Acres Program
 State Agriculture Development Committee
 Monmouth County Board of Chosen Freeholders
 Monmouth County Board of Recreation Commissioners
 Monmouth County Agricultural Development Board
 Holmdel Township
 Monmouth Conservation Foundation
 Friends of Holmdel Open Space



227 acres of Chase tract now in the public domain

Offer 190 acres to be auctioned as two thousand-foot farm tracts

By Susan Brown

A deal to save the Chase Manhattan Bank's 227-acre Chase Tract in Holmdel Township, N.J., is being finalized. The deal would transfer 190 acres to the State of New Jersey and 37 acres to the Monmouth County Board of Chosen Freeholders. The deal would also transfer 100 acres to the State of New Jersey and 37 acres to the Monmouth County Board of Chosen Freeholders. The deal would also transfer 100 acres to the State of New Jersey and 37 acres to the Monmouth County Board of Chosen Freeholders.

Saving the Chase Tract Inspired CILU to address important ongoing projects



Continued from previous page

"This is a good example of how a new method of planning can work together and achieve a great result," said...

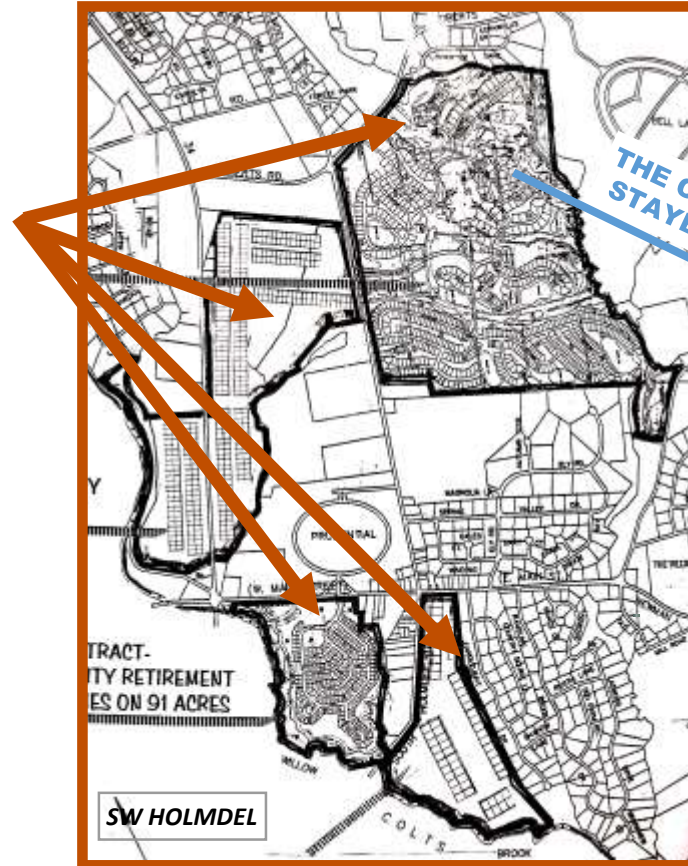
"The deal to transfer the Chase Tract to the State of New Jersey and the Monmouth County Board of Chosen Freeholders is a landmark achievement. It will ensure the long-term preservation of this important natural resource for the benefit of future generations."

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SEWERS!!

CILU LED THE INITIATIVE AGAINST EXTENSION OF SEWERS

Schoor Depalma wanted change zoning to extend sewers into our Swimming River Reservoir Watershed



OPENING DOORS TO MASSIVE HIGH DENSITY DEVELOPMENT

Sewers in SW Holmdel, would have created potential for 1200 retirement homes.

RSK

THE CHASE TRACT STAYED GREEN



DENSE RE-ZONING PLANS WERE WITHDRAWN - NEW SEWER PLAN IMPLEMENTED

WATER

**A MAJOR CILU
GOAL IS PROTECTION
OF OUR WATER SUPPLY
AND WATERSHED**



TREES



I really, really want a tree ordinance. I have for a very long time. I've seen too many of them go. And heard them also.....I've heard the sound of big trees hitting the ground and then there is emptiness....with a hole in the sky.

Isabelle McFarland, June 16, 2005



SOILS



REMOVAL OF SOILS AND TREES AT OUR STREAM'S HEADWATERS PERMANENTLY DIMINISHES OUR DRINKING WATER



CLEAR CUTTING AT THE GARDEN STATE ART CENTER



Photography and slides by Roberta Kaufman

FLOODS

ANOTHER CILU GOAL IS PROTECTION FROM FLOOD HAZARD ALONG THE WAACKAACK/MAHORAS STREAM



Detention basin release from the Mt Laurel Development "The Woods" flooding and invading the deciduous forested wetland along the Waackaack/Mahoras Stream

PRESERVATION

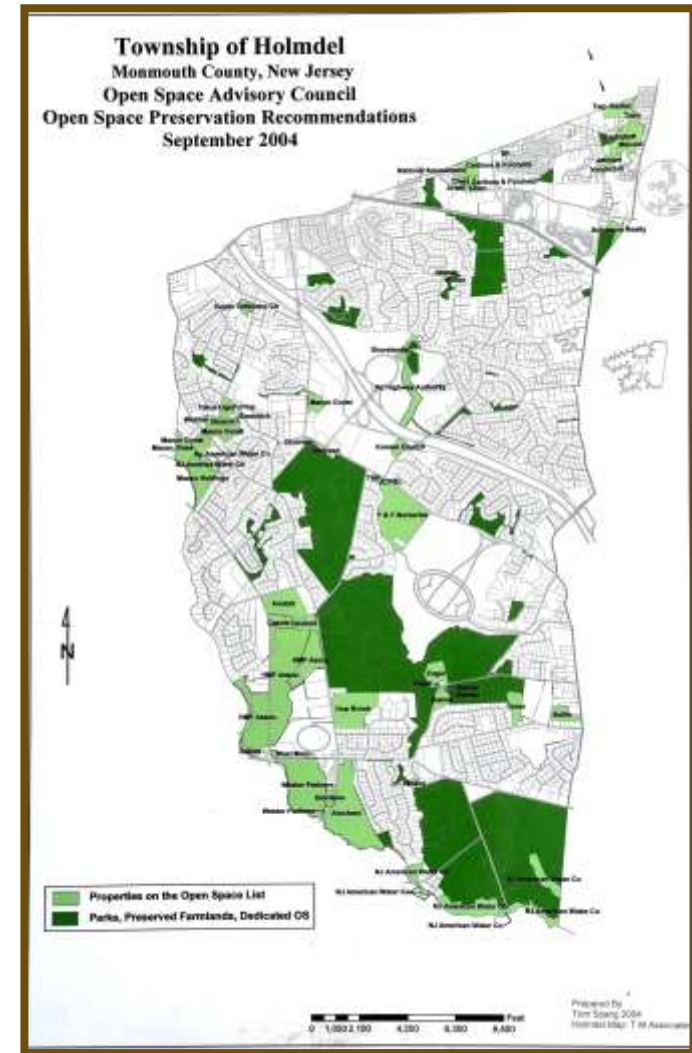
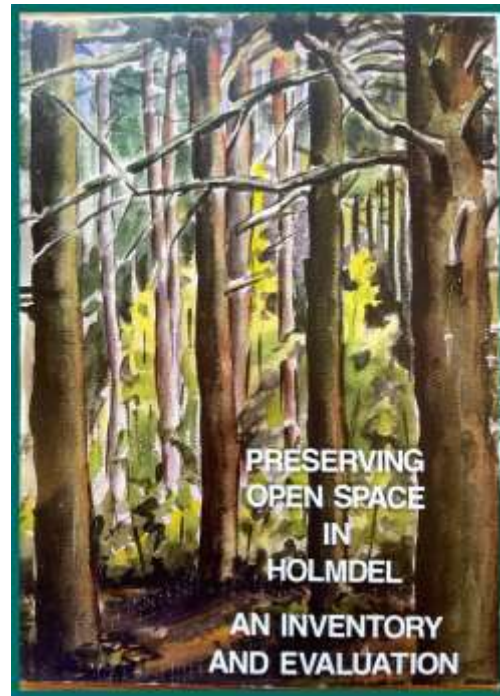
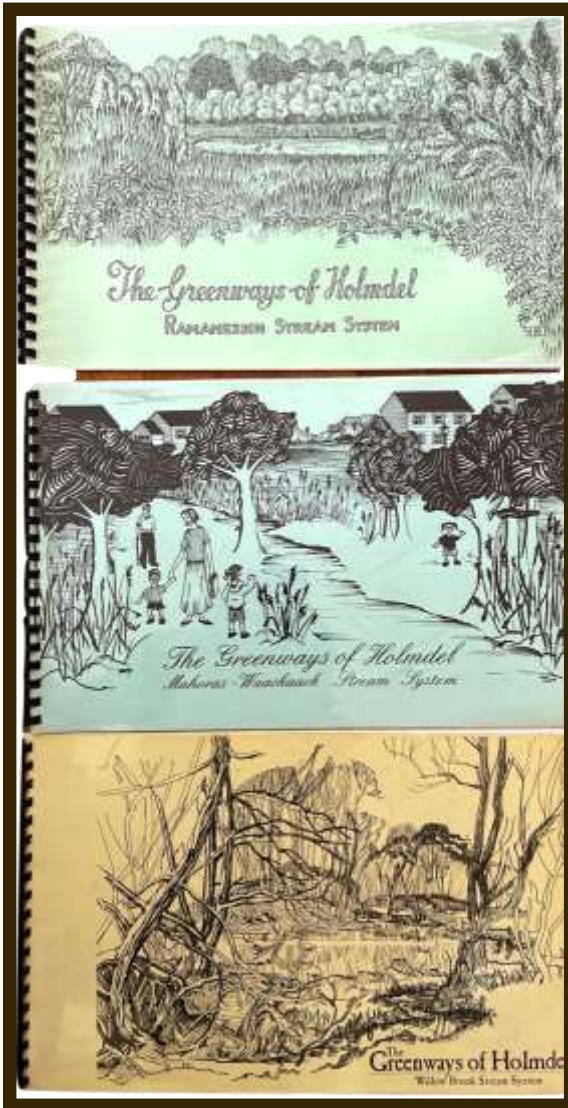
Historic Bayonet Farm



OPEN SPACE

CILU led the referendum initiative for the open space tax

Two open space taxes passed!



A galvanized group met the threats head on,

- Led initiative against Sewers- **Sewer plan withdrawn**
- Led initiative for referendum on open space tax- **Two open space taxes passed**
- Created the belief that the Chase Tract could be preserved and helped create entity to fund it—FOHOS -- **It was successful**
- Became officially organized as a 501(c 4)—**Still Going Strong 25 years**

DePalma Tract,
Preserved with
CILU Prodding,
2000



Mahoras Brook – 2004



80 Acres F & F Preserved - 2007



2007 “Shining example of various levels of government working together” (NJ Farm Bureau).

Protecting Cross Farm Park-



CROSS FARM PARK SYNTHETIC TURF SOCCER FIELDS
SITE LAYOUT PLAN



Bell Labs: How to save the building and environment and retain ratables (2008).



CILU hosted the Charrette



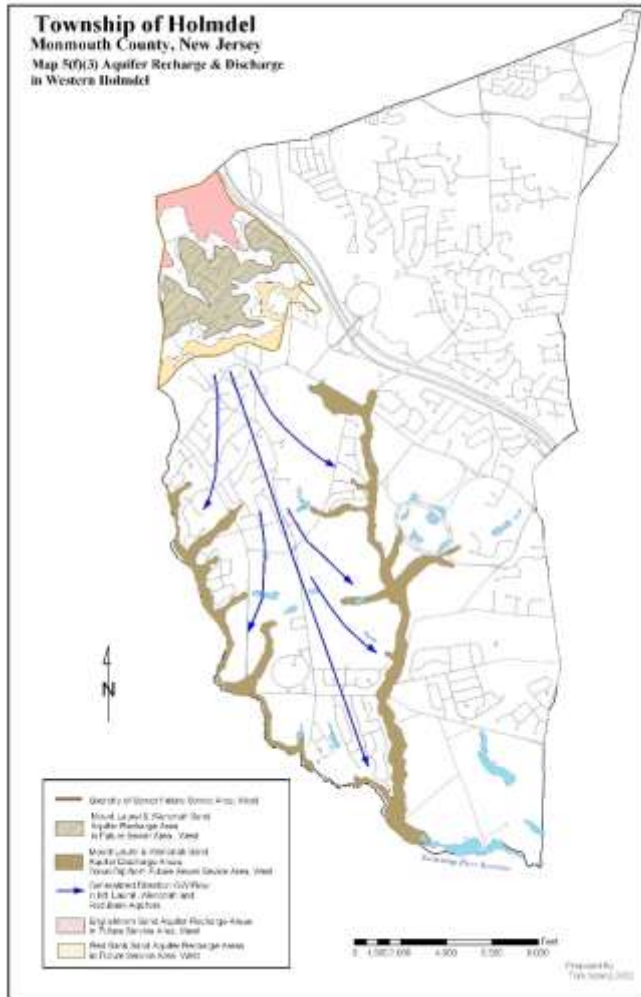
Preserving Ely, Westor, Inverness, not synthetic turf fields but maybe Heavenly Estates



8 full size fields, 6 artificial turf, 28 80' light towers, parking for 400 cars



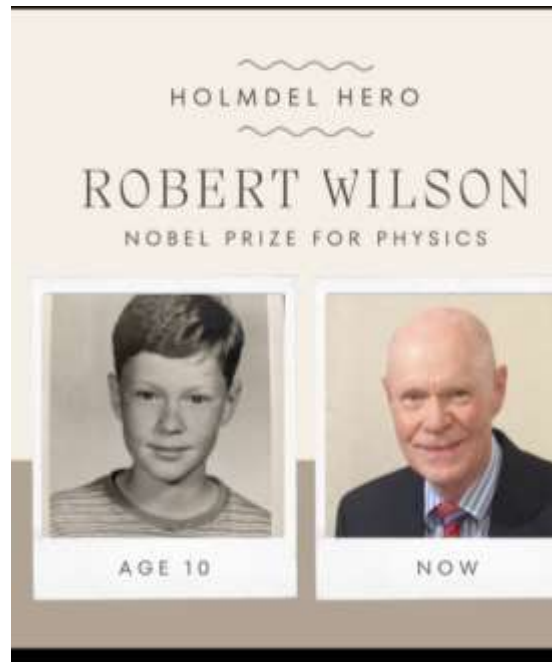
Issues still to work on: Wastewater Management



Flooding at the bottom of the Waackaack Mahoras
Stream Corridor, Middle Road, Holmdel NJ



Collaborating with other groups to save the Holmdel Horn Antenna: a national historic landmark



Working towards CI LU mission with same strategies

Educating Ourselves

Raising Awareness

Building Community

Expanding Community

Eating

Having fun

Educating Ourselves: First Candidate Forum 1999



Candidate Forums in the community center



Bi-Partisan claim of “Green”



Raising Awareness: Dragged into the Digital Era- Hours spent filming and posting on Youtube channel

A screenshot of the YouTube channel page for 'cilu holmdel'. The channel name is 'cilu holmdel' with the handle '@mansfieldstown2', 139 subscribers, and 260 videos. The channel description is 'Channel of Holmdel's Citizens For Informed Land Use'. The page shows a grid of video thumbnails with titles and view counts. The left sidebar contains navigation options like Home, Shorts, Subscriptions, Library, History, Your videos, Watch later, Liked videos, and Subscriptions. The top navigation bar includes Home, VIDEOS, LIVE, PLAYLISTS, COMMUNITY, CHANNELS, and ABOUT. The search bar is at the top right.

YouTube

Search

Home

Shorts

Subscriptions

Library

History

Your videos

Watch later

Liked videos

Subscriptions

Holmdel Communi...

Holmdel Township

cilu holmdel

Sarmeet Karwal

The Late Show w...

The Daily Show

Pod Save America

Show 21 more

Explore

HOME VIDEOS LIVE PLAYLISTS COMMUNITY CHANNELS ABOUT

Latest Popular

CILU Presentation on Antarctica
57 views • 4 months ago

Healthy Gardens Through Composting:
59 views • 1 year ago

Duties and Responsibilities of a Township Administrator - Cherron Rountree
78 views • 1 year ago

A Tour of the Mazza Recycling Center. Learn how to recycle effectively.
200 views • 1 year ago

CILU - Protecting and Enhancing Our Water Resources from Sustainable Jersey Part 1
55 views • 1 year ago

How to Raise Chickens
55 views • 1 year ago

CILU - Citizens for Informed Land Use Beekeeping

Covid-19 Vaccine presentation and Q&A with Jerry Jackopino, Pharmacist, Hazlet...

Using website to stay organized and informed



The screenshot shows the CILU website home page. At the top is the CILU logo with the tagline "Citizens for Informed Land Use". Below the logo is a navigation menu with links for Home, About CILU, CILU Issues, Publications, Photos, Join Us, More, and Donations. The main content area features a large announcement for "Earth Day 2023 is coming" on Sunday, April 30, 2023, from 12:00 noon to 5:00 pm at Bayonet Farm, Holmdel. To the right of this announcement is a call to action: "CLICK TO SIGN an online petition that CILU has launched to save the Holmdel Horn Antenna." Below this is a photograph of the Holmdel Horn Antenna on Crawfords Hill. Further down, there is a photograph of an Earth Day Festival at the Red Barn, Bayonet Farm. At the bottom of the page, there is a link to "See the 2023 Earth Day flyer and the schedule of activities and events".

CILU
Citizens for Informed Land Use

Home About CILU CILU Issues Publications Photos Join Us More Donations

Earth Day 2023 is coming
Sunday, April 30, 2023 12:00 noon to 5:00 pm
at Bayonet Farm, Holmdel

CLICK TO SIGN an online petition that CILU has launched to save the Holmdel Horn Antenna.

The Holmdel Horn Antenna on Crawfords Hill

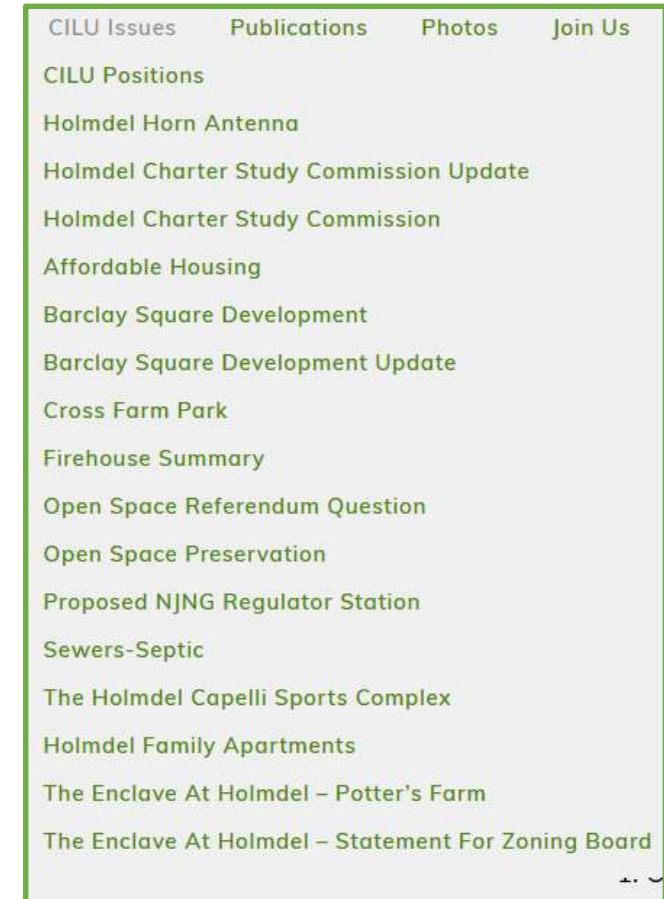
Much more information is available on the [Horn Antenna page](#).

Recent Updates:

1. On March 20, over 120 people listened to a reprise performance of the 2/25 talk about Spotted Lanternflies, by Rutgers Master Gardener Ann Sherwood. Selected slides from the talk are

Earth Day Festival at the Red Barn, Bayonet Farm

See the 2023 Earth Day flyer
and the schedule of activities and events



The screenshot shows a vertical list of navigation links from the CILU website. The links are: CILU Issues, Publications, Photos, Join Us, CILU Positions, Holmdel Horn Antenna, Holmdel Charter Study Commission Update, Holmdel Charter Study Commission, Affordable Housing, Barclay Square Development, Barclay Square Development Update, Cross Farm Park, Firehouse Summary, Open Space Referendum Question, Open Space Preservation, Proposed NJNG Regulator Station, Sewers-Septic, The Holmdel Capelli Sports Complex, Holmdel Family Apartments, The Enclave At Holmdel – Potter's Farm, and The Enclave At Holmdel – Statement For Zoning Board.

CILU Issues Publications Photos Join Us

CILU Positions

Holmdel Horn Antenna

Holmdel Charter Study Commission Update

Holmdel Charter Study Commission

Affordable Housing

Barclay Square Development

Barclay Square Development Update

Cross Farm Park

Firehouse Summary

Open Space Referendum Question

Open Space Preservation

Proposed NJNG Regulator Station

Sewers-Septic

The Holmdel Capelli Sports Complex

Holmdel Family Apartments

The Enclave At Holmdel – Potter's Farm

The Enclave At Holmdel – Statement For Zoning Board

Using Facebook

Facebook.com/citizens for Informed Land Use - CILU



Then Covid Happened



Covid changed our Educational Presentations



BEES
Covid Vaccine
Superintendent of
Schools

Candidate Forums on Zoom

Spring 2020



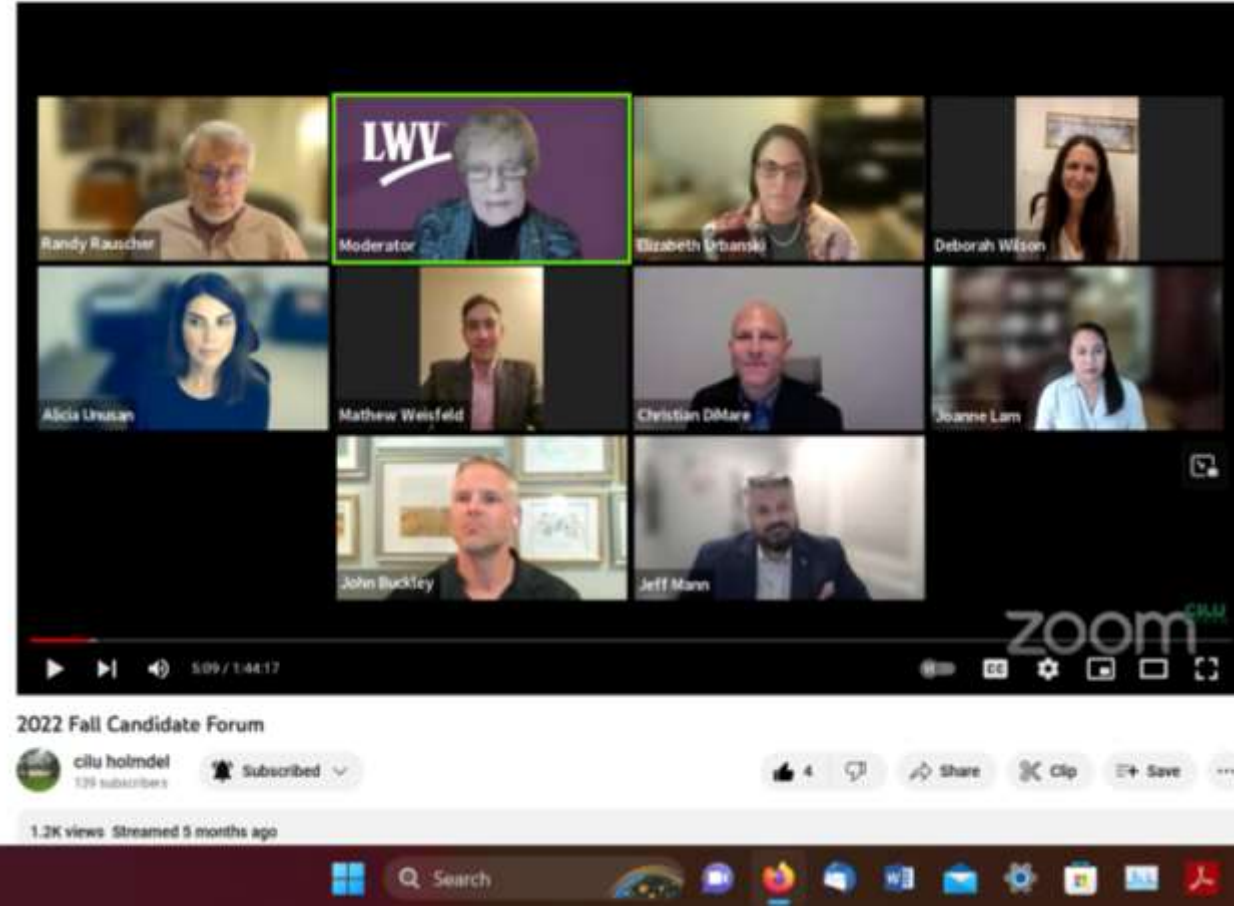
A screenshot of a YouTube video player showing a Zoom recording of a candidate forum. The video is titled "Spring Holmdel Committee Candidate Forum 6-16-2020 (all candidates)". The main video frame shows a woman with glasses and a red top speaking. A search bar is visible at the top of the page. The video player includes a progress bar at 4:38 / 1:22:02 and a small thumbnail in the bottom left corner.

Spring Holmdel Committee Candidate Forum 6-16-2020 (all candidates)

cilu holmdel
139 subscribers

366 views 2 years ago

Fall 2022



A screenshot of a YouTube video player showing a Zoom recording of a candidate forum. The video is titled "2022 Fall Candidate Forum". The main video frame shows a grid of 11 participants in a Zoom meeting. The moderator, Elizabeth Urbanski, is highlighted with a green border. The video player includes a progress bar at 5:09 / 1:44:17 and a search bar at the top of the page.

2022 Fall Candidate Forum

cilu holmdel
139 subscribers

1.2K views Streamed 5 months ago

Slowly meeting face to face again after the Covid quarantine – a fossil hunt



making lanternfly traps



Building community: Walks



Building community: Picnics

The Holmdel Journal ▲ October 1999



L. to R.: Bill McFarland, Peggy Koch, Sede Spang and Sam Shramko prepare for first annual barbecue.

FIRST ANNUAL CITIZENS FOR INFORMED LAND USE BARBECUE

by Susan Murphy

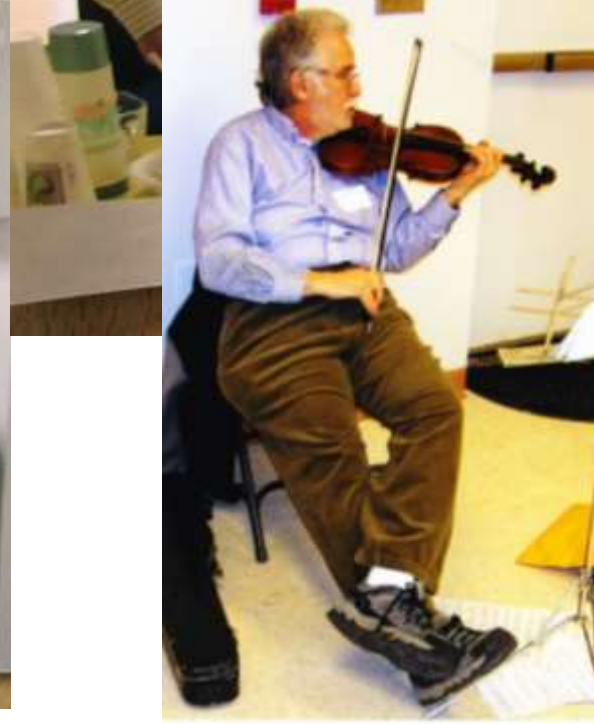
Despite the intermittent rain and overcast sky, Citizens for Informed Land Use held their first annual barbecue. On Sunday, September 5, the members and their families, several township committee members, and potential candidates gathered at Holmdel Park.



2022 Picnic



Potlucks





COMPLIMENTARY COPY

Holmdel Happenings

MAY 2001

U.S. POSTAGE
Permit No. 9
Holmdel, NJ
07738

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Holmdel Residents Celebrate Earth Day By Hiking The "Saved" Chase Tract



Trout Lily in peak bloom along the Ramapoan Greenway trail



Holmdel residents gathered at the Ramapoan Greenway for their Township

BELIEVE IN OPEN SPACE?
Send your contribution to

On Earth Day weekend, Larry Fink led his friends to the

Opinion

Joy in Holmdel this Earth Day



Earth Day walks are long time environmental activities, both to enjoy nature and to raise awareness. The photo shows Larry Fink, Holmdel's Environmental Commissioner and former Chairperson of the Environmental Commission, and Roberta Kaufman, current Chairperson of the Environmental Commission.

Every Year CILU SPONSORS EARTH DAY

Holmdel's 23rd Annual Greenway Walk and Earth Day Festival at Bayonet Farm Sunday, April 30, 2023

Start the day with a Guided Hike

Explore trails on Bayonet Farm and the Ramapoan Section of Holmdel Park for about a 1.5-2 mile loop returning to enjoy the Earth Day festivities. Suitable for walkers of all ages. Meet at the Harding House at 11:00. Park in festival parking.

Continue with Earth Day Festival
12:00 to 5:00 p.m.



Guided Tours of the gracious, historic Harding House will give a glimpse into the world of the late 1800s who lived there and hosted "nice" days of the day! Tours are free but limited. Visit the Welcome Center upon entering the Festival grounds for programs and tour tickets.

SHOWS FOR KIDS

- Monmouth County Park Nature Man
- What's the Botic with You?
- Menomah Move: Five rescue animals
- Fossil Hunting with Paleontologist Dr. J. Brown
- Touch Mother Earth Drum Circle
- Nature Crafts for kids

LIVE ROCK/FOLK BANDS Headlined by Late 4 Lunch



FOOD

Delicious homemade sandwiches, hot dogs, and fresh baked goodies will be for sale at the Red Barn Deli and Old Fashioned Bake Shopper!

Bayonet Farm Earth Day Tee Shirts, reusable bags, and native plants will also be for sale.

Admission, shows, tours and parking are all free!

The Festival will cancel for inclement weather. For further information, call Karen at (800) 801-7803. For cancellation information, please visit the CILU Facebook page: Citizens for Informed Land Use-CILU

Collaborating with other groups: Holmdel Environmental Commission: Where does the water go—non point source pollution



CILU Booth on Earth Day



Scouts





MUSICIANS

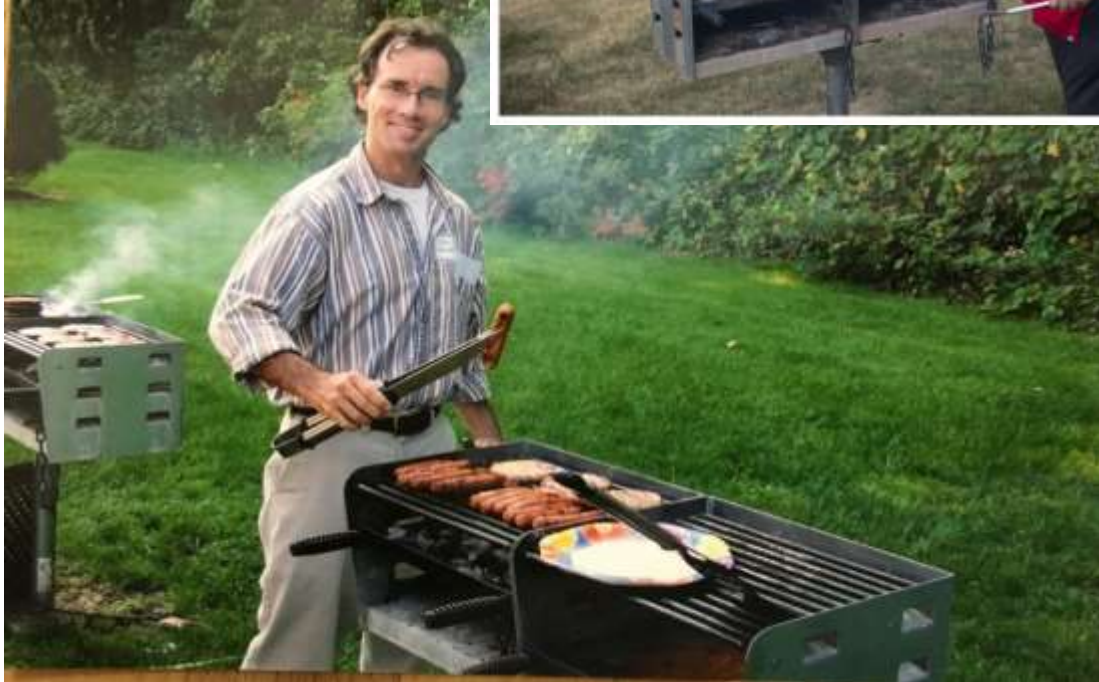




Spreading awareness



Cooks









Dedicated
Volunteers

With Many Student Volunteers



CILU is about Friendships





In Memorium

Sam Shramko

Anne Shramko



Working to keep the magic of Holmdel



E



Thanks

Past and Present CILU members for passionate advocacy for the environment

Photographers: Sam Shramko, Steve Strickland, Roberta Kaufman, Alicia Usuan, Julile Roth

Compiled by Karen Strickland and Roberta Kaufman

Holmdel: April 2023