



Folk Talk

A Newsletter for Columbia, Snake, and Yakima River Folk

Vol. 37 Issue 8

April 2026

"Hawkeye" Herman Returns with The Radio Helpers

Saturday, April 18, 7:30 PM
All Saints' Episcopal Church

Bluesman [Michael "Hawkeye" Herman](#) will return to perform in concert on Saturday, April 18 at All Saints' Episcopal Church, 1322 Kimball Ave in Richland. The Radio Helpers (the teenage sisters from the Eyer Family Band) will open the show at 7:30 pm. Enter through the church basement and the parking lot behind the church. Tickets are \$20 general admission, \$15 for members,, available at the door or on line at <https://3rfs.org/concerts-2/>.

Three Rivers Folklife Society folks are well acquainted with blues musician Michael "Hawkeye" Herman, as he has been performing in concert for us off and on since 1989 and at Tumbleweed since 1997. He has over 60 years of performing experience, exemplifies the range of possibilities in acoustic blues, and personifies versatile musicianship, originality, and compelling artistry as a blues storyteller. Hawkeye performs a wide variety of traditional blues, ballads, swing and original tunes on six string and twelve string guitar, slide guitar and slide mandolin, and ukelele. Now 81, Hawkeye has cut back his schedule some, but still performs at concerts, festivals, school programs and workshops.

Hawkeye grew up in Davenport, Iowa and was first exposed to blues music on late night radio. He got his first guitar at 14 and began performing about two years later. He moved to the San Francisco Bay Area in the late '60s and lived there learning from and hanging out with venerable blues musicians for many years. He took his own show on the road and began touring and doing Blues in the Schools programs around the US in the early '80s, and now makes his home in Talent, Oregon, where he is

close to Ashland and the Rogue Valley Blues Society. In 1998 he received the Keeping the Blues Alive Award from the Blues Foundation in Memphis. He has served on the board and the Education Committee of the Foundation for many years.

Hawkeye Herman is sometimes known as "The Midwest's Blues Ambassador". He has carved out a spot for himself in the contemporary acoustic blues/folk field and has earned a reputation as one of the most accomplished artists in the genre. Audiences throughout the US, Canada, and Europe have come to know and appreciate Hawkeye's talent, dedication and captivating performances. Visit <https://www.hawkeyeherman.com> to find out more.

The Radio Helpers, who will open the show for Hawkeye at 7:30pm, are a teen sister duo from Spokane who love to play music. They have been playing at Tumbleweed for many years as part of the Eyer Family Band, but Ivy and Neilia Eyer now have their own duo act as The Radio Helpers. They've played together at festivals, concert halls, street corners and living rooms. They love playing music and singing harmonies. Accordion, violin, mandolin, piano and trombone are all instruments you may hear during a Radio Helpers show. Their songs include styles like blues, folk, fiddle tunes, zydeco, Americana and even some kid tunes.

Ukelele and Blues Guitar Workshops

Sunday, April 19, 1:00 - 2:30 PM
Sunday, April 19, 3:00 - 4:30 PM
Kennewick First United Methodist Church

Bluesman Michael "Hawkeye" Herman will present two music workshops at Kennewick First United Methodist Church, 2 South Dayton St, Kennewick

on Sunday, April 19th.

"Beginning Ukelele and Beyond" will be 1:00-2:30 pm. It is aimed at all levels of ukelele players with a challenge to go beyond the basics and explore the potentials of this versatile instrument. Hawkeye has offered this workshop at Tumbleweed Music Festival with great response and feedback. Cost is \$15.

"Hands on Blues Guitar: What is unique about blues guitar?" will feature a little history and lots of hands-on instruction from 3:00-4:30 pm. For all levels and even newbies. Cost is \$15.

Both workshops will be in church chapel off the portico entrance by the parking lot. Call Micki Perry at 509-947-6735 to reserve a spot or with questions.

President's Pen by [Gene Carbaugh](#)

April and May are special months for 3RFS for multiple reasons. First off, both months have two special concerts. On Thursday, April 16 at 7 pm, 3RFS will sponsor a community lecture at the Richland Public Library, featuring noted Pacific Northwest singer-songwriter Wes Weddell: "Going from Story to Song." (See article on page 2.) Not to be missed. But then, two nights later, we are also hosting our monthly concert featuring Hawkeye Herman, 7:30 pm at All Saints Episcopal Church in Richland. Hawkeye in a long-time participant at Tumbleweed and 3RFS concerts featuring his love of blues. Likewise, May also has an extra concert event featuring Sofia Talvik, from Sweden, on Saturday, May 2, 7:30 pm, also at All Saints' Church. Then, two weeks later on May 16 we will have the annual corporate business meeting followed by a free concert for members, featuring Tracy Spring.

April is also the time when our nominating committee (Frank Cuta) finds candidates for our annual election of officers and members-at-large, which

will occur at the May 16 annual meeting. Consider this an opportunity to help provide direction to 3RFS through the monthly board meetings that oversee and facilitate the various programs we hold. I will be retiring as 3RFS President, having held the position for five years, and Vice-President Jim Kelly has also indicated he will be retiring this year. We have four member-at-large positions that fill out the board in addition to the Secretary and Treasurer officers. Our board meetings are held on the second Monday of the month and are open to anyone interested in attending. See the calendar for date, location, and time. Come and see how we operate and how you might so easily fit in! Or, contact either Frank Cuta or me regarding opportunities to serve. Without ongoing new leadership, organizations wither and die.

Talena Bricker at the April Coffeehouse

Friday, April 10, 7:00 PM
All Saints' Episcopal Church

The April Coffeehouse will feature Richland singer-songwriter [Talena Bricker](#). Talena's music balances poetic abstraction with visceral emotionality.

She says "When I write, I'm grappling with complicated feelings and narratives. I ask questions in music and leave things open-ended and unresolved. That's life, and that's what feels human to me. It brings me a beautiful catharsis, and it helps me to connect with others as they can use these songs to make sense of their own lives."

After decades of privately writing songs, in 2018 Talena boldly stepped forward with her debut EP. Her first release was an intimate voice and acoustic guitar record that earned rave reviews from online outlets such as *Ear To The Ground* and *When The Horn Blows*. Since then, Talena has grown artistically through playing shows, and sharing her music in front of live audiences. Her latest release, *War Line*, finds her incorporating a lush Americana soundscape into her literate indie-folk. You can find out more about her music at <https://www.talenabricker.com>.

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.

Wes Weddell Community Lecture Series "Going From Story to Song"

Thursday, April 16, 7:00 pm
Richland Public Library

What inspires us? How does one move from inspiration to creative output? Award-winning songwriter [Wes Weddell](#) will be doing a program at the [Richland Public Library](#) on the process of drawing inspiration from the stories around us and turning that into original content—specifically music. He'll sing examples of songs he's written that were inspired by local stories and a wide range of books, letting attendees vote on which titles they'd like to hear.

For the past 25 years, Wes Weddell has worked multiple shifts in the engine room of Seattle's roots music scene, keeping his hands in abundant projects as frontman, sideman, writer, teacher, and community-builder. In 2001 he was the recipient of the inaugural Venture Fellowship from the Mary Gates

Endowment at the University of Washington for a project traveling the state gathering stories and writing songs about them. In 2010, Wes began working with The Bushwick Book Club Seattle, a nonprofit arts organization that presents a monthly concert series where performers share original music inspired by literature, and his catalog of book-inspired songs now numbers more than 65. Along the way he has continued to teach a variety of instruments and styles across generations, helping hundreds find the joy of playing and singing with others. He's also a long-time Tumbleweed Music Festival supporter, emceeding the Jane Titland Memorial Songwriting Contest and more recently, the Saturday Night Concert, as well as performing himself. A native of Pullman, Weddell also once held full-time Seattle Mariners media credentials and has participated in a major university study of mountain huckleberry harvesters. More at <https://www.WesWeddell.com>.

This lecture is part of the Tri-Cities Community Lecture Series and is hosted by Three Rivers Folklife Society.

First Friday Folkie Free For All

Friday, April 4, 7:00 pm
Bill Darke's home
Friday May 1, 7:00 pm
Gene Carbaugh's home

Don't miss the April 3 First Friday Folkie Free For All, which will be at Bill Darke's home at 210 Somerset St in Richland, beginning at 7 PM. Bring your voices and even your instrument. Our usual format gives everyone at least two or even three chances to pick a song for the group to sing, or do a solo, or ask someone to do a specific song. And a friendly reminder to put on your calendar the May 1 FFFFFA at Lona Hammer's home, 2200 W. 8th Place, Kennewick.

Membership Renewal

Are you aware of your membership status? Our membership runs for 12 months from when you paid. You can conveniently renew online (<https://3rfs.org/participate/>) or by mailing in your membership form. Member dues are only \$20 (Individual) or \$25 (Family). Members pay discounted admission prices to events

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. Box 1098, Richland, WA 99352

3RFS 2025-2026 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:
Katrina Knight 509-587-3060
Bob Lewis 509-374-7520
Alan Page 509-308-3574
Scott Woodside 509-205-1125

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

and have the satisfaction of knowing they are supporting local folklife events. If you're not sure of your membership status or expiration, send an email to communications@3rfs.net.

Second Saturday Singalong

Saturday, April 11, 6 PM
Round Table Pizza, Richland

Our next Second Saturday Sea Song Singalong (SSSS) is April 11 at the Round Table Pizza on George Washington Way, in Richland. The Singalong features nautical music but will easily extend to your favorite songs of whatever source. Bring your voices and any instruments. Food begins at 6 PM with singing about 6:45. No nautical or music experience required, just a desire to make and enjoy music.

Tumbleweed Preparations Continue

by [Katrina Knight](#)

Preparations for the 30th annual Tumbleweed Music Festival are well underway. Please come join us at Howard Amon Park from Friday, September 4th through Sunday, September 6th. It takes the help of many volunteers to make it happen. If you would like to become more involved, contact me at 509 587-3060 or tumbleweedchair@gmail.com. There is plenty of work to be done both prior to and during the festival.

Applications are being received at the usual increasing tempo for this time of year. As of the time I am writing this, we have 48 performer applications (we expect over 100), 13 entries into the Jane Titland Memorial Songwriting Contest (out of a normal 35 - 45), five Food Vendor applications (out of a normal 12 - 15), and 17 Craft Vendor applications (out of an expected 25 - 35).

These numbers may seem small, but experience tells us that the pace will increase fairly rapidly now, leading up to the April 20th deadline for Performers and Songwriters. In past years, the last week before the deadline saw as many as 20 performer applications come in each day, so we're not worried about coming up short in any category! Do remind your friends, family, neighbors, and people you meet on the street who might be interested in applying that the

Folk Events

April

3	First Friday Folkie Free For All	7:00 pm Fri	Bill Darke's, West Richland
10	3RFS Coffeehouse w/ Talena Bricker	7:00 pm Fri	All Saints', Richland
11	Second Saturday Sea Song Singalong	6:00 pm Sat	Round Table Pizza, Richland
13	3RFS Board Meeting	7:00 pm Mon	Gene Carbaugh's, Richland
16	Community Lecture: Wes Weddell "Going from Story to Song"	7:00 pm Thur	Richland Library
18	Hawkeye Herman Concert	7:30 pm Sat	All Saints', Richland
19	Beginning Ukelele and Beyond with Hawkeye Herman	1:00 pm Sun	Kenn. 1 st United Meth.
19	Hands on Blues Guitar with Hawkeye Herman	3:00 pm Sun	Kenn. 1 st United Meth.
20	Tumbleweed Planning Meeting	6:30 pm Mon	Zoom
20	Tumbleweed Performer App & Songwriting contest deadline		

May

1	First Friday Folkie Free For All	7:00 pm Fri	Lona Hammer's, Kennewick
2	Sofia Talvik Concert	7:30 pm Sat	All Saints', Richland
9	Second Saturday Sea Song Singalong	6:00 pm Sat	Round Table Pizza, Richland
11	3RFS Board Meeting	7:00 pm Mon	Gene Carbaugh's, Richland
16	3RFS Annual Business Meeting & Concert with Tracy Spring	7:30 pm Sat	All Saints', Richland
18	Tumbleweed Planning Meeting	6:30 pm Mon	Zoom
22-25	Northwest Folklife Festival	Fri - Mon	Seattle Center, Seattle

All Saints' = All Saints' Episcopal Church, 1322 Kimball Ave., Richland
 Bill Darke's = 210 Somerset St., Richland
 Gene Carbaugh's = 803 Birch Ave., Richland
 Kenn 1st United Meth. = Kennewick First United Methodist Church, 2 S. Dayton St, Kennewick
 Lona Hammer's = 2200 W. 8th Place, Kennewick
 Richland Library = 955 Northgate Drive, Richland
 Round Table Pizza = corner of George Washington Way and Torbett St, Richland

deadlines are approaching and that the vending spaces will most likely be full before their deadlines later in the summer arrive.

Items For Sale

Our late friend Dan Maher left several items in mostly unopened boxes for us to dispose of with sales receipts split between Tumbleweed Music Festival and Eunie Shin. Gene Carbaugh has possession of these items and would love to sell them on behalf of TMF and Eunie. Contact him for details at 509-946-0504 or president@3rfs.net.

Ninja Pressure Cooker H18SQ609Z3H3
 Unused, no box. \$40

Black & Decker Extra-wide Convention
 Countertop Oven TO3250XSB New in
 box - \$40

Lasko Super Fan Max SF-20-G2 New in
 box. \$30

Panasonic Microwave OVEN 2.2 CU FT
 NN-SN936B New in box \$100

Professional Apple Machine (PL8) (core,
 peel, slice) New in box - \$10

Dreamtech DreameBot D10s Pro robotic
 vacuum cleaner RL56A New in box -
 \$75

DeLonghi SafeHeat Oil-filled
 Spaceheater TR0715L 1500watt Might
 be new or used \$40

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

Events To Travel To

The **Northwest Folklife Festival** takes place May 22-25 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/>.

U.S. POSTAGE PAID
NON-PROFIT
ORGANIZATION

Three Rivers Folklife Society
PO Box 1098
Richland, WA 99352
Return Service Requested