

July 13, 2006

ADAMS COUNTY IRISH FESTIVAL

<http://www.adamscountyirishfestival.com>

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*** NEWS ADVISORY ***

**Folk Music Legend Tommy Makem To Headline
Adams County Irish Festival Benefit in Historic Gettysburg, PA**

7th Annual Festival Offers Full Day of Sights, Sounds and Family Fun on Saturday July 15

WHAT:

Held rain or shine, the **Seventh Annual Adams County Irish Festival** features a full day of family fun with traditional Irish music, dance, food and merchandise along with living history portrayals and music workshops. The music slate features folk music great **Tommy Makem** of the legendary 1960s folk band, The Clancy Brothers & Tommy Makem along with international recording artists, **Cathie Ryan** (former lead singer for Cherish the Ladies) and **Derek Warfield** (leader of the celebrated Irish rebel songsters, the Wolfe Tones) plus regional performers. The festival **draws over two thousand people and benefits the Children's Friendship Project for Northern Ireland**, an interfaith peace and friendship building program for Northern Irish teens. The Adams County Irish Festival produced and presented by the Irish Heritage Foundation of Gettysburg, an all-volunteer 501(c)(3) non-profit organization.

WHO:

For over four decades, Tommy Makem has been mesmerizing audiences worldwide with his banjo, tin whistle, poetry, stagecraft and magnificent baritone voice. A native of County Armagh in the north of Ireland, Makem is known as the modern-day Bard of Armagh and is globally regarded as the "The Godfather of Irish Music". When folk music emerged as an American phenomenon in the early 1960s, Makem shared festival bills with folk music greats like Bob Dylan, Pete Seeger and Joan Baez. Makem also teamed with the Clancy Brothers and an appearance on *The Ed Sullivan Show* propelled the quartet to become the four most famous Irishmen in the world, playing to standing-room only crowds at every major concert venue in the English-speaking world. Also a prolific songwriter, Makem went solo in 1969 and has continued to record and perform music and has also been involved with acting in and producing television shows.

Other notable sights and sounds in the shady glen of the park will include Harrisburg's **Lochiel Emerald Society Pipes and Drums**, interactive music workshops, Civil War re-enactors from the Union Army's **Irish Brigade**, the Irish Volunteers Historical Association portrayal of the **West Cork Flying Column** from the 1921 Anglo-Irish War, the award-winning **McGinley School of Irish Dance**, Irish gift/merchandise vendors and the **Potomac Valley Irish Wolfhound Club**.

WHEN:

The festival is on **Saturday July 15, 2006** from 10:30am–8:00pm at the Gettysburg Moose Park. Tommy Makem performs from 4:00-5:00pm; Cathie Ryan, 2:30-3:30pm; Derek Warfield, 1:30-2:30pm; Irish dancers, 3:30-4:00pm. Full entertainment schedule and details at www.adamscountyirishfestival.com

WHERE:

The festival is held at the **Gettysburg Moose Park**, 100 Moose Road in Straban Township east of Gettysburg, PA. Moose Road is off of US 30 about 1.6 miles east of the US 15 interchange.

PHOTO/BROADCAST COVERAGE INVITED!