



Folk Talk

A Newsletter for Columbia, Snake, and Yakima River Folk

Vol. 36 Issue 7

April 2025

Joel Underwood Concert

Saturday, April 19, 7:30 PM
Allied Arts Gallery at the Park

Folksinger and music historian **Joel Underwood** travels the Pacific Northwest performing his three "Portrait Performances:" Woody Guthrie, Hank Williams, and Bob Dylan. He is an actor, teacher, musician, and historian. After 25 years teaching high school history, Underwood got his master's degree in American History with a focus on folk and protest music. A recipient of the Woody Guthrie Fellowship, Underwood was granted access to the Guthrie Archives in Tulsa, Oklahoma, to research Woody's time in the World War II Merchant Marines.

His evenings are not strictly concerts, plays, or lectures, but combine all three elements, giving audiences insight into the stories behind the songs as well as the chance to sing along. Saturday April 19th, at 7:30 pm at the Allied Arts Gallery at the Park, 89 Lee Blvd Richland, Underwood and his trusty guitar will flip a coin in front of the audience and launch into either his "Move It On Over: Stories and Songs of Hank Williams" or "Blowin' In The Wind" and treat attendees to the music and lore of Bob Dylan. Will it be "Tangled Up In Blue" or "Your Cheatin' Heart?" Not even Joel will know until the coin lands! Come and enjoy a night of music, history, and magic.

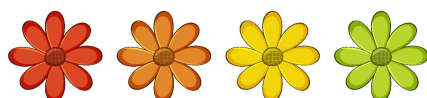
Joel's webpage is at
junderwoodmusic.com.

NOTE: This concert will NOT be at our usual location because the church is unavailable that night. Those of you who come to Tumbleweed will recognize the **Allied Arts Gallery at the Park** as the location of the festival's Art Gallery Stage. 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

Leadership and vision. These are not the same but go hand-in-hand. Organizations need both to survive. Vision provides the inspiration to move forward and grow. Leadership provides the classic plot design, "the who, what, when, where, and how" needed to implement the vision (the "why"). Three Rivers Folklife Society has a vision of "Promoting, Presenting, and Preserving Acoustic and Folk Music, Dance, and Arts. The officers and board members share the leadership in making this happen, but they can't do it all. Our annual meeting in May is the time when we elect the officers and members-at-large to provide that guidance. Frank Cuta is currently seeking candidates for our positions. We would love to see new blood in our leadership to keep our vision relevant for the next generation of folkies. Don't wait for Frank (or another board member) to ask you if you would be willing to serve for a year – volunteer your time and ideas to keep us fresh and relevant.

Our newsletter editor, Katrina Knight, has requested that she be replaced. Having served for over four years as our editor, and now in her third year at Tumbleweed Music Festival Coordinator, Katrina has served 3RFS above and beyond the call! We would like to install a new Folk Talk editor in time for the August issue focusing on Tumbleweed. If you enjoy reading Folk Talk, have a modest proficiency at word processing or publishing software, and are willing to learn the production process (it's really not that intimidating), please, please, pretty please, talk with Katrina (610-406-2500) or me (509-946-0504) about this opportunity. It's a vital element of our 3RFS vision with long-term impact.



Joel Underwood Community Lecture Series That Ribbon of Highway: Woody Guthrie in the Pacific Northwest

Thursday, April 17, 7:00 PM
Richland Public Library

Folksinger and activist Woody Guthrie composed 26 songs in 30 days while riding along the Columbia River and touring the Grand Coulee Dam Project in 1941. With his unique, authentic voice, he chronicled both the grandeur and the perils of what he called "The Greatest Thing That Man Has Ever Done" as an employee of the Bonneville Power Administration. His time here in the Pacific Northwest inspired a swell of patriotism that led Guthrie to enlist in the U.S. Merchant Marine in World War II, after which he returned home to fame and notoriety, but also to tragedy and tremendous personal loss.

Historian, teacher, folksinger, and actor **Joel Underwood** performs an hour that is part concert, part theatrical drama, and part lecture. Sing along to "Roll on Columbia," "Pastures of Plenty," and of course, "This Land is Your Land," and learn the—sometimes hilarious, sometimes tragic—stories behind the songs.

Potluck & Woody Guthrie Sing-along

Friday, April 18 6:00 PM
Gene & Susan Carbaugh's Home

On Friday April 18 at 6 pm, there will be a Woody-Guthrie-themed potluck dinner and sing-along at the Carbaugh's house, 803 Birch Ave. in Richland.

Joel Underwood will be the guest of honor where songs of Woody Guthrie, Hank Williams, and Bob Dylan will be in the mix of shared singing.

RSVP REQUIRED. Please text if you would like to attend. (Limited to 20 attendees) 509-521-8368.

Tumbleweed 2025 Preparations' Progress

Preparations for the 29th annual Tumbleweed Music Festival are well underway, with applications being received at the normal increasing tempo for this time of year.

As of this writing, we have 55 Performer applications (out of an expected 105 – 115), five entries into the Jane Titland Memorial Songwriting Contest (out of a normal 35 – 45), three Food Vendor applications (out of a normal 12 – 15), and two Craft Vendor applications (out of an expected 25 – 35).

These numbers may seem small, but experience tells us that, now that the curve has begun to inflect upwards, the pace will only increase, right up to the April 20th deadline for Performers and Songwriters; the vendor deadlines are July 15th. In past years, the last week before the deadline saw as many as 20 Performer applications come in in a day, so no need to worry about us coming up short in any category!

The 2025 Tumbleweed Music Festival will be held in Richland's Howard

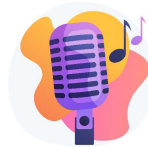
Amon park from Friday, August 29th, to Sunday, August 31st.

April Coffeehouse is Open Mic Night

Friday, April 11, 7:00 PM
All Saints' Episcopal Church

3RFS Coffeehouses traditionally begin each evening with an open mic session, inviting community members to share their musical gifts.

For April only, our Coffeehouse format will change and be solely an Open-Mic evening.

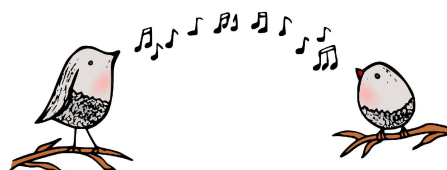


We invite all budding musicians, poets, and storytellers to step into the spotlight. Participants are encouraged to arrive early to secure a performance slot. This open-mic embodies the spirit of folk music—community-driven, heartfelt, and deeply personal. Whether it's a first-time performer or a seasoned artist trying out new material, an open mic fosters a sense of camaraderie and mutual support among participants and audience members.

The Three Rivers Folklife Society's Coffeehouse is more than just a concert series; it's a celebration of community and culture. By providing a space for artistic expression and connection, the Coffeehouse strengthens the bonds between performers and listeners.

We will base individual performance time on the number of participants. But at a minimum, everyone will get 15 minutes.

Coffeehouse admission is \$8 for 3RFS members/\$10 for non-members and the show starts at 7 pm. 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.



The Whateverly Brothers at the Princess Theatre

Thursday, April 24, 7:00 PM
Princess Theatre, Prosser

Thursday, April 24 will see the **Whateverly Brothers** performing at the Princess Theatre Green Room in Prosser, beginning at 7:00 pm. Known for rich harmonies and instrumental frosting, their performances are laced with traditional and folk classics, supplemented with modern classics and even some off-the-wall stuff. This concert is part of the Princess Theatre's monthly Common Folk series and is co-sponsored by Three Rivers Folklife Society. Doors open at 6:30 and food and beverages are available for purchase. Tickets can be purchased at the door for \$15 or online at

<https://prosserprincess.ludus.com>.

First Friday Folkie Free For All

Friday, April, 7:00 pm
Gene & Susan Carbaugh's Home

April showers means showers of songs at the **First Friday Folkie Free For All** on April 4 at 7:00 PM. Hosted this month at the home of Gene and Susan Carbaugh, 803 Birch Ave., Richland. Join the fun by bringing your voice plus any other musical instrument you may be inclined to play. Everyone will have a chance to pick a song for us to sing, sing a solo, or make a request for someone else to sing something. The May 2nd FFFFA will be hosted by Niel and Cheryl Kierulff at their home, 4191 Maple Lane, West Richland.

SECOND SATURDAY SINGALONG

Saturday, April 12, 6 PM
Round Table Pizza, Richland

The **Second Saturday Sea Song Singalong** on April 12 sounds nautical (and is) but we don't limit it to songs of the sea, singing whatever suits our fancy. Come alongside at Round Table Pizza on George Washington Way in Richland, ordering pizza around 6:00 PM, and beginning the music around 6:45 when the eating is done. We go until the wind leaves our sails and voices go limp or the establishment closes, whichever comes first! Join us for the fun!

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

Editing and Production: Katrina Knight

Original Design: Theresa Grate

Send items of interest to:

newsletter@3rfs.net

Send memberships to:

3RFS Membership

P.O. Box1098, Richland, WA 99352

3RFS 2024-2025 Board of Directors

Gene Carbaugh, President 509-946-0504

Jim Kelly, Vice President 509 521-8368

Frank Cuta, Secretary 509-967-2658

Steve Ghan, Treasurer 509-308-9023

Tumbleweed Coordinator -

Katrina Knight 509-587-3060

Members at Large:

David Carson 509-539-8090

Micki Perry 509-947-6735

Katrina Knight 509-587-3060

Bob Lewis 509-374-7520

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

New Websites Up and Running!

'Way back in November of 2021, 3RFS held a workshop to examine where the organization stood, and to set priorities for those things we wanted to undertake. Among the top priorities was to modernize and harmonize the various websites that we'd accreted (in an unplanned manner) over the years.

Now, about three-and-a-half years later, that goal is almost completely fulfilled!

Collaborating with local firm [Artmil Design](#), we first built an entirely new [tumbleweedfest.com](#), using the latest design tools for a modern, easily-maintainable site. That site, which went live in the fall of 2024, is a great introduction to TMF, and still maintains all the virtual performances since we had to go virtual in 2020!

Once the [tumbleweedfest.com](#) site was well underway, we also began the modernization process for the [3rfs.org](#) website, which was maintained in straight HTML for many years by our late friend, Alan Gibbs and, upon his passing, was taken over by 3RFS Board Member-at-large David Carson. The new [3rfs.org](#) site will have largely the same look-and-feel of the [tumbleweedfest.com](#) site, and will be just as easy to maintain. As of this writing, the behind-the-scenes actions necessary to "repoint" the site to its new host at Artmil design are underway, deep in the bowels of the internet.

We'd like to thank the folks at Artmil who have helped us achieve this by doing the heavy lifting of design and build of the new site, with much helpful advice to us to let us choose the exact things we wanted the sites to be! We especially acknowledge Wade Steel, designer extraordinaire, who did the most of it, and makes the most excellent instructional videos ever!

This has been the work of numerous people in 3RFS as well, including David Carson, Katrina Knight, and Chris Glanister. We're going to say that it's a job well done!

Silent Auction and a Surplus Shelter

A reminder that Spring Cleaning is a great time to identify your excess musical instruments or folk items that could be donated to 3RFS for our Tumbleweed Music Festival Silent Auction. A great way to productively recycle. Speaking of recycling, the old

Folk Events

April

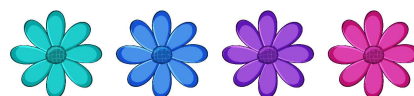
4	First Friday Folkie Free For All	7:00 pm Fri	Gene Carbaugh's, Richland
11	3RFS Coffeehouse - Open Mic Night	7:00 pm Fri	All Saints', Richland
12	2nd Saturday Sea Song Sing-along	6:00 pm Fri	Round Table Pizza, Richland
14	3RFS Board Meeting	7:00 pm Mon	Gene Carbaugh's, Richland
17	Joel Underwood Lecture: Woody Guthrie in the Pacific NW	7:00 pm Thurs	Richland Library
18	Potluck & Woody Guthrie Sing-along	6:00 pm Fri	Gene Carbaugh's, Richland
19	Joel Underwood Concert	7:30 pm Sat	Allied Arts Gallery at the Park
21	Tumbleweed Planning Meeting	7:00 pm Mon	Zoom
24	Whatevery Brothers concert	7:00 pm Thur	Princess Theatre, Prosser

May

2	First Friday Folkie Free For All	7:00 pm Fri	Niel Kierulff's, Richland
10	2nd Saturday Sea Song Sing-along	6:00 pm Sat	Round Table Pizza, Richland
12	3RFS Board Meeting	7:00 pm Mon	Gene Carbaugh's
17	Annual Membership Meeting & Concert with Arbielle	7:30 pm Sat	All Saints', Richland
19	Tumbleweed Planning Committee	7:00 pm Wed	Zoom
23-26	Northwest Folklife Festival	Fri - Mon	Seattle Center, Seattle

All Saints' = All Saints' Episcopal Church, 1322 Kimball Ave., Richland
 Allied Arts Gallery at the Park = 89 Lee Blvd Richland
 Gene & Susan Carbaugh's = 803 Birch Ave., Richland
 Niel & Cheryle Kierulff's = 4191 Maple Lane in West Richland
 Princess Theatre = 1228 Meade Ave., Prosser
 Richland Public Library = 955 Northgate Dr, Richland
 Round Table Pizza = Corner of George Washington Way and Torbett St., Richland

Tumbleweed Information Booth metal frame and tarps are being excessed. If you have a use for a nominal 20'x20' metal frame (steel electrical conduit) and/or three tarps for covering it, 3RFS would be happy to pass it on for a very nominal donation (or maybe even hauling it away). The shelter served us well for 26 years and has now been replaced with multiple pop-ups. Contact Gene Carbaugh if you have items or are interested in the shelter.



Events To Travel To

Good Road - A Musical tribute to Dan Maher will be held Thursday, April 17 at the Unitarian Universalist Church, 420 E 2nd Street in Moscow, Idaho from 6 to 9 pm. The lineup includes Wes Weddell, Janet and Allison Anders, Frogtown, The Pond, Potatohead, The Chelseas, Inland Harmony Chorus and The Intentions. The event is free and open to the public.

The **Northwest Folklife Festival** takes place May 23-26 at Seattle Center in Seattle. It features four days of free music of a variety of genres. Like Tumbleweed, they need many volunteers. To find out more, go to <https://nwfolklife.org/festival/>.

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.)

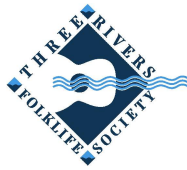
Name _____

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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