

The lookout
Sonya Vartabedian



The Merrimack Valley Concert Band, comprising wind and percussion musicians from throughout the Merrimack Valley, gets into the spirit with its "'Tis the Season" concert on Sunday at 2 p.m. at

Pentucket Regional Middle School on Route 113 in West Newbury. The concert will feature wind arrangements of classic Christmas music, including British composer Philip Sparke's "Quern Pastores," a 14th century carol, and Leroy Anderson's "A Christmas Festival." Contemporary Christmas music, including Irving Berlin's "White Christmas" sung by Kathy Peavey to band accompaniment, will also be on the program.

The band has recently released a CD, also titled "'Tis the Season!," that contains a selection of 19 holiday songs. It will be on sale at intermission of the concert as well as at various locations in the Newburyport area.

Based in West Newbury, the nonprofit concert band under the direction of Karen Mundo features about 40 volunteer musicians who love music and enjoy performing "The Great American Songbook,"

Admission to Sunday's concert is free. It is sponsored by the West Newbury Cultural Council and the Massachusetts Cultural Council. For more, visit www.mvcband.org.

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Strike up the concert band for the holidays