## **Raymond Brook and Marsh Protection**

On June 28th, a Special Town Meeting was held at the Douglas Library Community Room to consider the acquisition of an 8.5-acre parcel of land, owned by the Raymond family and situated along the west side of Millstream Road, for open space preservation. The Open Space Land Acquisition Committee (the Committee) recommended this property to the Hebron Board of Selectmen for preservation after considering the parcel's many beneficial attributes. Hebron's residents in attendance voted unanimously to acquire this parcel for open space and natural resource protection!

This forested parcel, located within the Town's only "Groundwater Aquifer Protection" zone, contains a significant portion of Raymond Brook and its associated floodplain wetlands. Acquisition of this property protects the steep upland slopes and water quality of Raymond Brook, continuing the Committee's extensive efforts in preserving open space upstream of Raymond Brook Marsh, a Wetlands of Statewide Special Concern, and potential area of future drinking water supply.

The parcel preserves an undisturbed wildlife corridor, protects a known Trout Habitat area, provides for enhanced recreational access and use (i.e. fishing), and has the potential to connect to the 116-acre Raymond Brook Preserve to the north.

The property lies in between two parcels of Townowned open space, one to the south and one to the east, thereby expanding area of protected forest within this vital Raymond Brook Greenway



Corridor, as depicted in the Town's 2014 Plan of Conservation and Development.

Characterized by a mostly deciduous forest, purchase of the parcel protects the historic, tree-lined Millstream Road, a scenic gateway into Hebron Center.

The Committee wishes to thank the Raymond Family for the opportunity to preserve this beautiful and unique land. Preserving this property furthers the Committee's efforts to protect Hebron's high value open space land.

> Frank Zitkus Hebron Open Space Land Acquisition Committee Secretary and Planning and Zoning Representative



