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Three Rivers Folklife Society
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Yes! I want to help the 2012 Tumbleweed Music Festival

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Enclose your check payable to *Three Rivers Folklife Society*.

2012 Member Application

Your membership gives you voting rights in folklife elections, \$3 off most concerts, and is tax deductible! You'll even get a nifty membership card to show your friends and neighbors!

Individual (\$15) or Family (\$20) Renewal? Y N

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I can help 3RFS with:

| | | |
|--|--|---------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Refreshments at concerts | <input type="checkbox"/> Setting up chairs | <input type="checkbox"/> Fund raising |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Taking admission at events | <input type="checkbox"/> Folding newsletters | <input type="checkbox"/> Coffeehouses |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Serve on Board of Directors | <input type="checkbox"/> Publicity | <input type="checkbox"/> Song circles |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Demonstrating folk arts | <input type="checkbox"/> Membership | <input type="checkbox"/> Contra dance |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Tumbleweed Music Festival | <input type="checkbox"/> Other | |

Send check to: **Three Rivers Folklife Society, P.O. Box 1098, Richland, WA 99352.**

Big Dance Weekend in Portland

Saturday-Sunday, 10 & 11 March

If you love contra dancing, travel to Portland on the weekend of March 10 & 11. On Saturday there will be a dance with the one and only Portland Megaband, which consists of 77 musicians(!) playing with precision and enthusiasm to accompany one of the Portland area's biggest contra

dances. This event is at the PSU Smith Memorial Ballroom, 1825 SW Broadway. Gordy Euler and Susan Songer will conduct the band and Eric Weberg is the caller. Cost is \$15 general, or \$9 seniors and students. For further information call 503-327-6582 or check the website at www.portlanmegaband.com.

On Sunday you can contra almost all day at the Portland Road House Dance

to benefit the Northwest Folklife Festival. It runs from 11:00AM -9:00PM and the cost is \$15 for all day and \$12 before 11:30 AM. There will be 8 bands and 8 callers. This event and the Megaband dance are both part of a 4-day multi-city, multi-day dance event called Cascade Promenade. See the website at www.cascadepromenade or call 541 440-1926 for more information.



Folk Talk

A Newsletter for Columbia, Snake, and Yakima River Folk

Vol. 23, Issue 7

March 2012

Magical Strings Returns to Captivate 3RFS

Friday, 16 March, 7:30 PM

With dancing hammers and pulsating strings, Philip and Pam Boulding have created the distinctive music of Magical Strings, described by The Washington Post as "warm, graceful and sonically gorgeous." Centered around a tightly-knit blend of Celtic harps and hammered dulcimers, their performances are colorfully augmented by penny-whistles, concertina, valiha (Malagasy harp) and storytelling. Over the past 25 years they have drawn a large and loyal following worldwide, captivated by their energetic arrangements of Celtic music and their own engaging compositions, intertwining Celtic roots with classical/world music influences.

Practically a household name in the Northwest, Magical Strings has toured throughout the United States, Canada, the British Isles, and Japan. Philip and Pam have toured with Dan Fogelberg, and then recorded on Dan's album,

"River of Souls."

Since 1980 Magical Strings has recorded 12 albums on Flying Fish/Rounder, EarthBeat Records, and their own label, Magic Hill Music. "Islands Calling," hailed as "their best album yet" by Billboard Magazine, features their family with several guest artists including Alex de Grassi and Hawaiian slack-key virtuoso Keola Beamer. "Beneath the Moon," their latest recording, takes you on a journey to sublime realms of repose, where the very fount of healing springs forth. It begins with a glorious symphony from the birds of Magic Hill as prelude to "Rowan's Welcome," a new composition in honor of Philip and Pam's first grandchild. This is followed by lullabies from previous Magical Strings recordings, including such favorites as "Brittany's Dream," "Song for My Mother," and "Lullaby for a Soul's Journey." Other new compositions are the lilting "Reconciliation Waltz," a gentle offering of peace, and

"Lullaby for Kailey," written for the second granddaughter born two months after Rowan.

Philip and Pam have performed on radio and television networks around the country, including "APrairie Home Companion," NPR's Weekend Edition, CNN at home and in Europe, and prime time TV in Japan. They placed first in a group competition in Ireland, collaborated with Northwest ballet, and performed for Boris Yeltsin when he visited Seattle. In the summer of 1998 they returned to Ireland where they composed new music as part of an artist residency in a cottage by the sea, awarded to them by the Cil Rialaig Irish arts organization.

The Bouldings run the well-known School of Magical Strings, inspiring students of the Celtic harp and hammered dulcimer since 1978. They love to share their music with children and have performed in schools
Continued on pg. 2, see Strings

Michael Carlos Brings Eclectic Music Mix

Friday, 9 March, 7:30 PM

Musician, singer and songwriter, Michael Carlos blends an eclectic mix of musical styles with razor-sharp lyrics to create compositions that have earned him critical acclaim and a growing fan base in the Pacific Northwest.

Currently based in Wenatchee, Michael grew up California's San Joaquin Valley. As a Latino child adopted by Caucasian parents, he was often mistaken as the son of migrant farm workers. His experiences living in the Valley's cultural divide and the search

for his own identity have helped to shape his music, which critics laud for covering a "wide range of musical territory." Michael draws from a diverse array of styles, ranging from indie rock, alt-country, Latin, pop, and blues. He sees his music as one way of bridging the cultural divide and connecting with his audiences, both Anglo and Hispanic.

As a child, Michael learned piano from his grandmother, who was a ragtime pianist. He later picked up the guitar, which he taught himself to play by listening to blues recordings.

While a college student at UCLA, he formed his first band and played acoustic classic rock cover songs in a coffeehouse on campus. After finishing school and moving to Chicago, Michael began writing his own songs, and in 2004, released his debut album, "Yesterday's Icons." The album won acclaim for its "prose-like" lyrics and "smart, sardonic humor."

In 2008, he followed up the political and cultural satire of "Yesterday's Icons" with a more personal voice in his second album, "Damage and
Continued on pg. 2, see Carlos

Strings, cont'd.

throughout the country.

Philip and Pam seem to have boundless energy for their creative life, which is nurtured by their home on a beautiful farm nestled against Magic Hill, overlooking the Puget Sound.

Magical Strings will perform at the Community Unitarian Universalist Church, 2819 W. Sylvester St., Pasco. Tickets are \$11 general admission/\$9 seniors and students if purchased in advance at Bookworm stores and Octopus' Garden. \$1 more at the door. 3RFS members receive a \$3 discount.

Carlos, cont'd.

Remainder." Some of the songs were catharsis for Michael in grieving the deaths of his father and then a year later, his girlfriend, who died in an automobile accident which nearly claimed his own life as well. The album features two Spanish-language songs, "Jenny's Cumbia" and "Playerita," which illustrate Michael's growing versatility and deepening connection with his Latin roots.

There will be an open mic session to start off the evening. Come early to sign up, if you want to perform as slots are limited. The coffeehouse is held at All Saints' Episcopal Church, 1312 Kimball Avenue, Richland (drive around to the lower parking lot in the back). Suggested donations are \$8 general admission or \$6 teens and seniors at the door.

Tumbleweed 2012 Crossroads

Do you want to help steer the 2012 Tumbleweed Music Festival in the right direction? Our next planning meeting is Thursday, March 22, 7:00-8:30 PM, at the Richland Public Library, conference room B. Be sure to mark the festival dates on your calendar in permanent ink: August 31 - September 2! For more information, you can contact Jim at colemanjh@aol.com or 943-6260.

Benefit Concert for Tumbleweed 2012

Saturday, 31 March, 7:30 PM

The annual Tumbleweed Music Festival is funded by donations and grants. You can help support this year's festival while enjoying some of the Northwest's best musicians at this benefit concert featuring Dan Maher, and Humphrey, Hartman & Cameron. They are generously donating their time and talent; proceeds from this concert will go to Tumbleweed.

Dan lives in Pullman and has been the host of "Inland Folk" on Northwest Public Radio and Spokane Public Radio since 1983. Airing locally on Saturdays from 11:00 AM to 2:00 PM on KFAE (89.1 FM), the show features all genres of folk music from blues to bluegrass.

In concert, Dan is well known for his unlimited collection of folk songs and boundless energy. You might hear just about anything, including cowboy songs, funny lyrics, Celtic, contemporary folk, Australian drinking songs, '60s pop, and even some Dylan. Dan has a gift for leading a singalong -- he'll get you singing, and loving it.

Richland's own acoustic trio, Humphrey, Hartman and Cameron, has been described as the harmonic equivalent of peanut butter and jelly with bananas; distinctly different and perfectly complementary. Playing guitars, banjo Janet Humphrey and Mary Hartman, both performers in their own right, joined forces in the mid-1990s. Cellist Michelle Cameron joined them in 2003. Strong vocals, tight harmonies, and quirky humor continue to be the signature of their high energy performances.

We expect there will be some cross-over in this concert, with the ladies lending harmonies and cello to some of Dan's songs. Dan will have his new CD available for purchase also.

We'd like your help to make this fund-raising concert a success. Invite your friends, relations, acquaintances, and business associates. Especially if

they have fat wallets!

The concert will be held at the Community Unitarian Universalist Church, 2819 W. Sylvester St., Pasco. Tickets are \$11 gen./\$9 seniors and students purchased in advance at Bookworm stores and Octopus' Garden and are \$1 more at the door. 3RFS members receive a \$3 discount.

Irish Potluck & Ceilidh

Saturday, 17 March, 6:30 PM

Celebrate St. Patty's Day with friends, fun and great music at the home of Micki Perry, 1011 S. Dawes Street in Kennewick. This party has become a 3RFS tradition and everyone is welcome. Bring your favorite Irish food to share, your own beverages to drink, as well as instruments and favorite Irish songs to sing. There may even be dancing on the deck so start practicing those jigs. Call Micki at 783-9937 or 528-2215 or e-mail her at mickilperry@aol.com to RSVP so she will have a vague idea of how much corn beef and cabbage to prepare.

Folk Talk is published monthly from August through May by the Three Rivers Folklife Society.

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Send items of interest to: mail@3rfs.org
Send Member classified ads to: P.O. Box 1098, Richland, WA 99352
Send memberships to: Ken Bradley

3RFS 2011-12 Board of Directors
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3RFS e-mail: mail@3rfs.org
3RFS Info: www.3rfs.org 509 528-2215

Deadline for the April newsletter is March 15th.

Out of Town

March

- 10** Portland Mega Band Contra Dance Event, 7:30 PM Sat., Smith Memorial Center Ballroom, 1825 SW Broadway, Portland OR
- 11** Portland Road House Contra Dance Showcase, 11AM-9PM Sun., Milwaukie Community Club, 10666 SE 42nd Ave., Milwaukie, OR
- 17** Walla Walla Contra Dance 7:30 PM, Sat., Unity Church of Peace, 810 "C" Street at the Walla Walla Regional Airport

March Roars in With Sea Songs

Saturday, 10 March, 7:00 PM

Come on in to Round Table Pizza in Richland, on the corner of Torbett and George Washington Way, on the Second Saturday of the month. You'll find friends who love to visit and sing sea songs together. No experience necessary, and there's no charge except for the food and beverages.

New Music for March Dance

Saturday, 24 March, 7:30 PM

The music for our March contra dance will be brought to you by the abundant talents of Little Big Cat, featuring the fiddling of Miche Baker-Harvey, piano and guitar tones of Dale Brubaker, and banjo picking of Hugh Fraser. Hailing, respectively, from Seattle, Ellensburg, and Cle Elum, their blend of old-time, French-Canadian, Metis (we're talking the original Canadians), and Irish is sure to delight and get your feet moving. To match these fine

Local Folk Events

March

- 2** First Friday Folkie Free-For-All 7:30 PM -Fri., Micki Perry's
- 9** Michael Carlos Coffeehouse 7:30 PM Fri., All Saints'
- 10** 2nd Saturday Sea Song Singalong 7:00 PM Sat., Round Table Pizza, Richland
- 12** 3RFS Board Meeting 7:00 PM Mon., Tim Riordan's
- 16** Magical Strings Concert 7:30 PM Fri., CUUC
- 17** St. Patrick's Day Potluck & Ceilidh 6:30 PM Sat., Micki Perry's
- 22** Tumbleweed Music Festival Planning Meeting 7:00 PM Thurs., Richland Library
- 24** Contra Dance 7:30 PM Sat., Shufflers' Shanty
- 31** Tumbleweed Benefit Concert with Humphrey, Hartman & Cameron and Dan Maher 7:30 PM Sat., CUUC

April

- 6** First Friday Folkie Free-For-All 7:30 PM -Fri., Micki Perry's
- 9** 3RFS Board Meeting 7:00 PM Mon., Tim Riordan's
- 13** Jeff Knoch Coffeehouse 7:30 PM Fri., All Saints'
- 14** 2nd Saturday Sea Song Singalong 7:00 PM Sat., Round Table Pizza, Richland
- 21** Brother Sun Concert 7:30 PM Sat CUUC
- 26** Tumbleweed Music Festival Planning Meeting 7:00 PM Thurs., Richland Library
- 28** Contra Dance 7:30 PM Sat., Shufflers' Shanty

All Saints' = All Saints' Episcopal Church, 1322 Kimball Ave., Richland
 CUUC = Community Unitarian Universalist Church, 2819 W. Sylvester St., Pasco
 Micki Perry's = 1011 S. Dawes St., Kennewick
 Richland Library = Richland Library, 955 Northgate Dr., at Goethals Dr. and Swift Blvd.
 Round Table Pizza = Corner of George Washington Way and Torbett St., Richland
 Shuffler's Shanty = 717 N. Irving St., Kennewick
 Tim Riordan's = 2353 Benton Ave., Richland

For information, call 509 528-2215

musicians, we have the totally talented calling of La Grande's Mark Lewis, who channeled his disdain for pushups in PE class into a love of folk dancing and then onward to the lucrative, challenging, and rewarding field of contra calling!

The only things better than dancing are good company and delicious food. Join us at 6:00 PM for a potluck supper prior to the dance. Bring friends

and family and a dish to share for a great evening of food, music, dancing and fun. All dances are taught so no experience or partner is necessary. It all takes place at Shuffler's Shanty, 717 N. Irving St., Kennewick. Go to 3rfs.org for a map. Cost at the door is \$8 general admission or \$6 seniors and teens. Kids under 12 are free. \$1 off for 3RFS members.