



CITY OF WESTMINSTER

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## **PARTY LIKE IT'S 1899!**

*Vermont Military Band to Perform Traditional 1890s Outdoor Evening Concert  
in Belle Grove Square Park on Friday, June 18<sup>th</sup>*

*Westminster, MD* – On Friday, June 18, 2010, the City of Westminster's Department of Recreation and Parks and Office of Economic Development will host an outdoor evening concert by the Newmont Military Band of Windsor, Vermont in Belle Grove Square Park, beginning at 7:00 p.m.

Formed in 1995, The Newmont Military Band is a re-creation of the small town brass bands of the late 1800s. Membership in the band is from the Upper Connecticut River Valley of New Hampshire and Vermont.

Their concert program will be representative of the music played on the town green in the late 19<sup>th</sup> century. There will be songs of "the war," songs of love, marches (including Sousa's), dances, and songs from the old plantations. The band's musical selections are chosen from American Band and Windsor Military Band programs documented in the Claremont (NH) Advocate and the Vermont Journal newspapers between the years of 1890 and 1905. Following their performance in Westminster, the Newmont Military Band will head to Gettysburg to perform two concerts at the Gettysburg Brass Band Festival on Saturday and Sunday, June 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup>.

The band's music is borrowed from the archives of the American Band of Claremont, New Hampshire. As it is authentic late 19th century music, it is scored differently than for modern bands—it includes scores for clarinet, but not the saxophone that we see today. Most of the brass instruments played by the musicians in the Newmont Band are originals, i.e., either manufactured or based on designs drawn before 1895. These brass instruments—cornets (instead of trumpets), alto horns, tenor horns, baritone, and tubas—have a more mellow sound than many of today's brass instruments, and require a different level of skill to produce the sound so indicative of the old-time bands.

Admission to the concert is free. Just as in the old days, bring your own blanket or chair on which to sit and enjoy the concert. Belle Grove Square Park is located at the corner of Bond and West Green Streets in Downtown Westminster. In the event of rain, the concert will be held in the gymnasium of the old Longwell Armory (known today as the Westminster Family Center) at 11 Longwell Avenue.

Free parking is available on street along the park and in the Westminster Square Parking Deck, approximately a block east of Belle Grove Square on West Green Street.

For more information on the concert, contact Stan Ruchlewicz at (410) 848-5294 or email him at [sruchlewicz@westgov.com](mailto:sruchlewicz@westgov.com).

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*The Department of Planning, Zoning and Development is located at 56 West Main Street, Suite #1 in Westminster. The department is dedicated to enhancing the quality of life and economic vitality of the City of Westminster for its citizens, businesses and visitors through the development and implementation of quality development practices. For more information, call 410-848-9002 or visit [www.westminstermd.gov](http://www.westminstermd.gov).*