



Folk Talk

A Newsletter for Columbia, Snake, and Yakima River Folk

Vol. 36 Issue 6

March 2025

2025 Tumbleweed Logo Chosen



The Tumbleweed Music Festival is delighted to announce that **Randi Vaughan**, of [Gartock Creative](#), in Charleston, WV, has won the 2025 Tumbleweed Logo Contest!

Randi has won the \$150.00 prize, and her logo will be used on all Tumbleweed promotional materials and T-Shirts for this year's festival.

We had contest entries from across the world: Ghana, Sri Lanka, Canada, The Philippines, and Oregon. All these artists are to be congratulated for and be proud of their fine designs, and we thank them for their efforts.

St Patrick's Day Brings Irish Music with Shamrock & Sage

Saturday, March 15, 7:30 PM
All Saints' Episcopal Church

Sure and begorrah, it's almost St. Paddy's Day, and 3RFS has a very special concert for the season featuring the awesome assemblage of vocal and instrumental talents of **Shamrock and Sage**, an Irish band from the Columbia Basin and Yakima Valley.

They feature professional and semi-professional musicians who share a love of music and good Irish whiskey. Formed initially in 2019 as a way for friends to share their love of traditional Irish tunes, their music includes big sounds and tight harmonies featured in songs both traditional and modern. They perform everything from ballads to drinking tunes from Ireland and the surrounding isles. The 8-member band filling our performing space to its max includes David Riddle on guitar and lead vocals, Bethany Riddle on vocals, Jude Noah on fiddle, mandolin, and whatever else he feels like playing, Peter Cole on flutes, whistles, and vocals, Teresa Palazzo on vocals and spoons, Jeremy Erickson on fiddle and vocals, Ben Macy on accordion, upright bass, and vocals, and last but not least, Dave Riddle on bodhran and vocals – no, its not a typo, Dave is father to son David, the guitarist and lead vocalist.

Shamrock and Sage has been performing throughout the region for several years now, including gigs at the Emerald of Siam, Princess Theatre, the Prosser Scottish Festival, and wherever they can find an audience. Expect lots of the high energy music, but if you want the whiskey, sorry, we won't be serving

it at the concert venue!

Concert begins at 7:30 pm on Saturday, March 15 at All Saints' Episcopal Church, 1322 Kimball in Richland. Park in the back parking lot and enter through the basement. Tickets are \$20 general admission and \$15 for 3RFS members and can be purchased at the door or in advance at <https://www.3rfs.org/concert.htm>.

President's Pen - by Gene Carbaugh

Here it is mid-winter with March sneaking up on us with the promise of spring only a month away. I once read "Caution, dates in your planner are closer than they appear," and that adage continues to prove true to me. As our concert program committee begins planning our Fall 2025 to Summer 2026 concert season, I find the Tumbleweed Music Festival continues to grow, and Labor Day weekend is starting to look closer and closer. Several major roles in Tumbleweed now appear to need new "leads". First, the Merchandise Manager for the Info Booth, who organizes and administers the sale of our performers' products as well as our own Tumbleweed merchandise. Ideally this role needs someone who enjoys inventory control, sales, interacting with people, and has the attention to detail needed for handling finances during the festival. This is no small task but is essential to our festival. Likewise, our forever hospitality lead, Chris Mesford, has advised that she will not be able to perform the function as she historically has, and so we need one or two people who can take on (under Chris's mentorship) the task of planning, organizing, and running the kitchen and food hospitality room during the festival. Both of these roles – merchandising and hospitality – have been key attractions of our festival to the performers and volunteers who make the festival happen. As I have written and said before, we must grow and mature new volunteers, or else wither

away. Please give serious consideration to these needs and talk to Festival Coordinator Katrina Knight or me about your potential for assisting. We need you!!!!

Expect a Fun Time with "No Expectations" at the March Coffeehouse

Friday, March 14, 7:00 PM
All Saints' Episcopal Church

No Expectations is a Tri-Cities based band that plays a diverse mix of Americana, bluegrass, folk, country, rock, and blues including some great covers and original tunes. With four vocalists and a mix of acoustic guitars, mandolin, octave mandolin, harmonica, ukulele, electric guitar and bass, there's never a dull moment. The band started as an acoustic jam at Iconic Brewing and you can still catch their weekly jam/practice sessions there most Sunday afternoons, as well as plugged-in sessions and private parties around the Tri-Cities.

The primary band members are:

Don McBride - mandolin, octave mandolin, harmonica, and vocals.

Gus Calipristi - acoustic guitar, electric guitar, harmonica, and vocals.

Bob Cathel - acoustic guitar, ukulele, and vocals.

Mark Rockhold - acoustic guitar and vocals.

The band is sometimes accompanied by Rob Harrison on electric guitar and bass, and Sam Farr on bass.

Coffeehouse 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 the All Saints' Episcopal Church at 1322 Kimball Avenue in Richland.

Benefit concert for Dan Maher featuring Tim Hall

Thursday, March 27, 7:00 PM
Princess Theatre, Prosser

On March 27 Tim Hall will perform a concert in The Green Room of the [Princess Theatre](#) in Prosser, and proceeds will be donated to Dan Maher's medical fund. Expect a fine evening of music and community support for a very worthy cause. This concert is a part of the "Common Folk" concert series, co-sponsored by 3RFS and the Princess Theatre Green Room."

Singer and multi-instrumentalist Tim Hall collects and shares songs from far and wide — anything that strikes his fancy from Australian sheep shearing songs, to English ballads, to Appalachian banjo tunes, to Canadian Northwest work songs, kids songs, pub songs, cowboy songs . . . you name it. From clever and amusing to poignant and topical, Tim accompanies his repertoire with seasoned guitar, banjo and concertina playing. Or, he may play a few Music Hall or novelty songs on the ukulele. Says Maritime Folknet, "Tim has a deep catalog of old songs in his head and under his fingers. His intricate guitar and banjo picking stand on their own . . ."

A wonderful performer in his own right, Dan Maher has been an active member of the Northwest folk music family for as long as we can remember. He is facing enormous and expensive medical challenges and every dollar we can raise to help him out would be gratefully received. If you can't make the concert, but still wish to contribute,

his gofundme web site can be found at: <https://gofund.me/f340d3c9>.

The Common Folk Series at the Princess Theater is a relatively new concert venue for folk musicians and they are getting off the ground with a wonderful line up of stalwart regional folk musicians. Doors open at 6:30. Tickets can be purchased at the door for \$10 or online at <https://prosserprincess.ludus.com>.

Membership Renewal Dates

Are you aware of your membership status? Our membership runs for 12 months from when you paid. We have added membership expiration dates to our mailing labels, for those of you who get newsletters and/or promotional postcards by mail. You can conveniently renew online or by mailing in your membership form. If you don't get postal mailings, therefore don't see mailing labels, or don't have the latest newsletter handy, or think that the given date is wrong, send a message to, send a message to communications@3rfs.net. If you aren't a member, please consider joining. Member dues are only \$20 (Individual) or \$25 (Family). Members pay discounted admission prices to 3RFS events and have the satisfaction of knowing they are supporting local folklife events.

Back to Back Events Again in March

It's a bit unusual, but the idiosyncrasies of the calendar occasionally create back-to back events on the same weekend instead of the usual week separation. This year, notably, our February and March monthly singalongs occur on consecutive Fridays and Saturdays, and the following weekends see our monthly Coffeehouses and Concerts occurring respectively on Friday and Saturday. But don't let that stop you from joining in the fun.

First Friday Folkie Free For All

Friday, March 7, 7:00 pm
Bill Darke's home

Bring your voices and instruments to the First Friday Folkie Free For All on March 7 at 7:00 PM. This month's event will be hosted by Bill Darke at his home: 210 Somerset St, Richland. With St.

[Folk Talk](#) is published monthly August through May by the [Three Rivers Folklife Society](#).

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Send items of interest to:

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Send memberships to:

3RFS Membership

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(Gene Carbaugh)

Patrick's Day just around the corner, you can bet there will be some Irish songs of love, rebellion, and maybe even drinking. We rotate around the group with everyone having a chance to pick a song for us to sing, or sing a solo, or make a request for someone else to sing something. The April 4th FFFFA will be held at Gene Carbaugh's, 803 Birch Ave, Richland

SECOND SATURDAY SINGALONG

**Saturday, March 8, 6:00 PM
Round Table Pizza, Richland**

The Second Saturday Sea Song Singalong on March 8 will undoubtedly include some Irish ditties in addition to the usual nautical material. We meet at Round Table Pizza on George Washington Way in Richland, ordering food around 6:00 PM, then the music begins around 6:45 when the eating is done. We go until the wind is blown out of our sails or the establishment closes, or the banshees' shrieks overcome us, whichever comes first! Join us for the fun!

Dan Maher Fundraiser

As we mentioned last month, our dear friend Dan Maher suffered a heart attack in January then was diagnosed with advanced liver cancer while he was in the hospital. If you would like to help Dan there is a GoFundMe online fundraising campaign to raise money to help cover his hospital bills and other care needs.

<https://gofund.me/f340d3c9>

Planning for Tumbleweed 2025

Continues -- by Katrina Knight

Planning for this year's [Tumbleweed](#) continues. We've selected our logo for this year (see page 1). The planning committee has been meeting regularly to plan and discuss how we can improve the festival. Do you have ideas for improvements? If so, either contact me, or better yet, join the planning committee. We can always use some more help, both with ideas and with actions.

Applications for food vendors and arts and crafts vendors are open and we've already received a few. Please spread the word to vendors you know of or come across who you think would be a good fit. We want to have a good mix of returning and new vendors and word of mouth is a great way to spread the word

Folk Events

March

7 FFFFA	7:00 pm Fri	Bill Darke's, West Richland
8 SSSSS	6:00 pm Fri	Round Table Pizza, Richland
10 3RFS Board Meeting	7:00 pm Mon	Bob Lewis's, Richland
14 3RFS Coffeehouse	7:00 pm Fri	All Saints', Richland
15 Shamrock and Sage Concert	7:30 pm Sat	All Saints', Richland
17 Tumbleweed Planning Meeting	7:00 pm Mon	Zoom
21-23 Singtime Frolics	Fri-Sun	Corbett, OR
27 Tim Hall concert	7:00 pm Thur	Princess Theatre, Prosser

April

4 FFFFA	7:00 pm Fri	Gene Carbaugh's, Richland
12 SSSSS	6:00 pm Fri	Round Table Pizza, Richland
14 3RFS Board Meeting	7:00 pm Mon	Gene Carbaugh's, Richland
17 Joel Underwood Lecture: Woody Guthrie in the Pacific NW	7:00 pm Thurs	Richland Library
18 Potluck and Woody Guthrie Singalong	6:00 pm Fri	Gene Carbaugh's, Richland
19 Joel Underwood Concert	7:30 pm Sat	location TBA
21 Tumbleweed Planning Meeting	7:00 pm Mon	Zoom
24 Whateverly Brothers concert	7:00 pm Thur	Princess Theatre, Prosser

All Saints' = All Saints' Episcopal Church, 1322 Kimball Ave., Richland
 Gene Carbaugh's = 803 Birch Ave., Richland
 Niel Kierulff's = 4191 Maple Lane in West Richland
 Princess Theatre = 1228 Meade Ave., Prosser
 Richland Library = 955 Northgate Dr, Richland
 Round Table Pizza = Corner of George Washington Way and Torbett St, Richland

and attract new vendors. We would particularly like a few more food vendors who serve affordable meals rather than snacks and drinks. Our friends at Tumbleweeds Restaurant are no longer in business, so their food truck won't be returning.

Please continue spreading the word that we are accepting performer applications until April 20 as well. We've gotten some really interesting applications so far, from both nearby and as far as Vietnam. We'd love to continue adding more variety to our performances. Last year we added a hip hop performance on Friday night, which was well-received. My goal is for everyone who comes to the festival to be able to see performers they can feel a connection with. We need more younger artists performing in genres that are attractive

to younger audience members, including both children and younger adults. Performances representing a greater variety of ethnic styles would be great too. Do you know musicians or dancers who might be interested? Please tell them about Tumbleweed and encourage them to apply.

As Gene mentioned in his President's Pen, we need to find volunteers to take on some important jobs. Chris Mesford has done an amazing job with hospitality and the kitchen for years, but she is unable to do it this year. We will likely need two or three people to fill her shoes. Also, a number of our kitchen volunteers are aging and less able to commit to the level of volunteering that they've done in the past, so even if you don't want to take on a high level of responsibility, please consider working in the kitchen.

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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