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UNITED STATES
UNITED IRELAND

Facing down inequality and building a better Ireland

A Letter From Ireland

a Chara,

I am writing from somewhere over the Atlantic Ocean on a flight to Hartford, Connecticut, which will be followed by a trip to Springfield, Massachusetts. Springfield, the birthplace of basketball, is also the home of many generations of Irish Americans. It was the final destination of many Blasket Islanders, cleared from the coast of Kerry. Many followed the path of family and friends to the town.

An island people, they were native Irish speakers, and they brought their language, music and song with them. Their children and grandchildren remain. It is also the home of Westfield State University, where Sinn Féin President Mary Lou McDonald is to be awarded an honorary degree. The following day she will meet with members of the Irish American community at the John Boyle O'Reilly Club.

Westfield University was established by Horace Mann, a leader who recognised the liberating power of education. A humanitarian, he believed that this power should be shared by all regardless of status, creed, or gender. He remains an icon of education, equality, and social progress. More than 70 schools across the United States are named after him, his impact on modern education is so widespread.

Like Mann, John Boyle O'Reilly was a leader in a true sense. Both spoke out against the prevailing sentiment of the time and worked to better the lot of all.

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servitude in Australia for his part in a failed rising against the British in Ireland.

He escaped and made his way to Boston where his writing skills were recognised by the Irish American newspaper, The Pilot. He brought with him the United Irishmen's universal principles of equality, solidarity, and liberty.

He challenged the poverty experienced by the Irish in slums of Boston mostly at the hands of Irish landlords and politicians. A committed abolitionist, he challenged those who proclaimed themselves to be Irish to make common cause with the slaves and not the slave owners.

While the absolute poverty that Mann and Boyle O'Reilly railed against is gone, inequality persists, and racism remains. Both are symbiotic.

These two leaders remain icons of what is possible. The ideas of Mann changed education across the world. John Boyle O'Reilly left us a cannon of writing and activism which still demonstrates the potential of an individual to make a difference.

When I return to Ireland I will be back on the doors as we edge closer to an election. The example of Mann and John Boyle O'Reilly will spur me on through the last weeks of the election.

Irish Republicanism and the ideals of Mann remain as relevant today as we face down inequality and build a better Ireland for all the people.

Have a great weekend

Is mise,

Ciarán

Ciarán Quinn is the Sinn Féin Representative to North America

Sinn Féin President Mary Lou McDonald in Springfield, MA

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THE JOHN BOYLE O'REILLY CLUB TO HOST

MARY LOU MCDONALD TD

**SATURDAY,
MAY 18, 2024
11:00 AM
OUTSIDE PAVILION**

**JBO CLUB
33 PROGRESS AVE.
SPRINGFIELD, MA**



**MUSIC BY
THE BARDS**



**LEADER OF SINN FÉIN, THE
LARGEST POLITICAL PARTY
ON THE ISLAND OF IRELAND**

**WE ARE HONORED TO HOST
HER AT AMERICA'S OLDEST
IRISH CLUB, THE JBO.**

Dublin and Monaghan bombings 50th Anniversary

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searching for the truth. The British state must provide all information & evidence it holds on the bombings. Now is the time for the light of truth, now is the time for justice for the forgotten.



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**Ireland's
Future**
Todhchaí na hÉireann

PATHWAY TO CHANGE

**Public Meeting, Thursday, May 23rd, 7 PM,
United Irish Cultural Center, San Francisco**

Planning And Preparing For a New and United Ireland

**With guest speakers from Ireland's Future:
Niall Murphy & The Reverend Karen Sethuraman**

All Are Welcome



**Niall Murphy is the National Secretary of Ireland's Future,
and a Civil Rights Attorney from Belfast.**

"I believe that the debate and momentum towards constitutional change is growing and developing. Ireland's Future want to see constitutional change which delivers a new Ireland and society in which all who live here feel comfortable and have a stake in."



**Karen Sethuraman is the first and only female Baptist Minister in Ireland.
Karen practices her ministry in East Belfast.**

"Growing up in East Belfast, I saw a lot of 'us and them' and 'in and out' mentalities," says Karen. "But those divisions really didn't sit right with me and I felt obliged to question what the whole issue was about. I was never personally wedded to the Union and in the past was always quite ambivalent or centred on the issue but I believe Brexit in particular has catapulted us towards this new situation. Now we need to start asking ourselves, 'Is there something better than what we have now?' and I think there is."

**Ireland's Future is a non-politically aligned group of civic nationalists,
Formed in 2017 to advocate for the reunification of Ireland.**

**This event is co-sponsored by:
The Knights of the Red Branch, San Francisco
& The Irish Herald**

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Kearney meets South African foreign minister

Declan Kearny, the MLA for South Antrim, went to South Africa this week for the 'Global Anti-Apartheid Conference on Palestine'.

Speaking after the meeting, the party's National Chairperson said, "It was most important to have this opportunity to meet directly with Minister Pandor during which we discussed the international landscape and Israel's genocidal war against the Palestinian people.

"Sinn Féin has a long history with the ANC dating back decades through our shared aims of international solidarity, anti-apartheid and commitment to national self determination.

"I reaffirmed to the minister Sinn Féin's support for South Africa's courageous ICJ case against Israel. We have consistently called on the Irish government to actively endorse and promote South Africa's stance and will continue to do so.

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**Ireland's 1916 Easter Rising Commemorative Committee of R. I.
&
Irish Northern Aid of Rhode Island**

**Remembering those who gave their lives for a
Free and United Ireland**



Join us honoring the ten brave Irishmen who sacrificed their lives in defiance of the British claim that Ireland's centuries long fight for Independence was a criminal enterprise!

The R.I. Famine Memorial Monument Site

Providence River Greenway

May 24, 2024

6:00 p.m.

Followed by a Reception at

Patrick's Pub

381 Smith St

Providence, RI

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Strong labor connections between

Ireland and the United States

Sinn Féin TD for Dublin Fingal and Sinn Fein Spokesperson on Workers' Rights, Enterprise, Trade, and Employment, Louise O'Reilly met with United States Special Representative for International Labor Affairs, Kelly Fay Rodriguez while in Dublin. They discussed the central role of labor and strong connections between the labor in the United States and Ireland.

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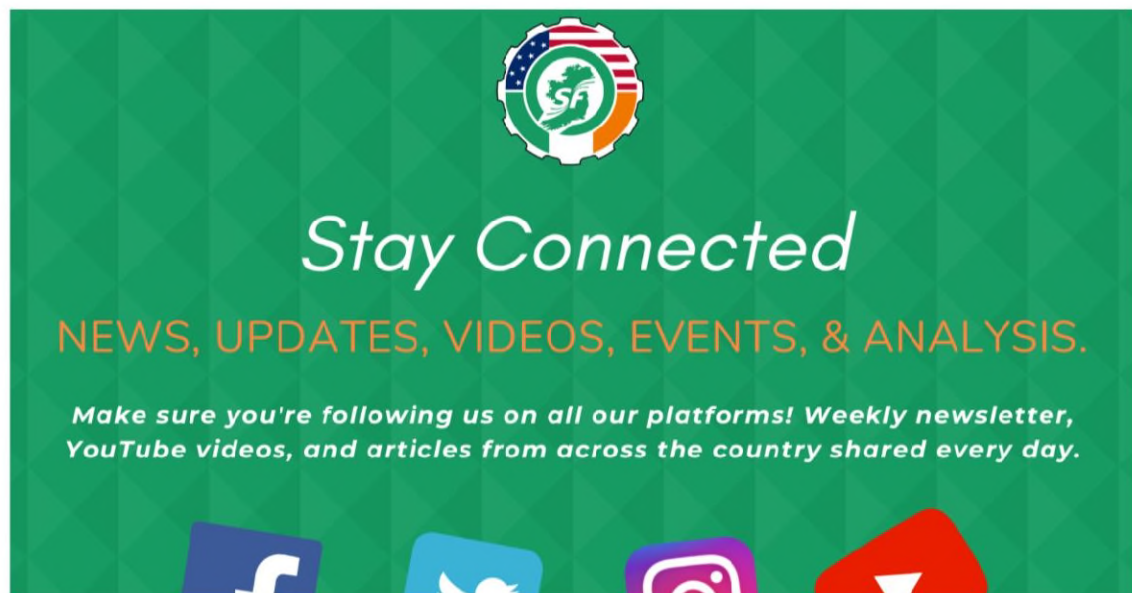
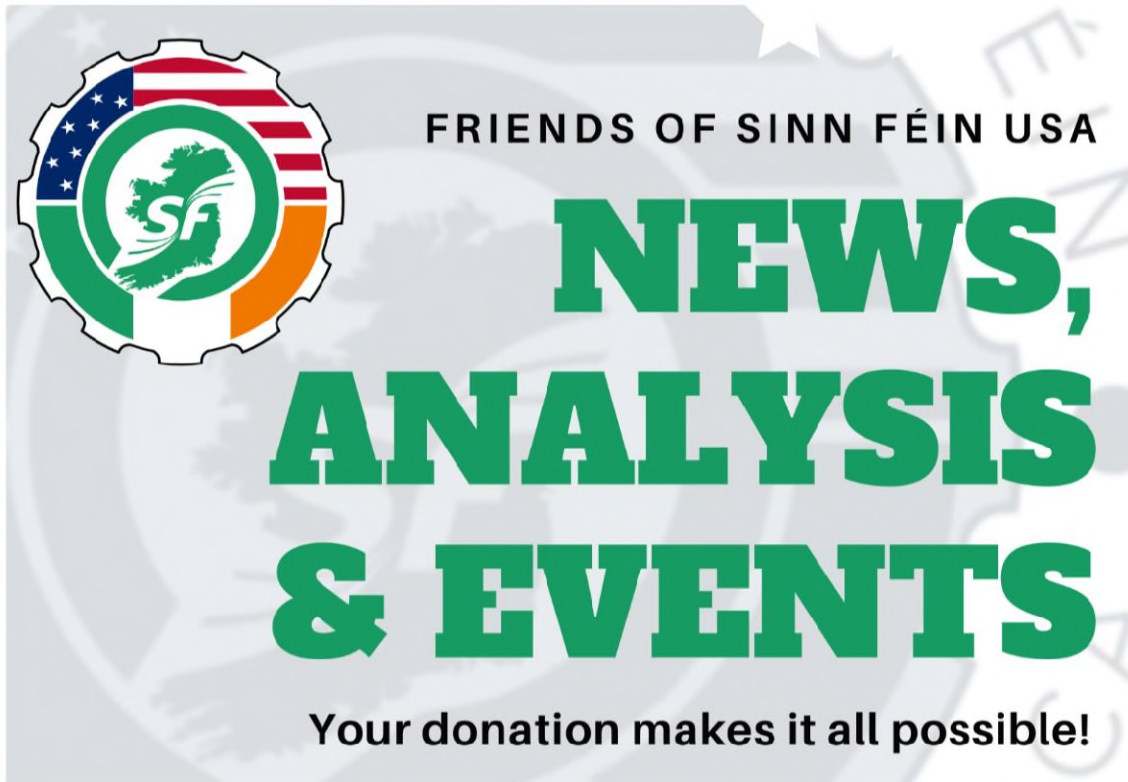
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We provide the latest news and analysis every week via our newsletter and every month on our video updates. We let you know about events all across the country and we organize and host events like the recent Irish Unity Summit. We bring Sinn Féin members over for community meetings and political briefings and updates. All of that

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it monthly. Thank you!

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