

## Special WFMA Showcase at Ireland's Four Fields

*Come help us bid a fond farewell to this great Washington, DC institution!*

On August 5, Frank Hughes, the owner of Ireland's Four Fields (formerly known as Ireland's Four Provinces, or 4Ps) announced that the pub would close in early November. Frank recently received an extension on the lease, so the pub is now scheduled to close in a few months.

The pub opened at its current location on Connecticut Avenue in 1976 and has been a mainstay of Celtic music and a proud contributor to the DC community for over 35 years. This DC icon has hosted numerous events: concerts, fundraisers, reunions, receptions, wakes and **WFMA Music Americana Showcases**.

In the fall of 1986, **Dick Cerri** and **WFMA** began hosting monthly showcases at the old 4Ps. Among the many performers who appeared during the five+ years of showcases at the pub were Noel Paul Stookey, Bill Danoff, Steve Gillette and Side by Side.

Please join us on **March 31 at 7:30 PM**, for the last **WFMA Showcase** at the pub, as we say "goodbye" to this wonderful Irish pub. Several outstanding performers will be joining us for this celebration.

**Bill Danoff** was one of the performers at the very first **WFMA Music Americana Showcase** and has been singing and writing songs for over 40 years. He has written over a dozen songs recorded by John Denver, including the song that catapulted John into national prominence, "Take Me Home Country Roads" and "I Guess He'd Rather Be in Colorado," which became the theme song of Colorado. Bill will be joined on stage by his



Photo by Bill Adler

son (and Berklee College of Music graduate), **Owen Danoff**. Owen is active in the DC area music scene and has been nominated for two Wammies (Washington Area Music Awards).

**Doris Justis** and **Sean McGhee** first met at a **Music Americana Showcase** in May of 1984 and they started singing together the next evening. They formed **Side by Side** as the "house band" for the Showcases and have performed at all 25 of the **WFMA** annual concerts! They are now celebrating almost 28 years of performing together and continue to enthrall audiences with their exciting arrangements of new and old favorites.

**Kensington Station** is a Maryland folk trio with its roots going back to the "folk scare" of the early 60's. The group is made up of **Fred Cherney** on guitar and banjo, **Jim Jones** on guitar, and **Leslie Smile** on violin. Their repertoire predominantly consists of traditional and 60's folk standards. They are also known to throw in a lively mix of Irish, Old Time, and contemporary tunes. While Jim and Fred have been playing and singing folk music since the 60's, Leslie, who

recently received her Masters Degree in violin performance, provides a more contemporary influence to their music.

Reservations are being accepted now, with the admission fee being collected at the door (cash or check only). Admission for **WFMA Friends of Folk Music** members will be \$20. Admission for non-members will be \$25. Reservations can be made using our Online Reservation Form at <http://wfma.net/res4fields.htm> or by sending an email to [reserve@wfma.net](mailto:reserve@wfma.net), with your name, phone number, number in party and arrival time. Those without Internet access can make a reservation by calling the Four Fields at (202)244-0860.

Parking is very limited at the Four Fields. However, it is only a short walk from the Cleveland Park Metro Station (on the Red Line) and we recommend taking Metro, if possible.

**40 Thieves** have established themselves as one of the best loved Irish bands in the Metro DC area. From the cozy confines of the DC area's best Irish pubs to the wide-open stages of the festival circuit, this rocking ensemble has wowed the crowds by wedding old fashioned and newfangled Irish music with straight ahead rock and roll. You will enjoy **Dave Dresser's** gritty guitar, fiddler **Randy Latimer's** classically honed, Cape Breton-influenced chops and the Guinness inspired grooves provided by bassist **Charlie McNamara**.

We hope you will be able to join us for some great Irish food & drink and outstanding music.

# Christine Lavin Concert at Cellar Stage (with Chatham Street Opening)

Friday, January 13, 2012 • By Paul Klingenberg

Attending a Christine Lavin concert is the kind of experience that is extremely difficult to describe, let alone attempt to review. Her show is one part folk, one part humor, one part serious social commentary, and many parts fun. Although I have seen her perform literally dozens of times over the past few years, it was always at a WFMA concert, or in another setting where she was doing only a short set because of the nature of the show. Because of this, I was unprepared for the range of emotions that she managed to evoke during her two extended sets.

From “Amoeba Hop,” to “Planet X” (the story of Pluto), to “Harrison Ford,” to “If You’re Drunk You Cannot Buy a Puppy,” Christine wove a wonderful tapestry of humor, while educating the audience at the same time. The Drunk Puppy Song, as it is affectionately known, was born from a July 2011 New York Post article about a pet store in Greenwich Village, Le Petit Puppy, that is surrounded on all sides by bars and taverns. The store was forced to post a sign telling bar patrons who stumbled into the pet store that it would refuse to sell a pet to a person who was intoxicated. Of course, the story in the Post was literally begging Christine to write a song, and (thankfully for us) she obliged.

When done well, music engages our entire psyche, enabling us to use both the right and left sides of our brains, as well as our hearts, and that is one of the things that Christine does best. Her rendition of



photo by Paul Demmitt

Gene Weingarten’s proposed revision of the National Anthem (set to the tune of Rossini’s William Tell Overture--”The Lone Ranger” theme song) was amazing. But the highlight of the evening for me was “More than 1,000,000 Americans,” her protest song about all of the shooting deaths in the United States since the assassinations of Robert Kennedy and Martin Luther King, Jr. in 1968. The seeming simplicity of the tune only strengthened the power of the message, and you could feel the stillness and contemplation in the audience as the song unfolded. Christine brought down the house with her rendition of her signature song, “Sensitive New Age Guys.”

Opening for Christine Lavin was Chatham Street, a wife and husband duo, Christal and Peter Prout, who released their first CD in October of 2010. If you have time to see only one “new” folk group in 2012, do yourself a favor and go out of your way to see them perform. Christal’s voice is one of the most interesting voices I have heard in many years--kind of a combination of the edginess of Christina Aguilera with the purity of Loreena McKennitt. Their performance of “Heaven Bound” (thank goodness the audience demanded an encore) was both musically evocative and emotionally stunning.

All in all, Christine Lavin and Chatham Street provided us a wonderful concert experience at the Cellar Stage ([www.uptownconcerts.com](http://www.uptownconcerts.com)) at Faith Community United Methodist Church in Baltimore. Joyce Sica hosted with her usual blend of warmth and folk music knowledge. For more information on Christine Lavin, go to [www.christinelavin.com](http://www.christinelavin.com); for Chatham Street, [www.chathamstreetmusic.com](http://www.chathamstreetmusic.com).

photo by Sally Farr



## Dick Kniss Dies at Age 74

We were very saddened by the news that Dick Kniss, bass player with Peter, Paul and Mary for most of their 50 years together, passed away on the morning of January 25, 2012. He died of pulmonary disease at a hospital near his home in the Hudson Valley town of Saugerties, NY.

Affectionately referred to on stage as the 4th member of their trio, Dick has had an active musical life since he first took up his instrument in the late 50’s.

Dick played at several of our WFMA Benefit Concerts and he will be greatly missed. His most recent appearance was at the Tom Paxton Celebration concert on May 3, 2008.

Born in Portland, Oregon in April of 1937, the adaptable Mister Kniss (he played almost eight years with John Denver, co-authoring John’s hit “Sunshine On My Shoulders” and “The Season Suite”) moved to San Francisco and during his long and prolific career enjoyed the musical companionship of jazz legends like Woody Herman, Herbie Hancock, Donald Byrd, Pepper Adams, Zoot Sims, Don Friedman, Teddy Charles, and Sal Salvador.

“Dick was continually re-inventing approaches to our songs”, says Noel Paul Stookey of PP&M. “Sometimes he was there at the beginning; helping to create the tone or mood of a piece while the trio’s vocal parts were still evolving. But personally”, continues Stookey, “I think his greatest contributions came nightly! I can’t name another bass player who improvised so tastefully within the framework of folk music.”

## FOLK NEWS

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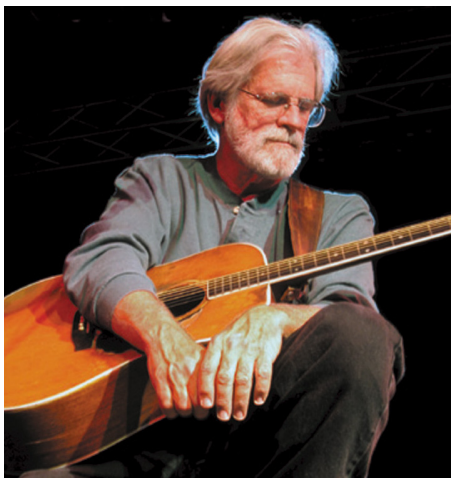
The Newsletter of the  
**World Folk Music Association**  
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*WFMA is a non-profit, tax-exempt  
organization dedicated to the promotion of  
contemporary and traditional folk music.*





## WFMA House Concert with **JACK WILLIAMS** Saturday, July 7, 2012

Mark your calendars now for a very special house concert with Wind

River recording artist, **Jack Williams** on Saturday, July 7, in Silver Spring, MD.

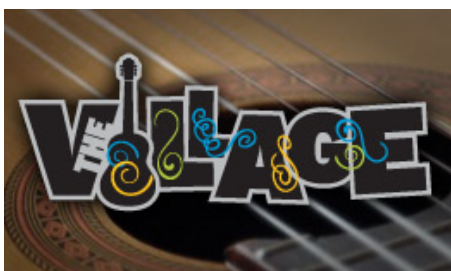
Jack delighted audiences at both our 15th Annual Benefit Weekend in 2000, and our 18th Annual Benefit Weekend in 2003. We are pleased to be able to have Jack perform for us in a much more intimate, house concert setting.

Jack's music was shaped by a 54-year career of playing folk, rock, jazz, R&B, classical and the popular music of the 30s, 40s and 50s. He is counted among the most dynamic performers on today's "folk" circuit - "...one of the most enlightened and entertaining performers I've ever encountered", said Dave Humphreys of Two-Way Street Coffeehouse in Downer's Grove, IL. Jack is considered a "musician's musician", an uncommonly unique guitarist, a writer of vivid songs with a strong sense of place, and a storyteller in an old Southern tradition who further illustrates each tale with his guitar. Rich Warren of WFMT *Chicago's The Midnight Special* said,

"His artistry is nothing short of amazing". Vic Heyman, in *SING OUT!*, wrote, "He is one of the strongest guitar players in contemporary folk."

Avoiding the compromises of the commercial music industry during his 50+-year professional career, Jack prefers touring under the radar, playing concerts, large and small, week in and week out, from the sheer love of music and performing. Playing for more than 50 house concerts each year, Jack enjoys the intimacy of that venue most of all, with a more personal connection to his listeners. From acclaimed appearances at the Newport, Boston, Philadelphia, Kerrville, New Bedford and SummerFest Folk Festivals, his musicianship, songs, stories and commanding presence have established him as an uncommonly inspiring and influential performer.

More information about this concert will be made available soon, but make your plans now to join us for this very special show.



Those of you who subscribe to Sirius XM Satellite Radio and regularly listened to "The Village" are aware that on January 12 "The Village" became an online-only channel. To continue listening to "The Village," subscribers must now either add the Internet option to their satellite subscription or switch to an Internet only subscription. Sirius XM does offer a 7 Day Free Online Trial and you can find more information at [www.siriusxm.com/freetrial](http://www.siriusxm.com/freetrial).

In response to inquiries regarding this change, The Village's Mary Sue Twohy provided the following statement: "This is a decision that SiriusXM deliberated on carefully. We will keep the same level of quality on The Village in 2012 for our audience's listening pleasure. As a community, I urge listeners to listen to The Village

online and enjoy folk music. There is some good news wrapped in this bundle of changes. The Village Folk Show with Mary Sue Twohy will be broadcasting on The Bridge, SiriusXM channel 32, on Sunday mornings on both XM and Sirius radios, the first time a show dedicated to folk music has been on both platforms - a tremendous opportunity for the folk community to reach a wider audience. I am excited about this!"

"In addition to listening to The Village on your smartphone, we also encourage you to consider the SiriusXM Tabletop Internet Radio as a way to enjoy The Village and all of Sirius XM from your home or office. Here is a link that includes details on the radio: [www.Siriusxm.com/ttr1](http://www.Siriusxm.com/ttr1).

If you have any further questions, please feel free to contact Listener Care: <https://listenercare.siriusxm.com/app/ask>."

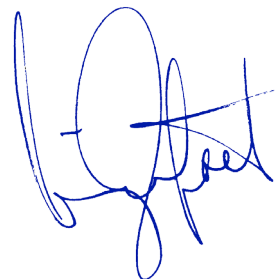
## THE VILLAGE No Longer on Satellite Radio

Many loyal listeners were very disappointed with Sirius XM's decision to move "The Village" off of their satellite channels. Almost immediately an online petition was started with the purpose of convincing Sirius XM to reverse the decision. Those wishing to add their names to the petition can do so at <http://www.gopetition.com/petitions/restore-a-dedicated-folk-music-program.html>. Those subscribers or potential subscribers who wish to let Sirius XM management know their opinion of this change more directly can write to Steve Blatter, Senior VP/General Manager, Music Programming, Sirius XM Radio, 1221 Avenue of the Americas, New York, NY 10020. Or if the opinions can be expressed in 140 characters or less, subscribers could send him a tweet at @Steve\_Blatter.



# GORDON LIGHTFOOT

To Be Inducted Into  
*Songwriters  
Hall of Fame*



Musical geniuses **Gordon Lightfoot, Bob Seger, Don Schlitz, Harvey Schmidt & Tom Jones and Jim Steinman** will become the newest members of the Songwriters Hall of Fame at the organization's 43rd Annual Induction and Awards Dinner. The star-studded event is slated for Thursday, June 14th at the Marriott Marquis Hotel in New York City. Additional special award honorees will be announced soon.

"Each of our 2012 inductees has created a unique range of extraordinary contributions, a body of work that has resonated with audiences around the world, and greatly enriched our global culture," said SHOF Chairman Jimmy Webb. "We are looking forward to celebrating their craft and careers at our Annual Awards Gala."

Established in 1969, the Songwriters Hall of Fame (SHOF) serves as a vital bridge between music's past and future. In the Hall, musical pioneers are enshrined and celebrated, while the organization's music community outreach grooms the next generation of troubadours.

Performing songwriter **Gordon Lightfoot** is credited for helping to define the folk-pop sound of the 1960s and 1970s. He is the author and voice of many timeless songs including: "Early Morning Rain," "Canadian Railroad Trilogy," "Sundown," "If You Could Read My Mind," "Carefree Highway," "The Wreck Of The Edmund Fitzgerald," "Beautiful," "Ribbon Of Darkness," "Rainy Day People," "That's What You Get For Lovin' Me," "Did She

Mention My Name," "I'm Not Sayin' That I Love You," "Race Among The Ruins," "Softly," "Song For A Winter's Night," and "Summer Side Of Life." Many of Lightfoot's albums have achieved gold and multi-platinum status internationally and his songs have been recorded by some of the world's most renowned artists including Bob Dylan, Elvis Presley, Sarah McLachlan, Barbra Streisand, Peter Paul &

Mary, Harry Belafonte, Jane's Addiction, Richie Havens, Glen Campbell, Toby Keith, Anne Murray, Nana Mouskouri and George Hamilton IV. He has received five Grammy® nominations and seventeen Juno Awards in his native Canada, and was inducted into the Canadian Songwriters Hall of Fame, among his many other distinctions. Lightfoot is slated to release his first record since 1994 in the spring of 2012.

Tickets Now Available  
**"Celebrate John Denver!"**

Sunday, April 29, 2012

4:00 pm

*with*

**Side by Side**

(Doris Justis & Sean McGhee)

*and special guests:*

**Paul Prestopino and Ron Greenstein**

(accompanists for Chad Mitchell Trio, John Denver, Peter, Paul & Mary, Tom Paxton)

**Cedar Lane Unitarian Universalist Church**

Bethesda, MD

General Admission: \$25

Advanced Sales: [www.dorisjustis.com](http://www.dorisjustis.com)

credit cards accepted

Info: [JDTRIBUTE@HOTMAIL.COM](mailto:JDTRIBUTE@HOTMAIL.COM)

# NOW AVAILABLE



A DVD of highlights from our  
Tom Paxton Celebration  
on May 3, 2008

*Featuring*

Peter Yarrow • Noel Paul Stookey • Christine Lavin

The Chad Mitchell Trio • Anne Hills

The Limelitters • Carolyn Hester • Side by Side

Visit **[www.wfma.net](http://www.wfma.net)** for details.



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First Class

