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# MOHAWK VALLEY IRISH CULTURAL EVENTS NEWSLETTER

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## Echoes of a Celtic Christmas Ring Throughout the Valley

If “legendary Irish performers putting on lavish and/or touching Christmas spectacles” is high on your Christmas list this season, you’re in luck. Okay, you may need to go over the river and through the woods to see some of them... but that’s a small price to pay to catch some of the greatest names in Irish entertainment performing beautiful Christmas music in venues ranging from cozy to magnificent. Here, if for no other reason than to convince you that maybe it was worth your effort to be good boys and girls throughout the year, we present one of the strongest Christmas lineups the valley has ever seen, all tied up with a pretty bow.



It seems like only yesterday that “Irish America's Favorite Son” -- **Andy Cooney** – brought his acclaimed “Classic Irish Christmas” show to the area, but it was four years ago that local restaurateur Charley Thomas brought him in to play a successful benefit for the local chapter of the Irish Political Prisoners’ Children’s Holiday. While much has changed since then, what hasn’t changed is Cooney’s love for entertaining or his ability to put together an impressive lineup of artists giving their all for a memorable night of music and comedy. “A Classic Irish Christmas 2009” features a selection of Ireland's great classics and some of the world’s favorite Christmas songs, and joining the tour this year are comedian George Casey, Irish soprano Emma Kate Tobia, the Darrah Carr Dance Troupe and Andy’s world famous Irish Band. And as if to atone for making you wait four years, you’ll be given two chances to catch the spectacle. On December 2<sup>nd</sup>, Andy brings the troupe to the East Middle School (191 Franklin St., Auburn; phone (315) 253-3174) for a 7 PM show, and on the 7<sup>th</sup>, they’ll be performing at 7:30 PM at the Boulevard United Methodist Church, 113 Grand Blvd. in Binghamton (for more information call (607) 238-1222/727-2262 or email [sconnors@binghamton.edu](mailto:sconnors@binghamton.edu)). Tickets for “A Classic Irish Christmas” are \$25.

**Eileen Ivers** is no stranger to the region, having played dozens of concerts in the area in the past few years. That said, it’s been two years since she last performed a Christmas-themed show here... but that is about to change. On Saturday, December 12, 2009, the nine-time All-Ireland Fiddle Champion brings her acclaimed holiday show “An Nollaig - An Irish Christmas” to The Smith Opera House, 82 Seneca St. in Geneva, NY, for a very special 8 PM concert. The heartwarming show will feature traditional Irish songs, original tunes and holiday favorites specially arranged by Eileen Ivers and Immigrant Soul. Tickets for the performance are a mere \$15, and can be purchased by calling (315) 781-LIVE or 1-866-355-LIVE (toll free), or by contacting [boxoffice@thesmith.org](mailto:boxoffice@thesmith.org).



And then there’s that little combo that Eileen used to play in... what was their name? Oh yeah – **Cherish the Ladies**. All-everything whistle/flute impresario Joanie Madden brings the Ladies to the Egg in Albany on December 8<sup>th</sup> for “Cherish the Ladies Celtic Christmas Spectacular;” a night of old-world airs and yuletide tunes, complete with Irish vocals, masterful musicianship and Irish step dancing. Tickets for the 7:30 PM show – a fundraiser for Albany’s National Irish American Heritage Museum – are \$27.50, and can be obtained by calling the Egg Box Office at (518) 473-1845 or visiting [www.theegg.org](http://www.theegg.org). The Egg is in the Empire State Plaza.

Surely there are few names in the storied history of Irish music that resonate more loudly than that of “Clancy.” Carrying on the family tradition that spans 60+ years, **The Clancy Legacy Celtic Christmas Concert** comes to the Catherine Cummings Theater on Lincklaen Street in Cazenovia on Saturday, December 19th at 4 pm. Led on vocals and bodhran by Aoife Clancy – daughter of Bobby Clancy of the legendary Clancy Brothers and also a former member of “Cherish the Ladies,” The Clancy Legacy also features Robbie O’Connell -- equally revered for his solo work as he is for his time with the Clancy Brothers -- on guitar and vocals, and Boston’s George Keith on fiddle and concertina. Tickets for this special show – a fundraiser for the Earlville Opera House -- are \$24 for adults and \$16 for children. For more information and/or to order tickets, call 315-691-3550 or visit the Earlville Opera House website at <http://www.earlvilleoperahouse.com>.



They blew away audiences in Albany and Cazenovia the last time they brought their stunning Christmas show to the area in 2006. “They” is –are – **Téada**; voted “Best Young Irish Traditional Act” at the 2009 Ireland's Music Awards, and they are coming back for two more shows this holiday season. **“Irish Christmas in America”** – the brainchild of Téada’s Oisín Mac Diarmada – will be coming to the Center for the Arts in Homer at 8 PM on December 5<sup>th</sup>, and the next day will find them at the Lowville Academy and Central School auditorium in Lowville for a 3 PM show. Known for bringing in (very) special guest artists for their Christmas touring line-up (past vocalists include Karan Casey, Cara Dillon, Muireann Nic Amhlaoibh and last year’s guest, the angelic Cathie Ryan), they’ve done it again; this time with leading Irish singer and accordionist, Séamus Begley from West Kerry. He’ll be joining Grainne Hambly on Irish Harp, Tommy Martin on Uilleann Pipes and dancer Brian Cunningham for a great evening of traditional Irish music, holiday tunes and dance, rounded out by moving narration and a poignant photographic backdrop. Tickets for the Center for the Arts performance are \$30 for adults, \$25 for seniors and \$10 for students, and can be purchased by calling the Center's Box Office at 607-749-4900, or on-line via their web site ([www.center4art.org](http://www.center4art.org)). Those interested in attending the show in Lowville are asked to call (315) 376-8957. Tickets for that show are \$20 per person with the price at the door being \$25. You can also pay for and pick up tickets at the Lewis County Historical Society. A limited number of tickets are also available for purchase at Cafe Z.



## Enter the Haggis Returns to the Area

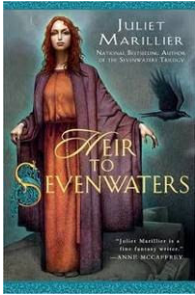
Not every band is following the trend of putting together a Christmas-themed act. Area favorites **Enter the Haggis** are giving the area a Christmas present nonetheless – two presents, actually – as they return to Syracuse’s Westcott Theater on December 10<sup>th</sup>, and then head down the road to play Revolution Hall in Troy on the 11<sup>th</sup>. The boys make their third appearance at the Westcott Theater (524 Westcott St, Syracuse) for a 9 PM show on the theater’s unique slanted dance floor. Tickets are \$12 in advance and \$15 at the door. For more information, call (315) 727-8886. Friday’s show at Revolution Hall (421-425 River Street in Troy) starts at 8, and tickets will be \$17 in advance and \$20 at the door. Call (518) 274-0553 for more information. Oh, and for a little “stocking stuffer,” ETH will be coming to Varick Street in Utica next March. Stay tuned!

## The Egg Welcomes Jerry Douglas with Maura O’Connell

Here’s a sure-fire recipe for the holidays: Start with The Egg. Add in the world’s foremost Dobro player. Mix in a guitarist/singer from one of the most successful duos in history. Finally, flavor it with the dulcet tones of one of Ireland’s most revered chanteuses. What do you get? A great night of folk-rock and holiday music with Jerry Douglas and his band, John Oates and Maura O’Connell, all coming together at The Egg in Albany, on December 11<sup>th</sup> at 8 PM. Tickets are \$34.50. It’s a “...formidable dose of acoustic instrumental virtuosity.” Drink it up!

*Book Review:*  
**“Heir To Sevenwaters”**  
*By Mark Sisti*

Readers who enjoyed Juliet Marillier’s excellent fantasy series, The Sevenwaters Trilogy, will be glad to see her return to the setting and characters of that series with her most recent novel, “Heir To Sevenwaters.”



The story follows Clodagh, the middle daughter of the chieftain of Sevenwaters and the interim domestic head of the household while her mother nears the end of a difficult pregnancy. The pregnancy is fraught with peril for both the older mother and the child, who (it is hoped) will be the couple’s first son after six daughters, while, at the same time, the chieftain of Sevenwaters, Sean, faces the daunting task of maintaining the delicate peace that exists between clans to the North and to the South. Clodagh has no special powers or abilities, as do the heroines of Marillier’s other novels, but it is her seeming ordinariness that makes her a compelling protagonist. She performs courageous feats not because of any inherent heroism, but rather despite the lack of it. She is, however, smart and resourceful, and the clear-headedness that helps her keep the household running smoothly stands her in good stead when the newborn baby is taken, replaced with a changeling baby made of sticks, bark, moss and pebbles. While her father believes that the infant’s disappearance is connected with the many political intrigues at play, Clodagh, who is the only one to perceive that the changeling is a living being and not merely a pile of sticks, instinctively realizes that it was no natural being who kidnapped the child and that she is the only one who can save her brother.

The lands of Sevenwaters have, for centuries, provided a haven for the Fair Folk, and the forest surrounding the home contains many portals to the Otherworld. In exchange for protection from outsiders, the Fair Folk have provided their own protection and aid for the family. But the world of the Tuatha De Danaan is rumored to be changing for the worse, and the Fair Folk are believed to be turning against humankind. It is to this dangerous realm that Clodagh realizes she must travel to make the exchange that will return her brother.

But she will not be making the journey alone. The abrasive Cathal, an enigmatic warrior with a troubled and mysterious past will be joining her on her quest for reasons of his own, for there is much more to Cathal than there appears. There is also much more to Clodagh than it would seem at first, as we – and she – are to learn. As the journey progresses, Clodagh discovers that she is more than someone who will make a fine wife someday, that she possesses an inner strength and courage she never suspected, as well as a capacity for unconditional love that may turn out to be her most powerful weapon. It is a weapon she will need desperately, as she finds herself facing a powerful and malevolent fairy lord for the lives and souls of those she loves. Where Clodagh is a likable character and Cathal an interesting and textured character, Mac Dara, the Lord of the Oak, is fascinating, complex enough to keep things interesting but straightforward enough to commit acts of pure evil, whether he is throwing the living changeling into the fire just to make Clodagh scream, or killing a man for no other reason than, “It was entertaining. Briefly. I’m easily bored these days.”

Juliet Marillier writes with a flowing, well-paced style that does a good job of juxtaposing the historical world of medieval warring clans with the fantasy world co-existing alongside, and her characters are credible, once the suspension of disbelief necessary to enjoy a fantasy novel is achieved. While having read the previous Sevenwaters series will enhance your understanding of some of the references in “Heir To Sevenwaters,” the novel stands on its own very well. The book is certainly not without its flaws. Those who have read the Sevenwaters trilogy will experience a sense of “been there-done that.” There is also a predictability that is difficult to overcome, as it makes much of what happens not only unsurprising, but almost inevitable. It comes a little too close in places to a genre romance novel for my personal taste, and, finally, if a heroine actually wept as many tears as the author would have Clodagh shed, the most serious problem she would have faced would have been dehydration. Despite its faults, though, the engrossing story pulled me right in and made me care what happened to the characters, and, in the end, that’s all you can ask from a good tale. With the stage clearly set for a sequel, those who enjoyed their trip to Sevenwaters will more than likely get the chance for a return journey.

## **Irish Book Gift Guide – by Mark Sisti**

*The following is a selection of gift ideas for those avid readers on your Christmas list who are interested in Ireland and the Irish. The list is neither all-inclusive nor does it make any claim to objectivity. They are not all current books and some may be difficult to find. Some have been reviewed in this newsletter, some have not. The criterion for choosing these books comes down to an extremely complicated formula: I liked them. If you think there are books that should be on this list and are not, don't write me and tell me what an idiot I am; make your own list and buy those books instead. (And feel free to send me the list. Or the books. Gift wrapped.)*

**Ulysses** by James Joyce – You probably won't be able to read it, you almost certainly won't be able to understand it, but it still should be on every Irish bookshelf. A little advice: instead of trying to read it straight through as you would an ordinary novel, pick random passages and revel in the language, the way you would a book of poems.

**Paddy Clarke, Ha Ha Ha** by Roddy Doyle – The inclusion of this book will come as no surprise to those who know me; it's one of my favorite books of any I've read. You really can't go wrong with any Roddy Doyle book, but this one stands out for Doyle's uncanny ability to depict a changing world through the eyes of a young child without it coming off as if it were filtered by age or experience.

**In The Province of Saints** by Thomas O'Malley – O'Malley's debut novel, another Irish coming-of-age novel, is a revelation for those who want to discover new authors and follow their development. If O'Malley manages to build on, or even maintain, the quality of writing in this brilliant novel, his would be a career to follow.

**The Story of Lucy Gault** by William Trevor – As in the case of Roddy Doyle, any book by William Trevor would be a good choice. In fact, I wavered between "Lucy Gault" and his recent "Love and Summer," but in the end found the emotional connection to Lucy Gault's story of choices, guilt and the curative power of forgiveness to have been a little stronger. Others would disagree. Pick either. Or both.

**Lion Of Ireland** by Morgan Llywelyn – Morgan Llywelyn has written many Irish history/myth novels, some pedestrian, some very good, but none better than "Lion of Ireland," which tells the story of the greatest of all the Irish High Kings, Brian Boru, and manages to portray the humanity without diminishing the legend.

**Ireland, a Novel** by Frank Delaney – While all good fiction should move you, "Ireland" transports you, with its tale of a young boy captivated by a storyteller, seamlessly intermingled with the stories he tells.

**The Great Shame** by Thomas Kenneally – The appreciation of works of non-fiction is bound to be affected by one's feelings toward the subject matter, but this one should appeal to all, with its riveting exploration of the Irish Diaspora of the 18<sup>th</sup> century and the way these forced emigrants not only survived, but flourished, in their new surroundings.

**The Child Thief** by Brom – I'm willing to overlook my passionate hatred for single-name "celebrities" to heartily recommend this dark retelling of the Peter Pan story by Brom, better known as a fantasy artist. As expected from someone with Brom's background, the accompanying illustrations are mesmerizing, but the story itself, drawing heavily on Celtic mythology, is rich and complex, and gives us a vision of Neverland that we never imagined.

**Anything by Ken Bruen or John Connolly** – Ireland has become a breeding ground for writers of excellent detective fiction, and many of them (Adrian McKinty, Declan Hughes, Gene Kerrigan) have been reviewed in this newsletter. Two who have not, but who are well worth your time, are John Connolly and Ken Bruen. The inclusion of the Dublin-born Connolly is a bit of a cheat, since his novels take place almost exclusively in the U.S., but once you read his dark, multi-layered Charlie Parker books, I'm sure I'll be forgiven. Ken Bruen's Galway-based protagonist Jack Taylor is one of the most fascinating (and flawed) characters in all of hard-boiled detective fiction, and any book from that series would be a treat for the uninitiated.

## The Elders Return to Rome

Looking for that perfect Christmas gift for your significant other, your mailman, or me? Look no further. Well, no, obviously I mean look just past this sentence. On January 16th, 2010, Central New York's favorite sons, **The Elders**, come back to the Historic Capitol Theater in Rome for a very special 7 PM show to help raise funds in support of Rome's Weed and Seed program. Fronted by Ian Byrne from County Wicklow, and backed by guitarist Steve Phillips, bassist Norm Dahlor, violinist Brent Hoad, drummer Tommy Sutherland, and keyboardist Joe Miquelon, the Elders have set the American music scene on its ear, thanks to a skillful mix of amped-up roots rock, augmented with powerful vocals, blazing instrumentals and topnotch song writing; burrowing their way into the hearts of Central New Yorkers as well. The concert – their third consecutive for the cause -- will also include a performance from the YMCA Center for the Creative Arts (YCCA), a talented group of musicians who have performed and recorded with many famous artists, as well as a performance by dancers from the fabulous Butler-Sheehan Academy of Irish Dance. Tickets are available at the following venues: Gary's Music, 229 West Dominick Street, Rome; Accents of Ireland, New Hartford Shopping Center; Rome YMCA, 301 West Bloomfield Street, Rome; Oneida YMCA, 701 Seneca Street, Oneida; and online at [www.ymcatrivalley.org](http://www.ymcatrivalley.org). General admission tickets are \$25 in advance, \$17.50 for students and seniors (over 60... you know, just about the age where you're loath to admit it, except when it saves you money), and – if they're still available – the price that evening will be \$30 at the door. For more information please visit [www.romeweelandseed.com](http://www.romeweelandseed.com) or contact Kathy Stockbridge, Weed & Seed Site Coordinator at (315) 838-1713 or [kstockbridge@romecitygov.com](mailto:kstockbridge@romecitygov.com).

## Great American Irish Festival Update

Great American Irish Festival Volunteer Chairperson Claudette Johnson wanted us to remind you that the festival is signing up volunteers for the 2010 festival, and that the Volunteer portion of the web site ([www.gaif.us](http://www.gaif.us)) is now open for the new season. She also notes that you need to sign up via the web page even if you've volunteered with the festival in the past. Several venues could use your help, and of course, volunteering 8 hours of your time over the course of the weekend makes you eligible to get all the great perks that aren't available to the general public.

## Utica's St. Patrick's Day Parade Now Accepting Nominations for Grand Marshall

Kevin Dowling, Utica Parade Director, announced that the window for the submission of nominations for the prestigious role of Parade Grand Marshal is now open. Nominations may be sent between now and the end of the month to: St. Patrick's Day Parade, c/o Kevin Dowling, PO Box 584, Marcy, NY, 13403, or email [www.assistant-director@gaif.us](mailto:www.assistant-director@gaif.us). The parade is scheduled for Saturday, March 14th, 2010 at 10 AM.

**The Friends of St Mary's of Florence** As you know, we have been tracking the remarkable story of the restoration efforts of the dedicated Friends of St. Mary's of Florence. The group reports that they are planning to host their 2nd annual tree lighting ceremony on Saturday, December 5th at 6 PM on the former rectory grounds. The festivities will begin at 5 PM at the Florence Hotel. Entertainment will be provided by the Delta United Methodist Church Hand Bell Ringers, and the Florence Hotel will be serving food throughout the evening. There will also be raffles, and 50/50 drawings to benefit the Preservation Fund. Each ticket gives you multiple opportunities to win. To purchase the tickets in advance, contact Dorothy Fey at 245-2859 or Monica Clark at 245-0319. The "Friends of St. Mary's" also invite you to share in making the tree lighting a special event by purchasing a tree light for \$5.00 per light. Lights can be purchased in someone's memory, or to commemorate an event of your choosing. Make your check payable to "Friends of St. Mary's" -- be sure to include the name/intention for each bulb -- and send it to Michael Clark, Trustee, 11907 Florence-TC Road, Camden, NY 13316. Finally, if anyone wishes to purchase a DVD commemorating the Mass of Celebration on Sept 20, 2009, they can contact Michael Clark.

## Craobh Dugan “Song of the Month” – (sized to conveniently fit onto something the same size)

From Craobh Dugan’s Mike Hoke comes this month’s topical jig. “Here is a tune from the Shetland Islands off Scotland’s northeast coast. The Boys of the Lough play this similar to a Scot’s strathspey. The combination of the dotted eighth notes, triplets, and sixteenths are characteristic of this style of tune.”

### Christmas Day I’Da Mornin’

The musical notation is presented in three staves. The first two staves show the melody with notes and rests, and the third staff shows the bass line. Chords are indicated above the notes: D, A, G, A, A 3, 3, D. The bass line includes chords: Em, D, Bm, Em, Bm, A.

## From the Irish Kitchen (recipes suitable for clipping)

This month’s recipe... **IRISH PLUM CAKE** -- “Disclaimer: No plums were harmed in the making of the cake.”

### Ingredients :

8 oz. butter	1 tsp. baking soda
8 oz. sugar	pinch salt
3 eggs	12 oz. milk
3/4 tsp. almond extract	2 cups sultanas (golden raisins)
3 Tbsp. Lyle's Golden syrup	2 1/2 cups currants
3 oz. finely ground almonds	Grated rind of 3 oranges
4 cups unbleached white flour	Grated rind of two lemons

### Method:

Cream butter with sugar until fluffy. Add the eggs, one at a time, beating well after each addition. Beat in the syrup, almond extract and ground almonds. Reserving 1/2 cup of the flour, sieve the remainder with baking soda and salt. Add flour mixture to butter mixture alternately with the milk, beating well after each addition. Coat sultanas and currants with reserved flour and fold into batter along with grated peels. Mix well and pour into a well-buttered tube pan, distributing batter evenly. Bake at 300 degrees for 1 1/2 to 1 3/4 hours. Let pan cool for 45 minutes, then turn out onto wire rack to further cool.

## RANDOM RAMBLINGS

☘ **Have Yourself a Cherry Valley Christmas** Enjoy holiday shopping at its finest at Cherry Valley’s annual Holiday Open House Weekend. Local merchants will be open from 10 AM to 5 PM on Saturday and Sunday, December 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup>, for special holiday shopping. Enjoy horsedrawn wagon rides (weather permitting), Santa at the Museum, refreshments, door prizes and more, all throughout the village.

✚ **Comhaltas News** Tom Malley, news correspondent for the Craobh Dugan Branch of Comhaltas Ceoltóirí Éireann, reports that the group is discussing the idea of airing Irish-themed movies during Irish American Heritage month (March). Some of the titles mentioned so far are “Waking Ned Devine,” “The Secret of Roan Inis,” “Michael Collins,” “The Wind That Shakes the Barley,” “When Ireland Starved” (documentary about the Great Hunger), “Mise Eire (I am Ireland; a documentary about Easter Monday),” and others. If you have any other suggestions – including where to show them – he invites you to send them to [tommaol@localnet.com](mailto:tommaol@localnet.com) (put “movies” in subject box so he can find it among the spam)... some upcoming Comhaltas-related events: 12/1 Session Nail Creek and 12/15 Session Albany St.

✚ **Basic Irish Language Course** Besides being our nose for Comhaltas news, Tom is also our resident expert in the Irish language, and teaches a course at Herkimer County Community College; the most recent of which had 21 students. He advises us that another Basic course will start on Jan 27 and run for six Wednesdays from 7-8:30 PM, and that Irish 2 will start on Jan 28 and run for six Thursdays from 7-8:30. For more information, contact HCCC’s Office of Community Education 866-0300, x8251.

✚ **“First Night Saratoga”: A New Year’s Eve celebration** The relatively new “holiday” known as “First Night” originated in Boston in 1976 as a way of bringing the neighboring communities of the city together as an alternative way of ushering in the new year. It has spread since then to cities around the country, including, 12 years ago, to Saratoga Springs. And on Thursday, December 31<sup>st</sup>, the 13<sup>th</sup> annual Saratoga First Night will take place from 5:00 PM to midnight, at over 40 buildings, churches, and storefronts throughout downtown Saratoga Springs. Brought to you by the YMCA, First Night Saratoga offers an impressive slate of performers throughout the night; including GAIF favorites, Hair of the Dog. For more information, check out the First Night Saratoga [website](#).

✚ **...And Speaking of Hair of the Dog** Turns out the band’s founder, Rick Bedrosian, is more than a bass player. He’s also an accomplished photographer, with his most recent show “Picture This” running at McGreevy Prolab (376 Broadway, Albany) until January 29<sup>th</sup>. His work is described as “eclectic,” with baseball, Italy, Ireland, New York, California, The Beatles, Architecture, People and Panoramas being his most frequent subjects. The opening reception for the show will be held on December 4<sup>th</sup> from 5 to 9 PM. Rick and bandmate Mike DeAngelis will be providing the entertainment, and refreshments will be served. For more information, call (518) 426-1039.

✚ **A Message from the Ladies of Accents of Ireland** The ladies wanted us to let you know that the floodwaters that tried to wash them away have been all but defeated, and that they’ll be opening soon for all your Christmas shopping needs. Except for mops, that is; they’re plumb out of mops. Until they do open – and you’ll hear it as soon as we know it – they’ve sent along this message: “Please extend our deepest apologies to everyone... as soon as we have a date, we will let you know to send out another mini-newsletter. We truly appreciate everyone’s concerns, understanding and patience as we are working and looking forward to a grand re-opening. If anyone has any questions, please call us at the Shoppe (733-4940), or send us an email at [irishop@adelphia.net](mailto:irishop@adelphia.net).”

**Celtic Club Calendar** Finally, here’s the Irish Musical and Cultural calendar for December:

Dec 1	“Nail Creek Sessions”	<a href="#">Nail Creek Pub</a>	Utica	7:30-10 PM	Free
Dec 2	Andy Cooney’s “A Classic Irish Christmas 2009”	East Middle School	Auburn	7 PM	\$25
Dec 3	Traditional Irish Session	<a href="#">Marcellus Legion Hall</a>	Marcellus, NY	4-7 PM	Free
Dec 4	Causeway Giants	<a href="#">Kitty Hoynes</a>	Syracuse	9 PM	Free
Dec 4	“Mostly Irish” Jam	Irish American Club	Amsterdam NY	7:30 PM	Free
Dec 5	Téada - Irish Christmas in America	<a href="#">Center for the Arts</a>	Homer	8 PM	\$30 adults, \$25 srs, \$10 students

Dec 5	Hair of the Dog	<a href="#">The Parting Glass</a>	Saratoga Springs	8 PM	\$13, res'v reqd
Dec 5	Pat Kane	<a href="#">Kitty Hoynes</a>	Syracuse	9 PM	Free
Dec 6	Pat Kane	<a href="#">Coleman's Irish Pub</a>	Syracuse	4-7 PM	Free
Dec 6	<a href="#">Syracuse Irish Session</a>	Wayside Irish Pub	Elbridge NY	4-7 PM	Free
Dec 6	Donal O'Shaughnessy	<a href="#">Shenanigans</a>	Syracuse	5-8 PM	Free
Dec 7	Andy Cooney's "A Classic Irish Christmas 2009"	Boulevard United Methodist Church	Binghamton	7:30 PM	\$25
Dec 6	Téada - Irish Christmas in America	Lowville Academy and Central School	Lowville	3 PM	\$20 adv; \$25 at the door
Dec 7	Trad Irish Music Session	<a href="#">The Susquehanna Café</a>	Bainbridge NY	5:30-8:30 PM	Free
Dec 8	Cherish the Ladies	<a href="#">The Egg</a>	Albany	7:30 PM	\$27.50
Dec 10	Enter the Haggis	<a href="#">Westcott Theater</a>	Syracuse	9 PM	\$12 adv, \$15 door
Dec 10	Traditional Irish Session	<a href="#">Marcellus Legion Hall</a>	Marcellus, NY	4-7 PM	Free
Dec 11	Donal O'Shaughnessy	<a href="#">Piggy Pat's Pickled Pig Pub</a>	Washington Mills	6-9 PM	Free
Dec 11	Enter the Haggis	<a href="#">Revolution Hall</a>	Troy	8 PM	\$17 adv, \$20 door
Dec 11	Jerry Douglas Band w/John Oates and Maura O'Connell	<a href="#">The Egg</a>	Albany	8:00 PM	\$34.50
Dec 12	An Nollaig – An Irish Christmas with Eileen Ivers	<a href="#">The Smith Opera House</a>	Geneva	8 PM	\$15
Dec 12	Trad Irish Music Session	<a href="#">Kitty Hoynes</a>	Syracuse	2-5 PM	Free
Dec 13	Donal O'Shaughnessy	<a href="#">Coleman's Irish Pub</a>	Syracuse	4-7 PM	Free
Dec 14	Trad Irish Music Session	<a href="#">The Susquehanna Café</a>	Bainbridge NY	5:30-8:30 PM	Free
Dec 15	Albany Street Sessions	Albany Street Café	Herkimer	7:30 PM	Free
Dec 16	Traditional Irish Session	<a href="#">Marcellus Legion Hall</a>	Marcellus, NY	4-7 PM	Free
Dec 17-18, 23	McKrells Christmas Show	<a href="#">The Parting Glass</a>	Saratoga Springs	8 PM	\$10, res'v reqd
Dec 18	The Blarney Rebel Band	<a href="#">Piggy Pat's Pickled Pig Pub</a>	Washington Mills	6-9 PM	Free
Dec 19	The Blarney Rebel Band	<a href="#">Celtic Harp</a>	Utica	10 PM	Free
Dec 19	The Clancy Legacy Celtic Christmas Concert	<a href="#">Catherine Cummings Theater</a>	Cazenovia	4 PM	\$24 adults, 18 & under \$16
Dec 20	Freeborn Men	<a href="#">Coleman's Irish Pub</a>	Syracuse	4-7 PM	Free
Dec 20	<a href="#">Syracuse Irish Session</a>	Johnston's Bally Bay Pub	Syracuse	4-7 PM	Free
Dec 21	Trad Irish Music Session	<a href="#">The Susquehanna Café</a>	Bainbridge NY	5:30-8:30 PM	Free
Dec 24	Traditional Irish Session	<a href="#">Marcellus Legion Hall</a>	Marcellus, NY	4-7 PM	Free
Dec 26	Hair of the Dog	<a href="#">The Parting Glass</a>	Saratoga Springs	8 PM	\$13, res'v reqd
Dec 26	Trad Irish Music Session	<a href="#">Kitty Hoynes</a>	Syracuse	2-5 PM	Free
Dec 27	Flyin' Column	<a href="#">Coleman's Irish Pub</a>	Syracuse	4-7 PM	Free
Dec 28	Trad Irish Music Session	<a href="#">The Susquehanna Café</a>	Bainbridge NY	5:30-8:30 PM	Free
Dec 31	Traditional Irish Session	<a href="#">Marcellus Legion Hall</a>	Marcellus, NY	4-7 PM	Free
Dec 31	<a href="#">First Night Saratoga</a>	Various downtown venues	Saratoga Springs	5 PM-midnight	\$15, under 5 free

If you have anything you want to share with us, feel free to send it to us ([sistia@roadrunner.com](mailto:sistia@roadrunner.com), [bloftis@gmail.com](mailto:bloftis@gmail.com) or [marksisti@roadrunner.com](mailto:marksisti@roadrunner.com)), and we'll be happy to include it. In the meantime, Mark, Beth and I would like to wish you all a very happy, healthy and peaceful Christmas and holiday season. As our colleague Tom Malley would say (as would we, if we could pronounce it):

***Beannachtaí na Nollag díbh go léir***  
*"The blessings of Christmas to you all"*



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7PM

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CAPITOL THEATRE  
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