



# COMMUNITY PLAYERS of Salisbury

March  
2026

## Back Stage



Greetings!

As we move into March, I want to take a moment to celebrate the incredible success of our recent production of **Misery**. From the gripping performances on stage to the tireless work behind the scenes, we kept audiences on the edge of their seats. Bravo to everyone involved!

Now we turn our attention to our upcoming production of **Old Hams**. This riotous comedy follows a group of retired actors living in a retirement home who learn that a shady lawyer wants to evict them. The residents hatch a plan, a tour de force performance to save their home. This play is a celebration of friendship, resilience, and they joy of performing at any age.

As always, we need you to help bring this story to the stage. There are so many ways to get involved:

- Join us for Saturday Set-Building—no experience required-just be willing to lend a hand.
- Join the backstage crew and be part of the magic behind the curtain.
- Consider serving on one of our many committees to help with front-of-house, publicity or special events.

If you want more information on any of the above, feel free to contact me at [dgmullins58@mail.com](mailto:dgmullins58@mail.com).

Thank you for your continued support of the Community Players of Salisbury. I look forward to seeing you at the theatre—whether that's in the audience, onstage, backstage or at a committee meeting.

Kind Regards,

*Darrell Mullins*  
President

Veteran Players' Director Sherri Trader Hynes will helm this story of elderly performers trying to protect their retirement home. Auditions will be held on January 31 at 10:00 am, February 1 at 7:00 pm and February 2 at 7:00 pm. Character descriptions are available on our website.

As always, thanks to all of you who support us by being on stage, backstage or in the audience.

Kind Regards,

*Darrell Mullins*

President

Players' next meetings will be **March 4 (7:00 PM) and April 1 (6:00 PM)**. Join us as we continue to work on our season.

## BACK STAGE SUBMISSIONS

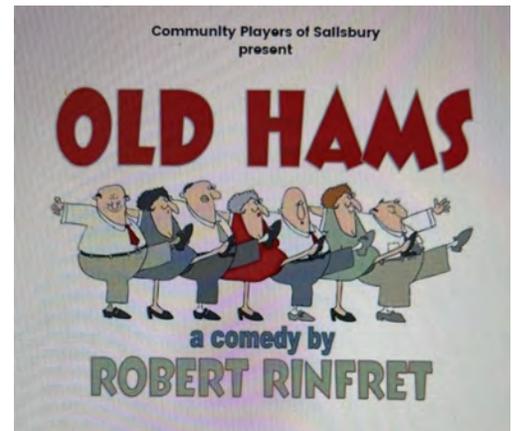
Articles, photos, etc. for publication in Back Stage should be emailed to me (popirusty@comcast.net) by the 15th of each month. Also, if you have ideas for the improvement of our newsletter, please let me know!

*Rusty Mumford*

Corresponding Secretary

Congratulations to the cast of ***Old Hams!***

Rose - Robin Burns  
Iris - Bobbie Calloway  
Clara - Capri Harrison  
Gus - Frank Pasqualino  
Eddie - Robert Herberbertson  
Ben - Pete Evans  
Louise - Lillian Hoffman  
Sarah - Charlie Szentesi-Thomas  
David - Zach Warner



If you are interested in helping with the show, contact director Sherri Hynes at [sherri.hynes@yahoo.com](mailto:sherri.hynes@yahoo.com). We are still looking for a person to tack charge of sound and props. The show is verey props heavy and the props person will need to be able to move/change the set after each scene.



To celebrate the seminal event in American history, commemorating our 250th birthday this July, Community Players of Salisbury presents 1776.

1776 is not a documentary of events that took place in June and July of 1776, but much of the dialogue spoken or sung comes directly from letters, conversations, and diaries from the Second Continental Congress in Philadelphia including John and Abigail Adams, Benjamin Franklin, Thomas Jefferson, John Hancock, and other delegates.

It is the summer of 1776, and the nation is ready to declare independence... if only our founding fathers can agree to do it! The inspiring event comes to life in this Tony winning Broadway hit. 1776 puts a human face on the pages of history as we see the men (and women) behind the national icons: proud, frightened, uncertain, irritable, charming, often petty, some enslavers, some emancipators, all patriots and ultimately noble figures, determined to do what it takes to bring forth a fledgling nation.



## FUNDRAISING UPDATE

1. The 50/50 raffle and beer and wine sales held at the Misery performances in February raised approximately \$1000.
2. Our second annual Spring Craft and Vendor Fair will be held Saturday, March 28, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Community Players' Theater. Admission is free. Come and support the vendors and crafters and take part in the chance and silent auctions. If you would like to be a vendor or crafter at this event, contact Wendy Stever at [wendysteever@gmail.com](mailto:wendysteever@gmail.com).
3. The Community Players' Friendly Feud Fundraiser will be held April 23-26 at Community Players' Theater. Sixteen teams will compete for the grand prize of \$500, with a second place prize of \$250. Each team will consist of five members (friends, family, coworkers), answering survey questions with the aim to score more points than the other team. The first set of eight teams will battle it out on Thursday, April 23, from 7 to 10 p.m., and the second set of eight teams will battle it out on Friday, April 24, from 7 to 10 p.m. Winners advance to play on Saturday, April 25, from 7 to 10 p.m. Saturday winners advance to the semifinals and finals, to be held on Sunday, April 26, from 2 to 4 p.m. Cost of registration is \$100 per team. If you do not want to enter a team but would like to watch the teams battle it out, admission is \$10 at the door. If you are interested in entering a team, contact Matt Bogdan at 443-235-3272 or [oceanacityhappyme@aol.com](mailto:oceanacityhappyme@aol.com).

## GRANTS UPDATE

As noted in our last newsletter, the Community Players has been awarded a \$150,000 Challenge Grant from the Richard A. Henson Foundation so that Players can complete renovations on the Community Players' Theater at 5109 Nutters Cross Road in Salisbury. Renovations include installing handicapped bathrooms, dressing rooms, and costume storage. In order for Players to receive the \$150,000, we need to raise \$150,000. One way to donate to this worthy cause is to go to our website at [Sbyplayers.org](http://Sbyplayers.org). On the home page click on the donate button which takes you to the Players' Capital Campaign page. There, donations can be made by credit or debit card. If you prefer to write a check, make the check out to Community Foundation of The Eastern Shore, with Community Players' Capital Campaign fund on the memo line. Mail the check to Community Foundation of the Eastern Shore, 1324 Belmont Ave., Suite 401, Salisbury, MD 21804. All donations will be acknowledged and tracked by the Community Foundation of the Eastern Shore, who will verify compliance with IRS and other regulations. Your donation will be instrumental in helping the Community Players' mission of encouraging education, interest, and participation in theater and providing quality theatrical productions for local audiences. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Kel Nagel, Capital Campaign Chairperson, at 410-726-0670.

# TRIVIA

## THEATRE TEASERS

### Trivia by Sharon Benchoff

#### March - International Women's Month

*The answers to this month's trivia questions may be difficult to answer but, it is important that women who contribute to the wonderful world of theatre are recognized. These are just ten out of many.*

1. She originated several leading lady roles, including Reno Sweeney in ***Anything Goes*** and Annie Oakley in ***Annie Get Your Gun***.
2. She originated the role of Anita in ***West Side Story*** and was the first Latina to receive a Kennedy Center Honor.
3. In 1998, she was the first woman to win a Tony Award for Best Direction of a Musical for her groundbreaking production of Disney's ***The Lion King***.
4. She won Tony awards for her roles in ***Mame***, ***Sweeney Todd***, ***Blithe Spirit***, and ***Gypsy***.
5. She changed the role that dance played in musical theatre, by choreographing the dream ballet in ***Oklahoma!*** and was the first winner of the Tony Award for Best Choreography for ***Brigadoon***.
6. She originated Roxie Hart in ***Chicago*** and Lola in ***Damn Yankees***. She worked as Bob Fosse's muse and collaborator.
7. This award winning composer's works include; ***Kimberly Akimbo***, ***Fun Home***, ***Caroline, or Change***, ***Shrek The Musical***, ***Thoroughly Modern Millie***, and ***Violet***.
8. The Tony Awards were created in 1947 in honor of this actress, producer and theatre director who was also co-founder of the American Theatre Wing.
9. Renée Elise Goldsberry played which Schuyler sister in the musical ***Hamilton***?
10. This playwright utilizes a blend of humor and tragedy to challenge audiences and inspire dialogue in ***How I Learned to Drive***, ***Indecent***, and ***The Baltimore Waltz***.

Answers found on page 6



# SPRING CRAFT AND VENDOR FAIR

SATURDAY MARCH 28TH  
10 AM TO 3 PM!

Craft Artists, Book Authors, Direct Sales,  
Vendors, Food Truck, Children Activities  
and more!

Silent and Ticket Auctions!

Community Players Theater -  
5109 Nutters Cross Rd, Salisbury

For more information email  
wendysteever@gmail.com

## ANSWERS TO TRIVIA QUESTIONS:

1. Ethel Merman
2. Chita Rivera
3. Julie Taymor
4. Angela Lansbury
5. Agnes De Mille
6. Gwen Verdon
7. Jeanine Tesori
8. Antoinette Perry
9. Angelica
10. Paula Vogel

Answers:



Enter Your Team in  
**Community Players'**  
**Friendly Feud Fundraiser!**

**Grand Prize: \$500**

**Second place: \$250**

**April 23-26 at Community Players' Theater  
at 5109 Nutters Cross Road in Salisbury**

Assemble your dream team "family" and play the Community Players' version of a game show favorite! Duke it out in our fast-paced face-offs and unleash your inner game show star!

- A. Gather your team of five people (must be 18+). These can be family members, friends, or co-workers.**
- B. Gather the registration fee of \$100 per team.**
- C. Contact Matt Bogdan at 443-235-3272 or [oceancityhappyme@aol.com](mailto:oceancityhappyme@aol.com).**

Teams 1-8 play on Thursday, April 23, from 7 to 10 p.m.; Teams 9-16 play on Friday, April 24, from 7-10 p.m.

Thursday and Friday winning teams advance to play on Saturday, April 25, from 7-10 p.m.

Saturday winning teams advance to play on Sunday, April 26, from 2-4 p.m.

**Not ready for the stage? You can watch contestants sweat under the spotlight from the comfort of the audience! Admission is \$10 at the door. Interested in sponsoring or advertising in the program? Contact Matt Bogdan.**

**All proceeds from the fundraiser go toward meeting the Richard A. Henson Challenge Grant of \$150,000, helping Players raise funds for renovations to the theater.**



**Community Players of Salisbury**  
**P. O. Box 2431**  
**Salisbury, MD 21802**

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**SALISBURY, MD 21801**  
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*Please consider  
becoming a member  
of Community Players.  
If you are not sure if  
your dues are paid for  
the current year,  
please check the  
mailing label on this  
newsletter.  
If it does not show  
2025-26, your dues  
are not up-to-date.*



*Back Stage is funded, in part by a grant from the Salisbury Wicomico Arts Council (SWAC). Players would like to thank SWAC for their continued support.*

**Next Meetings - Wednesday, March 4 (7:00 PM) and April 1 (6:00 PM).**

**Community Players Officers & Board of Directors**  
**July 1, 2025-June 30, 2026**

*President: Darrell Mullins  
Vice-President: Kyle Hayes  
Recording Secretary: Melissa Dasher  
Corresponding Secretary: Rusty Mumford  
Treasurer: Charlie Linton  
Immediate Past-President: Matt Bogdan*

*Board Members*

*Lynne Bratten, Ken Johnson, Shelbie Thompson - Term Expires 2026  
David Allen, Kim Cuesta, Charlie Szentesi-Thomas - Term Expires 2027  
Pete Cuesta, Betsy Metzger, Tom Robinson - Term Expires 2028*

*Community Players is committed to celebrating an inclusive culture of creativity by welcoming actors, technicians, designers, musicians, and production team members from varied backgrounds with regards to race, ethnicity, national origin, age, gender identity, sexual orientation, marital status, physical & mental ability, and religious & political beliefs.*