



The Life Enrichment Center AT OYSTER BAY

We've Got Talent!
By Judy Palumbo, Executive Director

One of the perks I was most looking forward to when taking this position at the Senior Center was the people I would meet and the stories I would hear. Inside these walls, in the lives of our ordinary (extraordinary!) members, is a treasure trove of tales and talent from past and present.

What a treat we had in February in our special presentation for Black History month. Our lovely and demure Betty Jo Spyropulos regaled us with stories about her 15 year career as a showgirl on Broadway and in Las Vegas. She brought in her star-studded collection of photographs filled with dozens of shows with top entertainers of the 60's and 70's. The costumes were magnificent and Betty Jo was stunningly beautiful. We were all in awe of the remarkable career of our unassuming member.

I also had the good fortune to happen upon our monthly Open Mic night. I was practicing on the Center's piano (being taught to me by another one of the Center's great talents, Shirley Reed) when a group of guitar carrying musicians took over the room. In the group was our own Barbara Garriel who unbeknownst to me is a fabulous singer and songwriter. I've been told she is also an author, a yogi, and a painter... a true renaissance woman! Barbara, her partner Ken and a group of musicians gather monthly at the Center to perform, playing the guitar, piano and harmonica. The next Open Mic night is on Tuesday, March 21 at 7 pm - Don't miss it!

The perks just keep coming as each day I learn something new about the fabulous adventures and experiences of our members. And the everyday stories of family and friends, work and hobbies are equally as interesting and inspiring. I can't wait to go to work tomorrow!

P.S. Check out the pictures of our 40th Anniversary Party on Facebook. It was amazing! Thanks to the staff and volunteers who went above and beyond to organize the event!

Judy Palumbo, Executive Director

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