



The Life Enrichment Center At Oyster Bay

Snowy Weather, but Sun Shining for Seniors **Thanks to Oyster Bay High School Students** By Silvana LaFerlita Gullo



With a March 20th forecast of heavy snow looming ahead, more than 100 members bravely put coats and boots back on with promises of a fun day at the Center thanks to the Oyster Bay High School Business and Marketing Honor Society students. Our Members have come to know that a party hosted by these students is one they don't want to miss.

The students and advisors have hosted an annual party at the Center for five years. They refused to let another "snow day" disappoint the Seniors, and marched forward with a Mardi Gras celebration originally planned for early March. With a special Creole meal prepared by Chef Anthony, the room was aglow with Mardi Gras decorations compliments of Members Sharon Collins, Susan Ryan, our talented crafters and the Senior Activity Committee. Fancy masks, hats and colorful beads were provided for every guest. Even the giant snowflakes falling heavy throughout the afternoon didn't dampen anyone's spirits.

A celebration to "welcome spring" complete with live entertainment for a dance or two is a perfect way for the community's youth to connect with their elders. I learned a great deal about the Oyster Bay community by speaking with students. They are respectful, bright and eager to do more for our Seniors. They thanked us for the opportunity to share some time with our Members and were truly happy to be giving back to the community in this special way. Parents and teachers should be so proud.

Each student participating brought something special to the activity, including serving meals, soliciting 35 restaurant, shops and individuals for raffle prizes, serving meals and most especially chatting with the Seniors throughout the day's activities. The students raised more than \$600 to support more special programs for Seniors. Oyster Bay students never cease to surprise us with generosity and commitment to supporting our Seniors

Students expressed an interest in becoming more involved. I look forward to connecting with the various student clubs and associations to explore creating other activities they could host throughout the year.

It was a delightful day that chased away the winter blues and made a room full of Seniors very happy despite the terrible weather. We thank the Oyster Bay High School administration and parents for inspiring to care deeply about the elders in their community. A million thanks to our merchant friends and neighbors who are always willing to support their students and seniors efforts.

Silvana LaFerlita Gullo, Executive Director