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2020 Member Application

Your membership gives you voting rights in Folklife elections, \$2 off most concerts, and is tax deductible! You'll even get a nifty membership card to show your friends and neighbors!

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

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Please send Folk Talk by (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
- Tumbleweed Music Festival
- Setting up chairs
- Folding newsletters
- Publicity
- Membership
- Other
- Fund raising
- Coffeehouses
- Song circles

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

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Folk Talk

A Newsletter for Columbia, Snake, and Yakima River Folk

Vol. 31, Issue 3

November 2019

Timeless Music From Lauren Sheehan

Saturday, 16 November, 7:30 PM

Google Lauren Sheehan and you'll find real estate agents, corporate recruiters, and a figure skater. She's none of those things, but Peggy Seeger said Lauren Sheehan was "a keeper" and she was recently called "Portland music royalty" at a concert she played there.

Above all, she's an American Roots musician keeping folk music alive. Since her first recording in 2002, critical acclaim for Sheehan continues to mount with each subsequent project. She's been featured on the BBC, NPR and Top 20 folk radio as well as being included in the Library of Congress as part of the MusicBox project. As guitarist for the The Light Still Burns, companion CD to the history book "Kalamazoo Gals; A Story of Extraordinary Women & Gibson's 'Banner' Guitars of WWII," Sheehan's light shines true and bright. She's not only a student of the past, she recreates it through her live performance, bringing us all into her song circle where

we share the music and stories as if they were our own; indeed, they are.

For the Kalamazoo Gals/Gibson guitars project, author John Thomas said, "Lauren Sheehan's contribution of 'technique, style, grit, and soul,' both as a vocalist and guitar player made her the perfect artist for this project."

It's one thing to love music and perform at the top of the folk food chain, but it's another to share the love of it by giving private and group lessons, lighting the musical fire for so many others. It was formal music lessons that put her on track to her current success. Via email, Sheehan responded to questions, giving more background about her musical beginnings.

"I grew up singing with Disney records, and truly, I can remember joyful uninhibited singing with great pleasure, over and over again. Then I began guitar lessons at 10 and actually practiced and enjoyed it. My Mom made sure I got lessons and, eventually, a decent instrument. I studied basic guitar, then classical, then read from folk song books, eventually

learned to play by ear instead of always having to have the music to read, expanded to fiddle tunes, folk, old time Appalachian, Irish, blues, early jazz."

Her musical roots are deep. "My grandfather (played) tin pan alley and common songs and loved all kinds of music. He played coronet, banjo, piano and a number of other instruments. He clearly infected my mother with joyful exuberant singing and appreciation for all kinds of music. My folks listened to records, mostly cool jazz and oldies but goodies. The joy of music is clearly from my mom, but my sensitivity to melody, tone, ensemble interaction, timbre, cool rhythms and improvisation I owe to my Dad. I stumbled upon roots music in college when I literally opened a door and stepped in (to) a New England contra dance, and this led me to folk festivals, records and people who played non-commercial music."

Sheehan's prowess on a variety of
Continued on Page 2, See Concert

Trillium-239 at the Coffeehouse

Friday, 8 November, 7:30 PM

Trillium-239 is not a new element in the periodic table, and it's not used in nuclear bombs or power plants. Trillium-239 is a powerhouse of musical energy and good humor and a familiar trio formerly known as "Humphrey, Hartman & Cameron." For years they endured people saying "Your name sounds like a law firm!" They explain that their new name combines a flower and a radioactive isotope. A trillium is a lovely little

wildflower with three petals, while 239 is the isotope of plutonium historically produced on the Hanford Site... and it was Hanford that was indirectly responsible for bringing the three members of the trio to Richland. The trio is known for complex melodic lines, quirky lyrics, award-winning songwriting, and masterful arrangements. Cello, guitars and banjo provide thoughtful support for tight vocal harmonies.

Mary Hartman (banjo, guitar, vocals) finds inspiration in the sublime and

the ridiculous. Her award-winning songs cover topics from love and mercy to goose poop and rear-end "cleavage." One fan described her pure alto voice as "filling a cathedral" and her writing reflects a wide range of musical styles. Blues, ballads and music hall "camp" are used to support Mary's thought provoking lyrics. Mary keeps a day job as a hydrogeologist, tirelessly studying wet rocks.

Janet Humphrey (guitar, vocals) is a transplanted easterner and her writing
Continued on Page 2, See Coffeehouse

Concert, Continued from page 1
instruments including guitar, mandolin, banjo, and other stringed devices rivals the best in any genre, hands down. When performing shows such as the solo show she'll give in the Tri-Cities, she said, "I like to do some old country blues, some early bluegrass, Celtic music, old fiddle tunes, Jimmie Rodgers, Carter Family, tin pan alley, early jazz, hippie and modern folk - even some originals."

Admission is \$14 general admission, \$12 for 3RFS members at the door. Tickets may be purchased in advance at The Bookworm, 731 N. Columbia Center Blvd., Ste. 102, Kennewick, and Octopus' Garden, in Richland.

Coffeehouse, Continued from page 1
style reflects her diverse musical background. Degreed in music theory and composition, she's done commercial arranging, fronted a six-man jug-band and taught fingerstyle guitar. Her love of blues is reflected in her original songs. Janet's lyric topics run the gamut from historical ballads to whimsical blues. Fan favorites include "Chocolate Reverie" and "Red's Refrigerator Rag." Several Humphrey originals have been recorded by others. She daylights as an internet forum moderator.

Michelle Cameron is versatile on the cello, playing lines that are sometimes lyrical, sometimes rhythmic, and always interesting. The cello often provides a third voice to Janet and Mary's alto tones. Michelle even plays some screaming solos usually reserved for lead guitar (with fuzzbox.) When she's not playing with the band or working her day job as a nuclear chemist, she makes appearances with regional symphonies, sea chantey singers and anyone willing to offer bacon bribes.

They will sing songs off their latest CD, "Rare Isotope" including "Mandela and Malala," "Bun Dance" (a.k.a. The Butt Crack Song), "Circus Love," and Linda Allen's "Termination Winds."

The Coffeehouse starts at 7:30 PM with an open mic. Come early to sign up at All Saints' Episcopal Church,

1312 Kimball Ave., Richland (go around to the lower parking lot in back). Suggested donations are \$8 general admission or \$6 teens and seniors at the door.

Contra Dance - Last Dance of 2019

Saturday, 23 November, 7:00 PM

Our last dance of 2019 will begin at 7:00 PM with a Newcomer's Lesson, and we encourage all experienced dancers to attend to help those dancing for the first time. The dance proper will be 7:30 PM - 10:00 PM. Our wonderful local band, One More Tune, will be playing for us with Caite York from Walla Walla calling the dances.

As always, we encourage you dress in layers and comfortable shoes without spikes or black soles. Feel free to bring a snack to share. You'll find us at the Trinity House Gym at 1007 Wright Avenue in Richland. Cost is \$8 for adults; \$5 for students and seniors (62 and older.)

2020 NEW DANCE DAY

As a result of the poll we sent out in the Fall, we will be moving our dances to the **1st Saturday** of each month to alleviate the conflict with Camerata Musica's 4th Saturday monthly concert. We'll be meeting at the same location and time for our indoor dances at Trinity House Gymnasium beginning at 7:00 PM. We hope to see you then!

Desert Fiber Arts Guild Show

The Desert Fiber Arts Guild will hold their annual Fall Fiber Arts Show and Sale Thursday through Saturday, November 7-9, at Badger Mountain Yarn and Art On the Columbia, in the Plaza West Building at 830 N. Columbia Center Blvd., Suite B, in Kennewick. Hours are 5:00 PM-8:00 PM Friday, 10:00 AM - 6:00 PM Saturday and 10:00

AM - 4:00 PM on Sunday.

Items on sale include hand-crafted fashions, accessories, home décor, gifts and yarns. Several members of our Three Rivers Folklife Society family are members of Desert Fiber Arts. For more information go to desertfib-erarts.com.

Warm Your Pipes at SSSS Singalong

Saturday, 9 November, 7:00 PM

It may be cold and dark outside, but it's warm, bright, fragrant (pizza!) and melodious inside when we meet for our Second Saturday Sea Song Singalongs! Just think, the sailors who gave us the wonderful nautical tunes we all love had to sing them out on the deck no matter what the weather! We get to sing them comfortably inside with food, drink and friends monthly at Round Table Pizza in Richland. It's on the corner of Torbett and George Washington Way. No experience necessary, and there's no charge except for the reasonably priced food and beverages.

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

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3RFS 2018-19 Board of Directors

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Bob Lewis 374-7520
Micki Perry 783-9937
Terri Widergren 308-7420

3RFS Info: www.3rfs.org 509 947-6735

Deadline for the December newsletter is November 15th.

Tumbleweed Needs Your Help

Tumbleweed is still desperately short of volunteers - and volunteers are what make it possible for us to put on our festival each year. We were 47% short of volunteers we needed during this year's festival.

The most vital volunteer posts we need to fill are on the planning committee itself. Perhaps most desperately, we need a Volunteer Coordinator, responsible for recruiting, tending, and managing volunteers for all aspects of the festival. Ed Heubach and Kim O'Keefe have done fantastic duty in this position for the last few years, but they each have stepped away from the position.

Public Relations is a position that actually requires three (and maybe four) people to do it thoroughly; Terry Andre has done all these jobs (and more) for the last several years but also has stepped away to allow herself to focus more on the five or six other jobs she's involved with.

PR has several aspects: Social Media, Traditional PR, and Outreach. We do have a volunteer, Amanda Curtis, to run our social media feeds (i.e., Instagram and Twitter, with additional work on the Tumbleweed Facebook page). She can still use help, because social media really relies on the amplification of your message through likes and shares and re-postings.

Traditional PR includes print media, TV, and radio here in the Tri-Cities, and in other markets from southern Oregon to eastern Idaho, and all over Washington. In fact, we're required to spend our fairly large City of Richland Hotel/Motel Tax grant on marketing outside the Tri-Cities area, so it's a goodly responsibility to take on.

Outreach includes distributing informational materials throughout the year at events in Howard Amon Park and all over the Tri-Cities, as well as posters distribution about a month before the festival, and any other outreach activities that might be

Local Folk Events

November

1	First Friday Folkie Free-For All	7:30 PM Fri	Micki Perry's Kennewick
8	Trillium-239 Coffeehouse	7:30 PM Fri	All Saint's Richland
9	2nd Saturday Sea Song Singalong	7:00 PM Sat	Round Table Pizza Richland
11	3RFS Board Meeting	7:00 PM Mon	Gene Carbaugh's Richland
16	Lauren Sheehan Concert	7:30 PM Sat	CUUC Pasco
19	Tumbleweed 2020 Planning Meeting	6:30 PM Tues	Richland Community Center
23	Contra Dance	7:00 PM Sat	Trinity House Richland

December

6	First Friday Folkie Free-For-All	7:30 PM Fri	Micki Perry's Kennewick
7	Winter's Return Concert with Pint & Dale/Opland & Freeman	7:30 PM Sat	CUUC Pasco
9	3RFS Board Meeting	7:00 PM Mon	Gene Carbaugh's Richland
13	John Dawson Coffeehouse	7:30 PM Fri	All Saint's Richland
14	2nd Saturday Sea Song Singalong	7:00 PM Sat	Round Table Pizza, Richland
17	Tumbleweed 2020 Planning Meeting	6:30 PM Tues	Richland Community Center

All Saints' = All Saints' Episcopal Church, 1322 Kimball Ave., Richland
Gene Carbaugh's = 803 Birch St., Richland
CUUC = Community Unitarian Universalist Church, 2819 W. Sylvester St., Pasco
Micki Perry's = 1011 S. Dawes St., Kennewick
Richland Community Center = 500 Amon Park Dr., Wellness Room
Round Table Pizza = Corner of George Washington Way and Torbett St., Richland
Trinity House = Trinity House of Tri-Cities, 1007 Wright Ave., Richland

For information, call 509 947-6735

thought of. One of our members is going to cover some of these jobs, but really could use a LOT of help!

So I'm asking you to please, PLEASE consider stepping up to help us assure that Tumbleweed can continue as successfully as it has for the past 23 years. Thank you!
David M. Carson, Tumbleweed Music Festival Coordinator

**Next Festival Planning Meeting
November 19, 6:30PM
Richland Community Center**