**Leitrim Society of New York November 2020 Online Newsletter**

**Dear Member**,

Already it is November, how this year has flown. Hope the children were able to get out and ***Trick or Treat***. Thankfully it was a lovely day to be outside.

At this time each year we would normally be doing our final preparations for our ***Memorial******Mass/Scholarship Dance*** at Dunwoodie. Sadly, again due to ongoing imposed restrictions, we were forced to make yet another difficult decision to cancel the event. **But there is good news**… thanks to the marvels of modern technology all is not lost. **Monsignor Whitney** very happily agreed to celebrate mass in his parish church, ***St Francis******De Sales*,** in **Patchogue, New York.** This will be ***live streamed* on the internet on Sunday, November 8th, @ 3pm**. You can enjoy watching from your own home by going online to [**www.stfrancispatchogue.com**](http://www.stfrancispatchogue.com) **and click on their *Facebook link*** on their homepage. For those who would like to attend in person you are most welcome. The address is **7 Amity Street, Patchogue, NY 11722**. Telephone number is **631-475-0161. Please remember to return your raffle tickets to Bernadette Dunleavy, 238 Blackford Avenue, Yonkers, NY 10704. The drawing will also take place on Sunday November 8th.**

Again, w**e** apologize to all our scholarship recipients and their families, but we must put safety first. Please check our **website** for a **collage of** **pictures** of our winners.

**GRAMMAR SCHOOL: $500**

1. **Jennifer Dolan (In memory of Barney Ferguson, donated by the Det Barney Ferguson Emerald Fund)**

2. **Gavin Murray (In memory of his cousin Aisling Cooke, donated by Pat and Pidgie Murray)**

3. **Justine Dolan (In memory of her grandfather, Lawrence Dolan, donated by the Dolan Family)**

4. **TJ Dolan (Richard Reynolds Award, donated annually by the Leitrim Society)**

**HIGH SCHOOL: $1000**

1. **James Dolan (In memory of John Dolan, Past President**

2. **Matthew Dolan (In memory of Ann McGovern, long-time member of society)**

 **COLLEGE: $1000**

1. **Fiona McIntyre $2000 Essay award (In memory of Barney and Olive McKeon and donated by the McKeon family)**

2. **Sean Dolan** (**In memory of Eddie Fitzpatrick, long-time supporter of society**)

3. **Brendan Dolan (In memory of Mary and Eddie Verheyen, long-time supporters)**

***Congratulations* to Mary and the Dolan family. Larry Dolan would be so proud to see so many of his grandchildren receiving scholarships from *the Leitrim Society*. He was a great supporter and friend of the Society. Wishing them all well with their studies.**

Our **November meeting** will once again be conducted via **Zoom** on **Thursday November 19th, 2020 at 7:30pm**. If you would like to participate, please contact **Meg McKeon-Baker** at **718-445-8365** for details.

At our April meeting, a motion was made that ***the Leitrim Society*** makes a donation of **$5,000** to ***Slainte 2020*.** This notice was published in three (3) consecutive newsletters, May, September and October. This motion was voted on at our October meeting. The motion carried. A **donation of $5,000** was made to ***Slainte***.

***The*** ***Irish Echo*** is honoring one of our finest members, **Frank Brady** as ‘***Champion in a time of Pandemic’***, in recognition of the tremendous work he did fundraising for ***Slainte 2020***. A **Virtual Awards ceremony** will take place on **Friday November 13th, 2020**. The Society is so proud of Frank for the endless hours of hard work to help others. So well deserved. Many congratulations and ‘***THANK YOU’***

**Payment of dues for 2021** are now being accepted and should be mailed to our **Financial Secretary** at the **P.O.** **Box** address above. Dues are **$20.00 per person** or **$30.00 per couple.** If you think you’re outstanding but are unsure, please contact **Neil Callaghan @ 917-655-1543/** **neilcallaghan56@gmail.com**for an update on your current status.If you are moving or have moved recently, please remember to contact us with a change of address notification to the Society at the address listed on the letterhead, or contact the Financial Secretary directly. **E-mail:** If anyone would prefer to have their newsletter emailed to them, please contact us. Email helps us get your monthly correspondence to you more efficiently while also helping us reduce our mailing costs, thank you for your consideration of this initiative in advance.

The ***United Irish Counties Association of New York, Inc***. announced that it is sponsoring **BOTH** a **High School** and a **College Essay Contest in 2020**. The application forms must be completed and postmarked ***no later than December 15, 2020***. For information please contact **Kathleen V. Mattessich** via email @ **kvmattessich@gmail.com** **.**

Please remember our sick members, **Aileen Kilcommons, Lisa Cullen, Michael O’Rourke,** **Anna Bohan** and **Noreen Regan Leggiero**, and all who are ill. We also pray for those affected by the Coronavirus. We wish them all a complete recovery.

***Condolences*** to **Anthony Flynn** and family on the death of his mother **Veronica** (**Vera**) last week in ***Drumshanb****o*, to **Billy Keenan** and family, on the recent death of his uncle **Danny Brady**, and to the family of **Mary Tiernan** (***Cloone***). As this is the month of November, we remember all our deceased. May they Rest in Peace.

Please continue to pray for all our ***first responders,******medical staff and all essential service employees*** who continue their heroic work on the **front lines.** We thank them for all they continue to do, and ask God to keep them safe and well. We also remember all our families in Ireland and elsewhere during these very difficult times.

**Wishing you all a happy and blessed Thanksgiving. *BE SAFE AND BE WELL!***

**Sincerely,**

**Donal O’Connell Anna Mulvey Buggy**

***President* *Corresponding Secretary***