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Deck the Village returns to Belmont

BELMONT — Continuing old traditions and integrating new, Deck the Village is returning to the town of Belmont on Dec. 1, from noon to 2 p.m.

The festivities begin with a musical salute to the season, a first performance at the historic bandstand in its new location.

The Belmont Elementary School Vocal Ensemble, directed by Jennifer Shaw will open the concert. The Belmont High School Band, conducted by Lauren Fountain, Director of Belmont Middle School & High School Bands, join the festivities again, bringing instrumental holiday cheer. Just Love to Sing: The Dickens Carolers, Artistic Director and Founder Jane Cormier and Music Director Carlos Martinez, conclude the performance with their classical Christmas carols.

Santa and Mrs. Claus will make their grand appearance after the performances and stay throughout the festivities for pictures in the Belmont Library. Attendees are asked to bring their own cameras to capture these memories.

Other ongoing activities include: cookie decorating at the Sweet Shop located on the first floor of the Corner Meeting House, crafts and card making at Santa's Workshop in the Senior Center of the Belmont Mill and holiday story time located in the Belmont Parks and Recreation

room of the Belmont Mill.

There will be collection areas throughout the village for donations of non-perishable food items for St. Joseph's Church Food Bank. There will also be a Belmont Police Department patrol car parked outside the Belmont Mill collecting new, unwrapped toys for the Belmont Police Relief Association toy drive.

The official "decking" of the Village will take place on Saturday, Nov. 30, from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Volunteers are welcome to take part in decorating indoors and out at various village locations.

For more information or to volunteer for this free event contact the Town of Belmont's Special Event Coordinator at 998-3525 or **events@belmontnh.org**. In the case of severe weather this event will be held on Sunday, Dec. 8.

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