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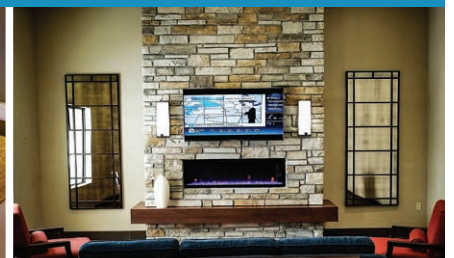
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Welcome to An Rí Rá

Dear Friends of Irish Culture,

Welcome to the 2019 An Rí Rá Montana Irish Festival! We are proud to offer you one of the crown jewels of the festival season here in Butte, Montana. This is one of the longest-running Irish Cultural celebrations in Montana, with this its 17th year in Butte and 21st year in total.



FRANK WALSH

Your An Rí Rá Committee has worked hard to bring you the best in Irish entertainment, workshops, history, literature, vendors and fun. While our headliner presentations are nationally and internationally known, you will also have the opportunity to see the finest musicians and dancers from Montana and the region.

The founders of The Montana Gaelic Cultural Society, in particular, Tom Sullivan and Richard Newman, are to be commended for their vision

and hard work in creating this organization. Their dream of creating a "Montana Gaeltacht" that would preserve and pro-

mote Irish culture has served to create an atmosphere in which this goal is being achieved.

This year, there are classes in Irish language and Irish dance. We also have an author and lecture series on Irish history. Each year, Montanans and other people from around the country of Irish descent are celebrating their heritage by keeping it alive.

As you participate in and enjoy this year's An Rí Rá, you will hear the strains of traditional Irish music, and you will see dancing that will give you great memories for years to come.

Thank you for attending the 2019 An Rí Rá Montana Irish Festival. We hope you enjoy all the events we have to offer you, and we hope you will tell your friends and family, so they can enjoy it with you in the future.

Grab your lawn chair and umbrella and come join us and enjoy An Rí Rá 2019.

FRANK L. WALSH

Executive Committee - An Rí Rá Montana Irish Festival

TERESA SCOTT

President - Montana Gaelic Cultural Society

DUBLIN GULCH

traditional & contemporary Irish folk songs

The house band – Montana's premier Irish band, Butte-based Dublin Gulch (<http://dublingulch.com/>), has the distinction of being the only performers to appear at every Montana Irish Festival. Always a crowd favorite, the band mixes traditional Celtic tunes and Butte-centric originals into their foundation of classic Irish folk songs.

See them on stage on Friday, August 9 at 3:00 p.m. and Saturday, August 10 at 1:10 p.m.



Evans & Doherty

with

Tom Sweeney

Kevin Evans and Brian Doherty (<http://www.evansanddoherty.com/>) are no strangers to An Rí Rá. In fact, several of the photos on their website were taken in Butte! For three decades they have an integral part of Canada's East Coast Irish music establishment – not only performing, but booking, publishing, producing, and recording.

Tom Sweeney (<https://www.tomsweeneymusic.ie/>) is a nephew of the legendary Tommy Makem and founder of the Irish folk group Barley Bree that also included Brian Doherty.

Like Evans & Doherty, Sweeney spent a very enjoyable part of his musical career in the Maritime Provinces. The three have again teamed up for the 2019 Irish festival circuit. On stage, they produce powerful renditions of traditional, original, and contemporary songs liberally salted with stories and humor.

See them on stage on Friday, August 9 at 8:30 p.m. and Saturday, August 10 at 6:50 p.m.



KEN O'MALLEY

DUBLINER Ken O'Malley (<https://kenomalley.com/home>) was here at the beginning. He, along with Kathleen Keane, performed at the first An Rí Rá in Butte in 2003. He returned in 2015 accompanied by one of his bands, The Ne'er Duwells. Meanwhile, Ken has been a mainstay of the Southern California Celtic music scene, contributed to numerous stage and screen productions, took part in the Easter Rising Centenary Commemoration in Long Beach,

and led group tours of his native Ireland. An ambassador of Irish culture and purveyor of Irish history, he flavors his performances with stories both poignant and humorous. His most recent recording, ÓMáille, features his rich, powerful voice, but also his skills on guitar and mandolin.

See him on stage on Saturday, August 10 at 4:20 p.m.



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Padraig Allen & The McLean Avenue Band

Westmeath native Padraig Allen and his McLean Avenue Band (<https://www.mcleanavenueband.com/>) are New York's preeminent Irish party band. The band consists of the very best Irish musicians in the New York metro area. While the band's roots are firmly planted in the Irish music genre, they consistently expand their repertoire to create a distinctive mix of traditional Irish folk and contemporary Celtic rock music. This will be their first appearance at An Rí Rá

See them on stage on Friday, August 9 at 5:50 p.m. and Saturday, August 10 at 9:30 p.m.



The Whileaways



The Whileaways (<https://www.thewhileaway-smusic.com/>) are a Galway-based trio consisting of Noelle McDonnell, Noriana Kennedy, and Nicola Joyce. They borrow from various genres including Irish traditional, bluegrass, and Americana, add original compositions, and draw it all together with their close-knit harmonies and straight-forward arrangements to create captivating Irish roots music. According to The Irish Echo, they represent the best of “Eirecana” today, occupying a space between “neither fully American nor ‘really’ Irish.” They are making their first appearance at the Montana Irish Festival.

See them on stage on Friday, August 9 at 10:00 p.m. and Saturday, August 10 at 5:10 p.m.

A first-rate lineup of **IRISH DANCERS** to perform at 17th Annual An Rí Rá

TRINITY IRISH DANCERS

The world-famous Trinity Irish Dance Company, an An Rí Rá partner since the event's beginnings, is sending its top performers to the festival this year.

The Trinity Irish Dance Academy, which shares founder Mark Howard and its name with the professional company, has frequently sent teen-aged dancers to An Rí Rá. But this year, the Trinity Irish Dance Company, the professional, non-profit performing arts company, is sending 11 adult dancers to Butte.

Howard is coming to An Rí Rá this year – for the first time in more than a decade – and will present a lecture, “Carving New Traditions,” about the history of Irish dance and his journey through it.

Chelsea Hoy, the professional company's associate artistic director, is one of the dancers who will perform at An Rí Rá and she will lead workshops during the festival.

The company, hailed as “the birthplace of progressive Irish dance,” is excited to bring its uniquely creative, dynamic message of female empowerment to the Original stage.

Over the past 29 years, Trinity has performed to great acclaim around the world, including such venues as Washington's Kennedy Center, New York's Joyce and New Victory theatres, Tokyo's Orchard Hall and Los Angeles' Royce Hall, among many others.

By using Irish dance as an instrument and a metaphor, TIDC crossed both cultural and disciplinary boundaries in important ways. Through the years, TIDC has collaborated



with many noted contemporary choreographers which have led them to an increased vocabulary of movement. The result is a thoroughly fresh and engaging artistic vision that goes beyond the source without losing touch with its essence. TIDC holds a unique place in the dance world, offering both a highly skilled presentation of traditional Irish step dance and a brilliantly engaging interpretation of contemporary world vision.

The company believes that “we live in a world where gender inequality has been normalized – where attention is too often directed at men for their intelligence and women for their bodies,” Hoy said. For nearly three decades the company has “celebrated the strength, poise and resilience of young female artists, consistently presenting males and females on equal footing,” she added. “Through intentional casting, choreography and costumes, we are utilizing our artistic platform to denounce the objectification of women.”

Hoy stressed “our company members’ uncompromising determination to empower females, both on and off the dance floor.”

Trinity’s long relationship with Butte and An Rí Rá will grow richer and deeper at this year’s festival, and audiences will revel in the company’s dynamism, skill, creativity and strong message of female empowerment.

Hoy said that she and Howard will also be thrilled to spend time with the Tiernan Irish Dancers.

“A long time ago, when Cindy Powers was interested in opening an Irish dance school in Butte, she contacted Mark. We’re so excited to come back and see how much they’ve grown.”

“From the start of the Tiernan Irish Dancers, we have looked

to the Trinity Company as our main inspiration,” said Kerry Powers Hall. “We have watched through social media as they have traveled the world, but this year’s An Rí Rá will bring them face to face with their biggest fans.”

Hoy commented on the fact that Tiernan is a performance-based academy. “It’s incredible to see dancers at such a young age flourishing while celebrating the art form through a performing-arts lens.

“We’re really fortunate to have a connection with Butte that extends beyond An Rí Rá.”

SEE MORE DANCE, PAGE 12



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2019 An Rí Rá SCHEDULE

Following is the master schedule for the free An Rí Rá Irish Festival, Friday, August 9 through Saturday, August 11, at several locations in Uptown Butte.

THEY ARE:

- **An Rí Rá Dance Pavilion**
- **Butte Public Archives,**
17 W. Quartz St.
- **Covellite Theatre,**
215 W. Broadway St.
- **Original Mine Yard,**
Main and Copper streets.
This is the primary location for the main events. During An Rí Rá, it's also called the John "The Yank" Harrington and William "Bubba" Maloney Stage.
- **Butte-Silver Bow Courthouse,**
155 W. Granite St.

The schedule is subject to change.

FRIDAY, AUGUST 9

10-10:45 a.m.: Workshop – The Power of the Performer (1st-6th graders), An Rí Rá Dance Pavilion

10 a.m.: Lecture - Mark Howard: Trinity Irish Dance Company Carving New Traditions, Covellite Theatre

11-12 p.m.: Workshop – The Power of the Performer (Middle and High Schoolers), An Rí Rá Dance Pavilion

11 a.m.: Lecture – Jim McCarthy: What is the Butte Connection?, Covellite Theatre

12-1 p.m.: Workshop – Sean Nos Dance Workshop with Kevin Doyle, An Rí Rá Dance Pavilion

12 p.m.: Lecture – Tom Sweeney: Come All Ye Gallant Irishmen (songs included), Covellite Theatre

1:30 p.m.: Irish flag-raising ceremony, Butte-Silver Bow Courthouse

3 p.m.: Dublin Gulch, John "The Yank" Harrington & William "Bubba" Maloney Stage

4:30 p.m.: Tiernan Irish Dancers, John "The Yank" Harrington & William "Bubba" Maloney Stage

5:50 p.m.: Padraig Allen & McLean Avenue Band, John "The Yank" Harrington & William "Bubba" Maloney Stage

7:20 p.m.: Trinity Irish Dance Company, John "The Yank" Harrington & William "Bubba" Maloney Stage

8:30 p.m.: Evans & Doherty with Tom Sweeney, John "The Yank" Harrington & William "Bubba" Maloney Stage

10:00 p.m.: The Whileaways, John "The Yank" Harrington & William "Bubba" Maloney Stage

SATURDAY, AUGUST 10

8-8:30 a.m.: Registration for Road Bowling, Original Mine Yard

9 a.m.: An Rí Rá Road Bowling Tournament, Original mine yard

10-2 p.m.: Irish language class with Terry Cloth, Butte Public Archives

12 pm: Montana Irish Dance featuring: Anaconda Aisling Academy of Irish Dance & Helena's Tiernan Irish Dancers, John "The Yank", Harrington & William "Bubba" Maloney Stage

1:10 p.m.: Dublin Gulch, John "The Yank" Harrington & William "Bubba" Maloney Stage

2:30 p.m.: Tiernan Irish Dancers, John “The Yank” Harrington & William “Bubba” Maloney Stage

3:30 p.m.: Trinity Irish Dance Company, John “The Yank” Harrington & William “Bubba” Maloney Stage

4:20 p.m.: Ken O’Malley, John “The Yank” Harrington & William “Bubba” Maloney Stage

4:30-5:30 p.m.: Irish Dance Showcase, An Rí Rá Dance Pavilion

5:10 p.m.: The Whileaways, John “The Yank” Harrington & William “Bubba” Maloney Stage

6:50 p.m.: Evans & Doherty with Tom Sweeney, John “The Yank” Harrington & William “Bubba” Maloney Stage

8:20 p.m.: Trinity Irish Dance Company, John “The Yank” Harrington & William “Bubba” Maloney Stage

9:30 p.m.: Padraig Allen & McLean Avenue Band, John “The Yank” Harrington & William “Bubba” Maloney Stage

10:40 p.m.: The Scattering, John “The Yank” Harrington & William “Bubba” Maloney Stage

SUNDAY, AUGUST 11

12:30 p.m.: Outdoor Irish Mass, Original mine yard

The People of Butte Return to Ireland Guided Vacation Tour with Ken O’Malley April 18th to April 27th 2020

An historic trip to the land of those Irish men and women who built the great town of Butte, America. Well known singer/musician/storyteller Ken O’Malley will lead the tour to visit the town lands the Butte Irish hailed from: Castletownbere, Allihies and Eyeries in West Cork, Westport Co. Mayo, and parts of Co. Kerry. Ken brought twenty three new friends from Butte to Ireland this past May and their experience was a trip of a lifetime according to most. Many met Irish cousins again or for the first time.

The group will travel by luxury coach from Dublin airport and spend three nights in Bantry, Co. Cork known as the “Gateway to the Southwest of Ireland”, one night in the city of Galway and three nights in Westport, Co. Mayo, one of the most beautiful towns in the West of Ireland. They will spend the final two nights in Dublin and visit many of the charming sights this great city has in store.

Cost of the trip will be \$2500 per person sharing or \$2900 for single travelers. This includes 9 nights hotel; breakfast and dinner; luxury coach; site visit fees; portage; meal tips. Not included: air travel, lunches, driver gratuity and travel insurance.

More details may be found at kenomalley.com and tour brochures are also available at Cavanaugh’s County Celtic, 131 W Park St in Butte (406) 723-1183 . You may also contact Ken at ken@kenomalley.com or (310) 569-1062 with questions, comments, or to book your place on the tour. Ken is performing at this year’s An Ri Ra on Saturday Afternoon.



TIERNAN IRISH DANCERS BUTTE & HELENA

The Tiernan Irish Dancers, a traditional Irish dancing school and performance group, was founded in Butte and Helena Montana in January 2004. Our dancers range in age from three to eighteen years old.

During An Rí Rá 2003, Trinity Academy of Irish Dance founder and artistic director, Mark Howard fell in love with the Montana passion to learn that he discovered in the children. By the end of the weekend, a plan was in place to provide Montana the expertise of the Trinity instructors. The name Tiernan, an Irish synonym for Trinity, was chosen and the Tiernan

Irish Dancers was born.

While both schools enjoy providing community performances throughout the year, the Helena dancers also focus on the competition aspect of Irish dance. Butte dancers have had the honor of performing for the President of Ireland and several Ambassadors and Councils General throughout the years.

Tiernan local instructors are Emily Franke in



Tiernan Irish Dancers in Butte



Tiernan Irish Dancers in Helena

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Helena and Kerry Powers Hall in Butte. Our Trinity instructor is MacKenzie Holland, who is performing this weekend with The Trinity Irish Dance Company. For more information see tiernanbutte.com and tiernanmontana.com.

THE ANACONDA AISLINGS

Founded in 2012 by Haley Kenny, the Aisling Academy of Irish Dance in Anaconda strives to create disciplined individuals, all while developing a strong sense of team-

work and friendship.

The Gaelic word "Aisling" translates in English to "dream" or "vision" With over 30 years of combined teaching and dancing experience, the teaching staff at the Aisling Academy strives to transform "dreams" and "visions" of young individuals through movement. Our creative curriculums taught by Haley Kenny, Jacee Sprunger and Connor Ford are built to the intensity level desired by each dancer and their family. For more information, please visit our Facebook page @Aisling-IrishDance.



Aisling Academy of Irish Dance, Anaconda

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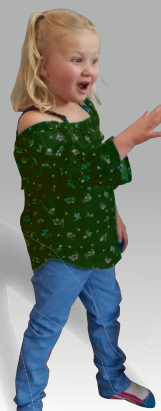
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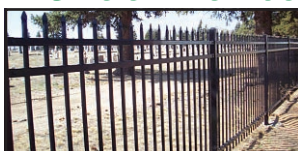
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People can get a ride to the Montana Irish Festival main concert venue at the Original Mine Yard by hopping on a shuttle service that winds its way throughout the uptown area. The free shuttle runs 2:30pm to close on Friday Aug. 9, and 11am to close on Saturday, Aug. 10

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WYOMING ST.

ARIZONA

BROADWAY



Road Bowling

tournament planned



This photo courtesy of IrishCentral.com shows road bowling in County Armagh.

For the second year in a row, An Rí Rá will feature the ancient Irish sport of road bowling.

The sport, which dates from the 17th century, is today centered in counties Cork and Armagh, but is enjoying a revival.

Participants throw an iron and steel ball, or bullet, along a predetermined road course. The tournament will begin at 9 a.m. Saturday at the Original Mine Yard, with registration

preceding the tournament at 8:30 a.m.

The course, over the walking trail above the Original, is expected to take between an hour and a half and two hours to complete.

For safety, competitors must wear closed-toe shoes, and no small children or strollers will be allowed on the track.

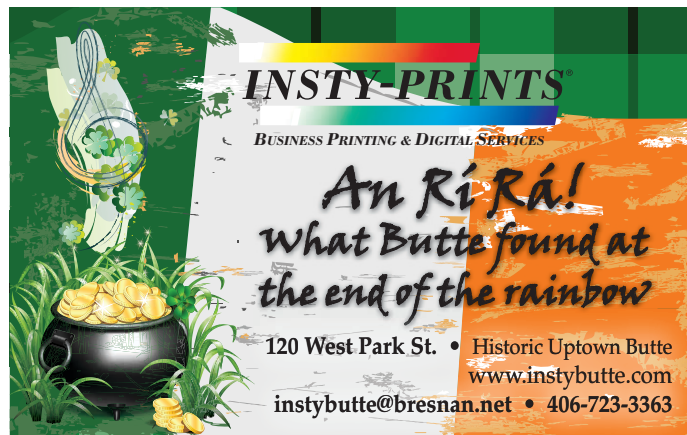


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FREE LECTURE SERIES

at the 2019 An Rí Rá Festival

Once again this year, the Montana Irish Festival includes a series of lectures.

The lectures will take place at the Covellite Theatre, 215 W. Broadway, on Friday August 9 from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

The lineup includes:

•10 a.m.: Mark Howard with the Trinity Irish Dance Company will present a lecture entitled “Carving New Traditions.” The lecture will trace the history of Irish dance, focusing on Howard’s creative path through the medium and the Trinity Irish Dance Company’s evolution and philosophy. Howard is the founder of both the Trinity Irish Dance Academy and the Trinity Irish Dance Company, both based in Chicago. Born in Yorkshire, England, and raised in Chicago, Howard began his dancing career at age eight. At age 10, he would go on to compete at the World Championships of Irish Dance and feature well at the North American Nationals until his retirement at age 15. He began teaching dance at 17, and at age 19 launched the Trinity Academy of Irish Dance, and then founded the Trinity Irish Dance Company. He also contributed to the founding of the Tiernan Irish Dance Company in Butte.

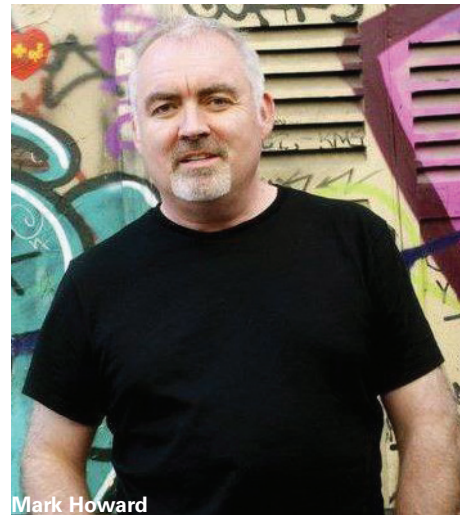
•11 a.m.: Jim McCarthy will present a lecture entitled, “What is the Butte Tradition?” “McCarthy, born and raised in Butte, has taken leadership roles in Butte celebrations, the Butte Sports Hall of Fame and the World Museum of Mining, but

he has primarily left his mark on the Butte-Silver Bow Public Archives, the Butte High School History Club, and as co-leader of a Butte history adult education class. He is known for sharing his love of history with all. McCarthy graduated from the University of Montana with degrees in history and political science. He worked for Butte-Silver Bow for 35 years as park superintendent and road foreman, until he retired in 2009.

•Noon: Tom Sweeney: Come All Ye Gallant Irishmen – a look at historic Irish ballads. Sweeney is a balladeer, songwriter and storyteller from Omagh, County Tyrone and a genuine ‘rarity’ in the field of Irish singing. Along with brother, Jimmy, the late Donegal fiddle player, P.V.O’Donnell, and fellow Omagh man, Brian Doherty, Tom founded the musical collective known as Barley Bree. He then spent nearly twenty years in Nova Scotia, Canada plying his musical trade. Tom has extensively toured Ireland, USA and Canada. In 1998 he accepted a personal invitation from President Bill Clinton to perform his song “Anthem for the Children” in the White House. His audiences range from four and five year-olds right up to the thousands who regularly attend his performances on the stages of the U.S. and Canada’s premier Irish music festivals.



Tom Sweeney



Mark Howard



Jim McCarthy

2019 An Rí Rá MEMORIALS

One of the most endearing qualities of the Irish is our ability to impact the world in which we live and touch the lives of so many along the path. It is with great respect that we honor all of the people on this memorial list who have left an everlasting impression in our lives. Our lives have been enriched by these people, and they will never be forgotten.

You can honor a loved one with a memorial in their name. All contributions benefit the An Rí Rá Montana Irish Festival and the Montana Gaelic Cultural Society, a 501c3 non-profit organization. All donations are tax-deductible.

"I'll walk beside you
through the passing years,
through days of cloud and
sunshine, joy and tears,
and when the great call
comes, though sunset gleams, I'll walk beside you through the land of dreams."

Memorial List of Family, Friends, and Loved Ones

*Helen Christensen
Mary Seccomb
Gary Seccomb
Sharon Hanley
William and Rita Lester
Frank & Mabel Walsh
Keegan Shea
Jeff Satterly
Mike Mazzolini
Chloe Gilman
Dennis "Sully" Sullivan*

*Bob Schulte
Pat Schulte
Cathy Peoples
Jim Barry
John T. Shea
Kevin Shannon
Robert and Mary McDonough
Patrick and Alice Downey
Enda Bowman
Judy Jacobson*

*** Every Irish Man, Woman, and Child who
gave their life on the Butte Hill*

Pleasant weather drew about 200 worshipers to the An Rí Rá Irish Festival's closing Mass in 2016.
(Renata Birkenbuel Photo)



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FOLLOWED BY A GAELIC MASS ON SUNDAY**



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**Enjoy the festival & come back next year!
August 9th-11th, 2019
*Go raibh míle maith agat agus slán go fóill.***