**Press Announcement**

**The Berlin Land Trust, Inc.**

As the Berlin Turnpike approaches Meriden, the slopes of Lamentation Mountain shift southwesterly and touch the Turnpike. There, nestled between the Westview Highlands Development and the Lamentation Mountain State Park is a three acre piece of forested, sloping land which Mark Fontanella of Wolcott and Peter J. Joyce of Essex have donated to the Berlin Land Trust.

To be known as the Fontanella/Joyce Preserve, the donated land connects the Berlin Turnpike to larger properties owned first by the Town of Berlin and then the land trust**.** The preservation of large, connected tracts of open space enhance the protection of wild-life explained Dennis L. Kern, president of the land trust. Connectivity is a goal of the land trust. He added: “The protection of our forested land helps keep Berlin greener. We greatly appreciate the generosity of Mark Fontanella and Peter J. Joyce as we celebrate this donation.”

The Berlin Land Trust protects over two hundred twenty five (225) acres of land and has conservation easements on approximately sixty (60) acres of property in Berlin and adjacent towns.