Folk Talk

A Newsletter for Columbia, Snake, and Yakima River Folk

Vol. 38 Issue 3 November/December 2026

Cecilia Eng in concert in November

Saturday, November 21, 7:30 PM
All Saints' Episcopal Church

Hold on to your hand blaster and your quidditch cape, Cecilia is coming to town. **Cecilia Eng**, singer songwriter and "creature of habit", will be performing for us on November 21. The concert at All Saints' Episcopal Church starts at 7:30 pm. While Cecilia's heart is in the music of science fiction and fantasy, her performance interests are truly diverse and you can expect to also hear all manner of contemporary and traditional folk music at this concert.

It is true that one of her best known songs features a vampire incarnation of Snow White. No doubt many "mundanes" feel that her work is quirky and a bit over the top. Yes, but it is also fun, warm, and sensitive. Who else could write a song about a tragic romance between a singing space ship and her pilot?

She has received much acclaim and many awards for her contributions to science fiction and fantasy music. She has performed across the U.S., in England, and in Canada. She has shared the stage with Michael Longcor, Heather Alexander, Mercedes Lackey, and Leslie Fish. For several years now she has graced the stages of our Tumbleweed Music Festival and in 2021 she was featured as a "headliner" at the festival's Saturday evening concert. She can be found on Facebook and she shares her recordings on Soundcloud at: https://soundcloud.com/Cecilia-eng-320153920

Join us as Three Rivers Folklife Society presents Cecilia Eng in concert, Saturday, November 21st, at 7:30pm, at All Saints' Episcopal Church, 1322 Kimball, Richland. Park in the back and enter through the basement. Tickets ($20 general, $15 for 3RFS members) can be purchased at the door or online at https://3rfs.org/concerts-2/.

Tania Opland and Mike Freeman in Concert - December 5th

Saturday, December 5, 7:30 PM
All Saints' Episcopal Church

Come join us as we welcome **Tania Opland and Mike Freeman** on December 5 for a concert featuring winter and holiday-season music. Longtime favorites of 3RFS, Tania and Mike will bring their talents together for an evening of music that blends beautiful melodies, multi-cultural styles, and traditional and contemporary material.

Touring together for 20 years, Tania and Mike have home bases in Ireland and Washington State. Tania hails from Alaska but calls Suquamish, Washington home unless she and husband Mike (originally from England) zip over to Ireland to their alternate home.

Regardless of where they may be, they bring fantastic and astonishing music to our ears, playing hammered dulcimer, fiddle, guitar, recorder, whistle, percussion, and even a hurdy gurdy, as well as singing, and a wonderful stage presence. With a vast repertoire, multiple languages, and more instruments than a sane duo would carry, their credits include tours in the US, UK, and Ireland, not to mention seven albums, including collaboration with noted author Anne McCaffrey. For those seeking something a bit off the beaten track, Mike has an irreverent sense of humor that he layers on top of his percussive and guitar accompaniments. Tania's gentle voice and talent brings exciting life to the range of music they offer.

Tania and Mike have been staples at Tumbleweed for many years and have combined their talents with Pint and Dale for holiday performances. This year we have the privilege of having Tania and Mike by themselves for our holiday kickoff. Don't miss this concert on Saturday, Dec 5, at 7:30 PM, at All Saints Episcopal Church, 1322 Kimball Ave, in Richland. Park in back and enter through the basement. Tickets are $20 general and $15 for 3RFS members and be purchased at the door of online at https://3rfs.org/concerts-2/.

The Coffeehouse presents The Generations and JAK'D

Friday, November 13, 7:00 PM
Friday, December 11, 7:00 PM
All Saints' Episcopal Church

The Generations, Jody Huff (bass and vocals) and Skylar Huff (guitar and vocals) will be appearing at the November 3RFS coffeehouse. They hail from the mean streets of Richland. A unique blend of chart toppers and novelty songs from over 6 decades of fun music. Sweet Harmony that is good for soul.

The Generations made their debut at the 30th edition of the Tumbleweed Music Festival in 2026 and are eager to share their unique take on songs in a more intimate setting.

In December, join **JAK'D** for an acoustic evening of Holiday songs, originals, and a few covers. JAK'D is John Harder on bass and vocals, Alan Page on percussion and vocals, Ken McKiernan on guitar and vocals and David Prince on guitar and vocals.

This Holiday themed coffeehouse will feature traditional holiday songs (and hopefully some audience sing-alongs) as well as some familiar newer ones. Please feel free to dress in your favorite ugly Christmas sweater (or other themed outfit).

Coffeehouse admission is $8 for 3RFS members/$10 for non-members. Open Mic starts at 7pm and main act will start at 7:30pm. 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.

Call for Social Media Help
by David Carson

I have been running the 3RFS / Tumbleweed social media accounts for several years now, and I'd really like to find someone to take over. It's not terribly onerous, but with the many other things that need to be taken care of, I feel like it's quite easy to forget to do updates.

We have a presence on Instagram, Facebook, X, Threads, and Bluesky, and, in order to reach out to younger audiences, it'd be great if someone would like to take on Tik-Tok for us. The job entails making a graphic (quite easy - we use Canva for its drag-and-drop convenience), writing the text for the post, then posting to each platform.

The job does not involve the Meta social posts that Spotted Fox does for us regarding Tumbleweed. They handle all that, and they've done a great job of extending our reach and follower counts on Facebook and Instagram.

If you'd like to explore posting, please drop me a line at davidmcarson14@gmail.com. Thanks.



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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 2026-2027 Board of Directors

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Alan Page	509-308-3574
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3RFS Info: www.3rfs.org	509-946-0504 (Gene Carbaugh)

Thoughts on Tumbleweed 2026
by Katrina Knight

Preparations for the 2027 Tumbleweed Music Festival have started. The 2027 planning committee will begin meeting in November, starting work such as selecting a theme and considering who we'd like to have as Saturday Night headliners. (If you heard someone this year that you think would make a great headliner, feel free to let me know. I personally am busy at the festival keeping things running smoothly and don't get to hear many performances, and the other planning committee members are also hard at work during much of the festival, so we really like hearing who you, the audience, thought were very good.)

We are also looking at how we can make Tumbleweed even better, which means looking at what people told us, good and bad, when they filled out surveys. (If you missed filling out one at the festival, don't despair! You can still fill one out online at https://tumbleweedfest.com/about/surveys/.) I'd like to talk here about some of the things we got comments on.

We moved the location of the Dan Maher North Stage this year in order to have shade so that the audience can comfortably sit in front of the stage during the day. That seems to have been universally approved of. We'd love to do something similar with the Jim Honeyman South Stage, but the trees there just aren't in the right places and while we've managed to get more shade for the performers, we haven't found any good way to get the audience into the shade too. The trees just won't grow taller and wider because I ask them to.

We also got compliments our location in the park. We are lucky to have such a beautiful location and I'd like to thank the Richland Parks Department for making it possible, and doing such a great job of supporting what we do. Everyone there is wonderful, from Jen Davis who is our main contact, to the folks who work the desk in the Community Center, to the men who came out to trim tree branches at the last minute when we went to put the north stage into position and discovered that there were branches in the way.

A number of people commented on the food vendors. The comments were pretty evenly split between people who liked the mix of foods and people who thought it could be improved. We choose our food vendors from those who apply, generally on a first-come-first-served basis for any particular type of food. If there is a food vendor you'd like to see at Tumbleweed, do feel free to talk to them and see if they are interested. If they are, please direct them to our website to fill out an application, or to contact us for more information. We're always on the lookout for good additions to our menu of food vendors. (And if you'd like to be more involved with the process of choosing food vendors, consider applying to be on the planning committee.)

People also expressed a desire for more CDs from our artists to buy at the Info Booth. The Info Booth sells whatever the artists bring. If you want more, please let the artists know. Many of them have gotten discouraged about selling CDs, and aren't making new ones or reprinting their older ones. If you'd like to buy digital downloads, let them know that as well. I'm sure they'd love to hear that people want to buy their music!

People commented on the loud noise that was coming from an event at John Dam Plaza. We were all annoyed by that, and you'll be glad to know that the Richland Parks Department has already taken steps to prevent that from happening again. It was a new event and they weren't expecting it to be a problem for us.

Chairs are another issue mentioned by a few people. We have a very limited number of chairs. The ones that aren't needed by our performers and volunteers are spread between the outdoor stages. Generally though, if you want a chair, you should bring one with you. We have considered the idea of buying some collapsible chairs to rent out, but the logistics of storing them for the other 362 days a year, and the potential liability involved, makes that idea impractical.

These topics are just a few of the things that people have mentioned to us. The things that people tell us, sometimes even the far-fetched ones, give us ideas to think about and maybe pursue. We appreciate them all, even if they are about things we can't change. If you have comments on what we're doing right or wrong, or ideas to share, you can reach me at tumbleweedchair@gmail.com or 509-587-3060.

Complimentary Memberships with Donation

A friendly reminder that a Complimentary One-Year Family membership is included with any donation to 3RFS (operations and/or

Tumbleweed) of $250 or more. The complimentary membership will run from the date of the donation for a period of one year. Your mailing label should indicate the date of expiration of your membership.

First Friday Folkie Free for All – Nov 6 and Dec 4

Friday November 6, 7:00 PM
Gene Carbaugh's home

Friday, December 4, 7:00 PM
Micki Perry's home

The First Friday Folkie Free For All singalong rotates between several homes. The November 6 sing-along will be Gene Carbaugh's home, 803 Birch Ave, Richland, beginning at 7 PM. Our sing-alongs give everyone a chance to pick a song for the group, do a solo, or request someone to sing something. We'll go around the group at least twice but more likely three times before the evening is over with a snack break in the middle. Bring your favorite songs, your instrument(s), food, or whatever and join in the fun. It's entirely free to attend! Mark your calendar for the December 4 FFFFFA at Micki Perry's, 1011 S. Dawes, Kennewick, and since the first Friday in January is New Year's Day, the FSFFFA on Saturday, January 2 at Niel Kierulff's.

Second Saturday Sea Song Singalongs – Nov 14 And Dec 12

Saturday, November 14, 6 PM
Saturday, December 12, 6 PM
Round Table Pizza, Richland

Our Second Saturday Sea Song Singalongs (SSSSS) may focus on nautical music, but are by no means limited to such. Our next two Second Saturday Singalongs are November 14 and December 12 at the Round Table Pizza on George Washington Way in Richland. Order your food at 6:00 PM and the music begins about 6:45. The schedule is loose, but the songs are great and chosen by those present. Voices and instruments are all we need. November winds don't slow us down, and holidays make for merry making. A fun time for all.

Beautiful Autoharp for Sale

A wonderful unsold item from the Tumbleweed Silent Auction is a beautiful mint-condition Oscar Schmidt 15-chord autoharp donated by Maura Zimmerschied. The autoharp was evaluated by Music Unlimited as a current model (new price $500) "in immaculate condition" and includes a hard case and the adjustment wrenches. At $250 it is a true bargain for the musician, with the proceeds going to 3RFS/Tumbleweed. If interested, contact Gene Carbaugh, 509-946-0504. A great Christmas gift for yourself or someone special!

Local Folk Events

November

2	Tumbleweed planning meeting	6:30 pm Mon	Zoom
6	First Friday Folkie Free For All	7:00 pm Fri	Gene Carbaugh's, Richland
9	3RFS Board Meeting	7:00 pm Mon	location TBA
13	3RFS Coffeehouse w/ The Generations	7:00 pm Fri	All Saints', Richland
14	2nd Saturday Sea Song Singalong	6:00 pm Sat	Round Table Pizza, Richland
14-15	Spokane Fall Folk Festival	Sat-Sun	Spokane Community College
21	Cecilia Eng Concert	7:30 pm Sat	All Saints', Richland

December

4	FFFFFA	7:00 pm Fri	Micki Perry's, Kennewick
5	Tania Opland & Mike Freeman Concert	7:30 pm Sat	All Saints', Richland
7	Tumbleweed Planning Meeting	7:00 pm Mon	Zoom
11	3RFS Coffeehouse w/ JAK'D	7:00 pm Fri	All Saints', Richland
12	SSSSS	6:00 pm Sat	Round Table Pizza, Richland
14	3RFS Board meeting	7:00 pm Mon	Gene Carbaugh's, Richland

January

2	FFFFFA	7:00 pm Sat	Niel Kierulff's, West Richland
4	Tumbleweed Planning Meeting	7:00 pm Mon	Zoom
8	3RFS Coffeehouse	7:00 pm Fri	All Saints', Richland
9	SSSSS	6:00 pm Fri	Round Table Pizza, Richland
11	3RFS Board Meeting	7:00 pm Mon	Gene Carbaugh's, RIchland
16	The Eyer Family Concert	7:30 pm Sat	All Saints', Richland

All Saints' = All Saints' Episcopal Church, 1322 Kimball Ave., Richland
Bill Darke's = 210 Somerset St., Richland
Gene Carbaugh's = 803 Birch Ave., Richland
Micki Perry's = 1011 S. Dawes St, Kennewick
Niel Kierulff's = 4191 Maple Lane, West Richland
Round Table Pizza = Corner of George Washington Way and Torbett St., Richland

More 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. At $15. it's a really good deal featuring a smorgasbord of our favorite performers. 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 or use as stocking stuffer. We'll have merchandise at the November 21 and December 5 concerts, so plan on picking something up for those special someones. Or, contact Gene Carbaugh (509-946-0504) if you'd like to buy something but can't make the concert.



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

Spokane Fall Folk Festival Our friends from the Spokane Folklore Society are putting on the Spokane Fall Folk Festival November 14-15th at Spokane Community College. About 100 acts will perform on several stages, offering a wide variety of folk music and dance from various cultures. 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

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