

—Slug:.....COMM-0844.arts.tuba_xmas
—Contributor.....
—Contributor email.....
—For section.....The Arts
—Format.....News - no byline
—Dateline.....West Brattleboro
—Article Number:.....42752

Notes from editor (not for publication):

HEADLINE ELEMENTS:

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TubaChristmas on returns Dec. 14

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TEXT BODY:

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A holiday music tradition returns to West Brattleboro on Sunday, Dec.14, at 3 p.m. "TubaChristmas" brings together players of valved, low-brass instruments, including the tuba and euphonium (also known as a baritone horn), to rehearse and perform Christmas carols specially arranged in four parts for a tuba choir.

TubaChristmas events take place in over 300 cities throughout the United States and in several other countries. The

12 West Brattleboro event will be held at the First Congregational
13 Church, 880 Western Ave. Retired Brattleboro Union High School
14 Band Director Steve Rice serves as host and music director for
15 Brattleboro TubaChristmas.

16 TubaChristmas events are overseen by the Harvey
17 Phillips Foundation. According to the information they provide,
18 Harvey G. Phillips was inspired to create this annual event
19 honoring his mentor and teacher, the tubist William J. Bell (born
20 Christmas Day, 1902).

21 Rockefeller Center in New York City was the site of the
22 first TubaChristmas Dec. 22, 1974, where the event continues to
23 be hosted annually. Hundreds of musicians play at these events
24 in large cities.

25 The Brattleboro version is typically much smaller in
26 scale, with 12 to 20 players. "The warm, rich, organ-like sound of
27 the tuba-euphonium choir has won the ears and hearts of every
28 audience," organizers wrote in a news release.

29 In our region, other TubaChristmas locations (each on
30 different dates) include Bernardston, Massachusetts; Keene, New
31 Hampshire; and Burlington, Vermont.

32 Participants should arrive for registration at 12:45 p.m.
33 Rehearsal starts at 1:15 p.m. Each participant needs a copy of the
34 music book, a music stand, and the \$15 registration fee. For more
35 information and help obtaining a book or paying the fee, contact
36 Rice at 802-451-9072.

37 The public is invited to a culminating concert and sing-
38 along in the church sanctuary at 3 p.m. There is no admission fee,
39 and a free-will offering will be collected to benefit the church's
40 mission to serve the West Brattleboro community.

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BIO/COATTAIL:

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