



# Folk Talk

A Newsletter for Columbia, Snake, and Yakima River Folk

Vol. 37 Issue 3

November/December 2024

## Canadian Songwriter James Keelaghan

Friday, November 22, 7:30 PM  
All Saints' Episcopal Church

Join us for a special Friday evening concert with [James Keelaghan](#) accompanied by [David Woodhead](#).

Contemporary folk songs, at their very best, offer an insight into the hardships, attitudes, and resolve of characters and events that shape our day-to-day lives. You can dress these songs up in inspired arrangements and intricate instrumentation but, at their very essence, the archetypal folk song is all about stories. Stories and people. Something such compelling songwriters as Eric Bogle, Si Kahn, Ewan MacColl, and Stan Rogers all understood and mined so effectively.

James Keelaghan, too, burrows into that same rich seam with equal ability and comparable conviction.

Originally from Calgary, but now living in Perth, Ontario, Keelaghan is an internationally known artist. Throughout a career that now spans almost four decades, the Juno and Canadian Folk Music Award winner has created a repertoire of incalculable importance – a unique body of work, either inspired by or drawn from the folk tradition. Fusing his insatiable appetite for finding the next unique storyline, he forges his pieces with brilliantly defined craftsmanship and a monogrammed artistic vision, making him one of the most distinctive and readily identifiable voices of not only the Canadian scene, but as a member of the international singer-songwriter community.

Armed with a songbook that has

enlightened and enthralled, and been embraced, by audiences around the world, Keelaghan's life as an artist is one that is a perpetual journey on so many levels. Most importantly it's a journey that has invited fans of literate and layered songwriting to be a part of his artistic expeditions, some that weave their way through marvelously etched stories of a historical nature with underlying universal themes, and others that mine the depths of the soul and the emotional trails of human relations. His masterful story telling, over the course of ten recordings, has been part of the bedrock of his success, earning Keelaghan his share of nominations and awards, and acclaim from Australia to Scandinavia. Originals from the Keelaghan cannon are entering the folk music cannon. Most notably, "[Small Rebellion](#)" (highlighting the 1931 slaughter of peaceful striking miners in Bienfait, Saskatchewan); "[Hillcrest Mine](#)" (a prelude to the worst coal mining disaster in Canadian history); "[Kiri's Piano](#)" (a triumph over adversity amidst the shameful, racist treatment of Japanese-Canadians during WW II); and "[Cold Missouri Waters](#)" (a harrowing portrait of the 1949 Mann Gulch Fire in the mountains of Montana) His latest album, [Second Hand](#), is a collection that features both solo efforts and writing collaborations. Even if you aren't familiar with him, you may recognize some of his songs from having heard Hank Cramer perform them.

David Woodhead has had a truly wide-ranging and dynamic career, evolving a distinctive melodic and textural approach that he can mold to fit almost any situation.

You've probably seen David's name listed on the backs of recordings in your collection. He's appeared on some 300 projects, and worked with many

influential artists including Perth County Conspiracy, Stan Rogers, Oliver Schroer, Gil Scott-Heron, and David Sanborn. His live gigs have included working with Malagasy guitarist Donn e Roberts (a recent Juno nominee), classical-folk fusioners Ensemble Polaris and veteran jazzers Manteca, and touring internationally with master songwriter James Keelaghan. David has done instruction at the Folk Alliance International conference (Kansas City), Haliburton Winter Folk Camp, the Goderich Celtic College, and Ontario's The Woods. He's been an invited guest improviser at Arraymusic and at Casey Sokol's improv soir ees at York University, and has done a Music Residency at the Banff Centre, working on music which led to his most recent Confabulation CD, [Tunnels and Visions](#). Recently he's been taking part in various events involving Quebecois and Balfolk (European folk dance) music, playing tenor banjo and mandolin.

His own music draws from the intimacy of the folk world, the harmonic sensibilities of jazz, and a sense of precision from classical arranging, with room for freedom in individual expression and improvisation. David's Confabulation ensemble has a somewhat exotic and rambunctious nature, while the more recent Oriana Quartet is focused on taking a folk-jazz chamber music approach.

The concert will be upstairs in the sanctuary. Park in back and use the downstairs entrance. Tickets are \$20 or \$15 for members, and can be purchased at the door or in advance online at <http://www.3rfs.org/concert.htm>.



### Start December Off with SeaStar

Saturday, December 7, 7:30 PM  
All Saints' Episcopal Church

Since 2007, Fae Wiedenhoef and her band [SeaStar](#) have been entertaining audiences. SeaStar hails from the rainy town of Seattle, rocks like a gale, and woos like a summer wind. For the last 16 years this band has been generating original Celtic, Folk, Maritime, and Americana music with a Pacific Northwest spin. Deeply rooted in the stories of the West Coast and the Celtic worlds, every note has the essence of the fisherfolk, the selkies, the mountains, the tides, and the blackberry breeze. Their award winning, traditional sounding compositions and clever story songs are loved and revered by many. They have taken their love of musical storytelling around the world including the US, Canada, Ireland and Scotland, England, France, Poland, and Türkiye.

They have played at festivals, concert halls, coffeehouses, house concerts, hardware stores and even video arcades, and will return to the Tri-Cities

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#### 3RFS 2024-2025 Board of Directors

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3RFS Info: [www.3rfs.org](http://www.3rfs.org) 509-946-0504  
(Gene Carbaugh)

for a concert on December 7 at 7:30 pm at All Saints' Episcopal Church, 1322 Kimball Avenue, Richland. No strangers to our 3RFS audience, Seastar been performing at Tumbleweed for years. Their last concert for 3RFS, in September 2021, was our first concert after the pandemic closings. This concert's theme will be "Winter - Holding Light in the Darkness." There will be holiday songs, traditional Celtic songs, and a few new songs as well as winter seasonal songs.

The band has been together in some configuration since 2007. The current configuration consists of Fae Wiedenhoef: Voice, Acoustic Guitar, Mandolin; "Captain" Adam Chambers: Bass; Michael Falcone: Voice, Cajon, Hand Percussion; and Ron Allen: Guitar. Fae is the primary songwriter in the group which is known for her passionate originals, and their energetic renditions of Celtic anthems and standards as well as Americana classics with a hint of old-time and bluegrass. Both Fae and Seastar have a number of CDs, some of which are sure to be available at the concert. You can also listen to and buy their music online at Bandcamp - <https://seastar1.bandcamp.com/> as well as from [Amazon](#) and [Apple](#).

The concert will be upstairs in the sanctuary. Park in back and use the downstairs entrance. Tickets are \$20 or \$15 for members, and can be purchased at the door or in advance online at <http://www.3rfs.org/concert.htm>.



### President's Pen - by Gene Carbaugh

Last month I mentioned that new opportunities for volunteer service to 3RFS would be coming, thanks to Micki Perry's willingness to share her load with others. Here are some of the new opportunities (which also means "needs") within our organization and their brief descriptions. Please look them over and seriously consider volunteering for one of these tasks. Contact me at 509-946-0504 or [President@3rfs.net](mailto:President@3rfs.net) to express your interest, or if you have questions.

**Concert Producers:** Arrange the concert details including making sure we have a ticket seller, refreshments, door prizes, emcee, helping with publicity, opening and closing the performance venue. For the 2024-2025 season, we have the performers pretty much in place, but for the 2025-2026 season the producer could also play a major part in selecting performers and arranging their details (e.g., schedule & housing.)

**Calendar Updates:** There are numerous calendars (online and print) that cover events in the Tri-Cities. We need someone who could submit updates (typically online) for our various events to the various calendars. The updates are one- or two-line postings, rather than detailed descriptions.

**Concert/Event Refreshments:** Do you enjoy the refreshments we have at concerts and our other events? We could use a few more people willing to bring snacks and beverages and help with setup and cleanup after the event. Typically need to be there 30 minutes before and/or after the event.

**Folk Talk Contributing Writers:** Each issue of our Folk Talk Newsletter has articles describing and promoting the concert and coffee house performers for the upcoming month. The need is for someone to use the promotional material the performer provides, perhaps from their website or Facebook page, or from direct contact with or knowledge of the performer, and write the nominal half-page article for each. Articles need to be ready for the newsletter about a month in advance of the event.

**Newsletter Labeling and Mailing:** For the newsletters and promotional post cards that we mail out, preprinted labels must be manually applied and the materials delivered for bulk mailing to the Kennewick Post Office.

**Folk Talk Newsletter Editor:** Katrina Knight has been faithfully editing our newsletter for 4 years now and has announced that she needs to step down from that position to allow her to focus her efforts on coordinating the Tumbleweed Music Festival and producing *Dan Maher's Good Road* internet radio show. The position

requires using computer publishing software to create the newsletter using the templates we currently have, and assuring that we contributors provide material in a timely fashion. The electronic files are sent to our printer for hard-copy production, and to our webmaster for posting. Katrina will mentor her replacement!

As you can see, there is no shortage of opportunities to serve! We really do need to find people to fill these vital roles. Perhaps you know someone who would enjoy contributing to the 3RFS community in this way. Thanks for considering your additional involvement to keep 3RFS alive and healthy.

## Support Dan Maher's Good Road

It is truly a blessing to have Dan Maher back on the air waves – well, maybe it's better to say virtual air waves since it's an online streaming program. If you would like to financially support Dan Maher you can do so in a tax-deductible way as a donation to Three Rivers Folklife Society with a designation for [Dan Maher's Good Road](#). If you donate online to Folk Music Notebook, the donation will go to support Folk Music Notebook's general operations (yes, a very worthy cause) but will not specifically go to Dan Maher.

## Christmas Gift Ideas

With the holiday season just around the corner, how about some 3RFS items as stocking stuffers or presents? For the music lover, there is our own 2-CD set *Front Row Seat* featuring live performances from past 3RFS concerts. It's a really good deal. We also have two song books, *Rise Up Singing*, and *Rise Again*, which are heavily used at our sing-alongs. And there is our Tumbleweed Music Festival branded merchandise, including t-shirts, hats, fans, and earrings. Maybe even grab some free buttons to decorate your tree!

Contact Gene Carbaugh at 509-946-0504 if you'd like to buy something or look for some items at our next couple of

## Folk Events

### November

1	FFFFFA	7:00 pm Fri	Gene Carbaugh's, Richland
8	3RFS Coffeehouse w/ Kay Miracle	7:00 pm Fri	All Saints', Richland
9	SSSSS	6:00 pm Sat	Round Table Pizza, Richland
9-10	Spokane Fall Folk Festival	Sat-Sun	Spokane Community College
11	3RFS Board meeting	7:00 pm Mon	Gene Carbaugh's, Richland
18	Tumbleweed Planning Meeting	7:00 pm Mon	Zoom
22	James Keelaghan Concert	7:30 pm Fri	All Saints', Richland

### December

6	FFFFFA	7:00 pm Fri	Laurel Weeks', Kennewick
7	Seastar Concert	7:30 pm Sat	All Saints', Richland
9	3RFS Board meeting	7:00 pm Mon	Gene Carbaugh's, Richland
13	3RFS Coffeehouse w/ David Adams	7:00 pm Fri	All Saints', Richland
14	SSSSS	6:00 pm Sat	Round Table Pizza, Richland
16	Tumbleweed Planning Meeting	7:00 pm Mon	Zoom

### January

3	FFFFFA	7:00 pm Fri	Gene Carbaugh's, Richland
10	3RFS Coffeehouse with JAK	7:00 pm Fri	All Saints', Richland
11	SSSSS	6:00 pm Fri	Round Table Pizza, Richland
13	3RFS Board Meeting	7:00 pm Mon	Gene Carbaugh's, Richland
18	Bourbon & Bellows Concert	7:30 pm Sat	All Saints', Richland
20	Tumbleweed Planning Meeting	7:00 pm Mon	Zoom

All Saints' = All Saints' Episcopal Church, 1322 Kimball Ave., Richland

Gene Carbaugh's = 803 Birch Ave., Richland

Laurel Weeks' = 401 N. Oklahoma St., Kennewick

Round Table Pizza = Corner of George Washington Way and Torbett St., Richland

concerts.

## Tumbleweed 2025 - by Katrina Knight

Preparations for the 2025 Tumbleweed Music Festival are already underway. The planning committee is having meetings and working to make next year's festival even better than this year's was. We've reserved our space in the park for August 29-31 (Yes, the festival is entirely in August in 2025.) We've also turned in our grant application for funding from the City of Richland's Hotel/Motel Tax.

Our new website is up and running, and we're working on updating it.

We've chosen the theme, "Play Time."

Entry [applications for the logo contest](#) are available on the new site. Soon we will release the 2025 performer and song-writing contest applications, followed by the food and craft vendor applications.

The next planning committee meetings will be at 7 pm on November 18 and December 16, via Zoom. If you'd like to be more involved, we'd love to have you join us! Contact me at [tumbleweedchair@gmail.com](mailto:tumbleweedchair@gmail.com) or (509) 587-3060 if you're interested. We welcome new people and new ideas and there are plenty of jobs, large and small, to be done. We particularly need people to be in charge of merchandise and other sales at the info booth, and to take charge of set-up and teardown. Putting on a good festival, and we believe that's what we have, is only possible with the

help of a whole group of volunteers. I am honored to be the Coordinator again and look forward to working with more of you in the coming year.

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### **Tumbleweed Has A New Website!**

Back near the end of the pandemic, 3RFS had a "retreat" to discuss the needs and future paths for the organization. One of the decisions made at that time was to create a consolidated website for the festival that included all the content from the existing information site [tumbleweedfest.com](http://tumbleweedfest.com), and from the virtual festival site [tumbleweedmusicfestival.org](http://tumbleweedmusicfestival.org).

And now, we have it! Barring a few bumps in the path to having the site fully operational, you may now view the new website by going to [tumbleweedfest.com](http://tumbleweedfest.com). You'll notice that it's all set up for this year's festival; we'd hoped to have it up and running before Labor Day, but that just wasn't in the cards. So, once things are completely settled, we'll get it updated and try to make it a consistent and timely source of all information for the 29th annual Tumbleweed, coming your way from August 29 – August 31, 2025!

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### **Coffeehouses Kay Miracle - November David Adams - December**

Friday, November 8, 7:00 PM  
Friday, December 13, 7:00 PM  
All Saints' Episcopal Church

Kay Miracle grew up in Benton City in a musical family. She received her first guitar from her grandfather, Claude Wood, a guitar player who backed up both Hank Williams and Doris Day. Her musical journey began at an early age performing with her sister as "The Miracle Sisters" at various State Fairs and TV shows. When she was in college she played in rock, folk, and bluegrass bands. After college she toured with Pacific Air Force and USO bands for 7 years. She was lead singer, guitarist, and songwriter for the alternative country band Reckless Driver, had her own

band Kay and the Miracle Cure, and was also in the duo Ghost Town Ramblers. She has showcased her original songs at the SXSW Women TeXchromosome showcases in Austin TX, as well as *Highway Woman* radio show while touring with the "Last Honky Tonk Train" songwriter series.

Kay has won many songwriting awards for her original songs, including being a finalist several times in Tumbleweed's Jane Titland Memorial Songwriting Contest.

David Adams is an acoustic guitar player and singer-songwriter hailing from the rolling hills of upstate New York. With a passion for storytelling through music, David crafts original songs about life and love. His recent move to the Tri-Cities area has infused his performances with a fresh energy, entertaining audiences with his acoustic renditions of rock, indie, pop, and folk tunes. Whether strumming his own compositions or reimagining classics, David's music bridges the gap between the rustic and the contemporary.

He performed at both of the Tumbleweed teaser concerts and at Tumbleweed itself, offering up a varied selection of originals and covers.

Admission is \$8 for 3RFS members/\$10 for non-members and the show starts at 7 PM with an open mic. Come early if you would like to sign up for a performance slot. The coffeehouse is hosted at All Saints' Episcopal Church at 1322 Kimball Avenue in Richland.

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### **FIRST FRIDAY FOLKIE FREE-FOR-ALL**

Friday, December 6, 7:00 PM  
Laurel Week's home  
Friday, January 3, 7:00 PM  
Gene Carbaugh's home

The first Friday of every month we have a gathering for songs. Each person attending can pick a song of their choice for the group to sing (or do a solo if you prefer...or ask someone else to sing). Winter seasonal and holiday songs are sure to be sung in December. As usual, anything goes as far as making a request, leading a song, or performing a solo. The

FFFFFA is a great time for simply singing or getting a chance to play your favorite instrument. Come join the fun. FFFFFA locations will be rotating. (If you'd like to host it, let us know.) Laurel Weeks, 401 N. Oklahoma St., Kennewick, will host December's singalong and Gene Carbaugh, 803 Birch Ave., Richland, will be the host in January.

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### **SECOND SATURDAY SINGALONG**

Saturday, November 9, 6 PM  
Saturday, December 14, 6 PM  
Round Table Pizza, Richland

Fall brings breezy weather, and that's good for sailors, landspeople, and songs of the sea (and land). The Second Saturday Sea Song Sing-Along will board at the Round Table Pizza on George Washington Way in Richland at 6 pm on November 9. After chowing down on pizza, along about 6:45 we'll hoist the metaphorical sails and catch the wind for an evening of songs. No formal musical training or seamanship certifications are required, just a desire to participate in the fun, so come along and set sail with us.

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### **Spokane Fall Folk Festival**

Saturday-Sunday, November 9-10  
Spokane Community College, Spokane

Our friends from the Spokane Folklore Society are putting on the **Spokane Fall Folk Festival** November 9-10. Over 85 groups will perform on six stages, offering a wide variety of folk music and dance from various cultures. Some familiar faces from Tumbleweed will be there, including Hank Cramer, Trillium-239, SeaStar, Homebrew String Band and Dan Maher along with plenty of others.

Like Tumbleweed, this is a free event supported by donations and sponsors. Also like us, they could use some volunteer help. Volunteering is a great way to be involved and meet people.

For more info check out their website <https://www.spokanefolkfestival.org>

# Yes!

## I want to help 3RFS and the Tumbleweed Music Festival Roll on!

I would like to contribute at this level:

- \_\_\_\_\_ \$1000.00
- \_\_\_\_\_ \$250.00
- \_\_\_\_\_ \$100.00
- \_\_\_\_\_ \$50.00
- \$\_\_\_\_\_ Other

Please keep my gift anonymous (Donor names will be listed in next year's program unless you indicate you wish to remain anonymous.)

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail \_\_\_\_\_



## Membership Application

*Your membership gives you voting rights in Folklife elections, discounts on events, and is tax deductible!*

\_\_\_\_\_ Individual (\$20) or \_\_\_\_\_ Family (\$25) *Renewal?* Y N

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

**Please send Folk Talk (choose one) US Mail**  **Email**  **Both**

### **I can help 3RFS with:**

- Refreshments at concerts
- Taking admission at events
- Serve on Board of Directors
- Demonstrating folk arts
- Setting up chairs
- Folding newsletters
- Publicity
- Membership
- Fund raising

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