



# The Life Enrichment Center AT OYSTER BAY



Celebrating May and the Coming of Spring!

By Silvana LaFerlita Gullo, Executive Director

There are many reasons to celebrate May...the end of winter, our annual community fundraiser, the reawakening of our trees and flowers and nothing more thought-provoking than honoring our Mothers.

Winter's end dragged on this year well past the first day of spring. We welcome May with open arms putting behind us days of isolation, fear of icy falls, and record temperatures. ENOUGH SAID!

Anticipating the need for a good celebration, our Staff, Board and Members planned a fundraising event for May 1st honoring Oyster Bay's greatest assets. Tapas-style cuisine will be prepared by expert chefs including our own 'Chef Anthony', Staff members, Center Members and Board as well as our local friends from Christina's Epicure, Jack Halyards, Lucé Ristorante and Wild Honey. A Long Island premier band is providing live music kicking off the evening with a tribute to Billy Joel. Our dining hall is being transformed into a nautical panorama by the Senior Advisory Board committee including Diane Aerne, art instructor Sharon Collins, and the now famous decorator extraordinaire from the Harvest Moon dinner, Charlotte Longo (*a member of Senator Marcellino's staff who enjoys our evening exercise programs and volunteers her time*). The event promises to provide substantial funding for our programs.

The most important celebration in May is reserved for the single most vital person in our lives...our Mothers. Mothers, like the beautiful magnolia blossoms, inspire us to appreciate the little joys in life. Nurturing and guiding us throughout life, mothers lay the foundation for our futures. They stand firm when we need it most and lift us up when we falter. With a love stronger than any other we will know, we honor our mothers with our success.

The lyrics of a song I wrote at age fifteen summarizes my relationship with my mother. *"You've given me something that no one else could give. You've given me life and you know I love to live. Sometimes we don't agree but that's cause you are you and I am me. Still I need you more each day...."* **Happy Mother's Day to each of you who has given your heart and soul to your children and imprinted yourself in their hearts forever.**

*Silvana LaFerlita Gullo, Executive Director*

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