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Belmont bandstand restored to original colors

# BELMONT BANDSTAND RESTORED TO ORIGINAL COLORS



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**BELMONT** — The historic bandstand in the village center has been painted rust and moss green, which are the original colors of the 1908 structure that is more than half-way restored.

Heritage Commission Chair Wallace Rhodes said an historic paint analyst examined the bandstand using camera technology as well as scrapings and borings so the town could recreate the original colors.

The bandstand was built in 1908 during the later part of the Victorian architectural era, said Rhodes. He said bright colors were one of the periods characteristics.

While he doesn't know when, he said the bandstand was likely painted white as part of the Colonial Revival period that came shortly after and in which many buildings were painted white.

"I don't think there's anyone alive that remembers it when it wasn't white," Rhodes said, noting the Colonial Revival period caught on sooner in the cities than in the country — as Belmont was in the early and mid 1900s.

He said the last few steps are re-shingling it with cedar shingles that will turn gray over time. He said the original bandstand had a diamond pattern in the shingles that was more than likely the same rust color as the rest of the bandstand.

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Rhodes said the restoration project also includes replacing the ball that was on the top of the roof until about 20-years ago when it blew off in a storm.

The restoration of the bandstand is partially funded by taxpayers and partially funded by a LCHIP grant. Rhodes expects it to be completed by the end of September.

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