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Notes from editor (not for publication):

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HEADLINE ELEMENTS:

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1 River Singers present holiday concerts in Westminster
2 West

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5 TEXT BODY:

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6 The River Singers Community Chorus, led by Mary Cay
7 Brass with Andy Davis, is celebrating their 35th anniversary of
8 joyous singing together with two special holiday concerts
9 Saturday, Dec. 13, at 4 p.m., and Sunday, Dec. 14, at 4 p.m., at
the Westminster West Church.

10 The 70-voice River Singers is a multi-generational chorus
11 known for what it calls “an eclectic mix of community-based

12 music from many cultural and musical traditions." Songs from
13 Bosnia, South Africa, Macedonia, and Belarus, are often part of
14 the repertoire, as well as African American gospel and social
15 justice songs.

16 Choir member Davis will lead songs from the local
17 Nowell Sing We Clear tradition and one of his own compositions
18 based on a text from *The Wind in the Willows*. The choir will also
19 sing a memorial song arranged by and honoring Peter Amidon.
20 Several songs will be accompanied by the choir's "Balkan Band"
21 with Laurie Rabut on fiddle, Addie Rose Holland on clarinet,
22 Richie Davis on percussion, and Andrew Fries on trombone.

23 Throughout the years, the River Singers have hosted
24 many international choirs — The Boys Choir of Kenya, The
25 Christminster Singers and Big Sky Chorus from the U.K., the
26 Zedashe Ensemble from the Republic of Georgia, the Bulgarian
27 Pauni Trio, and Kitka, the San Francisco-based women's Balkan
28 ensemble.

29 Internationally renowned choral leaders around the
30 world have led residencies and workshops with the choir to
31 develop what promoters call a "repertoire of authentic, lively,
32 earthy sounds."

33 The admission fee of \$15–\$25 will be donated to local
34 organizations working in community food support. For more
35 information, contact mcbrass@vermontel.net or visit
36 marycaybrass.com.

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BIO/COATTAIL:

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