Greetings from Silver Club!

On May 17th, the annual Big Hearts for Seniors benefit was successful and well attended. The film “Lives Well Lived; Celebrating the Secrets, Wit and Wisdom of Age” was a hit with the audience. I was personally inspired by the film, and it reminded me to make the most of every day. The Silver Club Advisory, staff, and volunteers put in a lot of work to ensure that this year’s event went off without a hitch (which it did)! I extend a personal thank to everyone involved in this event.

This fall, Silver Club will be celebrating our 20th Anniversary! The Turner Senior Resource Center is also celebrating 20 years. The Turner Senior Resource Center will be hosting a variety of activities the week of September 11th-14th. On Friday September 14th, Silver Club will host an open house which will include refreshments and entertainment. I will be sending out additional information as the event nears.

I hope everyone has a wonderful summer!

Sincerely,
Shannon Etcheverry, LMSW
Director, Silver Club Memory Programs

Silver Club Garden and Fairy Sightings

Summer is finally here and Pat Hall’s Life Skills group has the raised-bed gardens outside the front entrance of the Silver Club all beautifully planted. The garden features quite a variety this year ranging from peppers and tomato plants to bright yellow and orange marigolds, purple salvia, colorful petunias, and coleus. The vegetable plants were purchased by Silver Club and the flowers were donated by Zywicki’s Greenhouse Inc. in Belleville, Michigan. The garden creates a beautiful outdoor backdrop that club members can enjoy and maintain now that summer is in full swing.

There’s a new addition to our outdoor garden this year. Look closely, nestled within the garden you’ll see that little fairies have left their calling cards. Thanks to Cara Yonovitz’s Tuesday art group, fairy sculptures, a tiny bird bath, fairy trees, mushrooms, and a little green caterpillar are inching their way through the garden bed. The Inside garden has been blooming with fairy adornments this winter,
and it has begun to wander outside into the front garden. Don’t miss this beautiful display and see what the fairies have left behind! Look for some new garden sculptures to appear this month...

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Ypsilanti Library First Friday
Silver Club Art Exhibition & Presentation

**ART EXHIBITION NEW EXTENDED DATES:**

*Reinventing Matisse*

Ypsilanti Downtown Library
May 4th – September 4th, 2018

On May 4th, the Silver Club had an art exhibition and presentation “Reinventing Matisse” at the Ypsilanti district library. It was a great success. People were amazed at the work and talent that was created by the club members who live with some form of dementia. We were also honored to have Jessie, who is a very talented musician, play a variety of classical and jazz soothing tunes at the event.

The “Reinventing Matisse” art exhibit was a collaboration between the Silver Club’s Wednesday through Friday art groups headed by Daniele O’Brien and Jeanne Kero, and the Elderberry Club lead by Elaine Reed and Kathi Tobey. Each banner was created using repurposed and donated vinyl banners which were cut to size and painted with a rich dark blue color. Then, members created Matisse-inspired amorphous shapes which were then traced and cut out of hand-decorated mulberry paper, which was artistically arranged and adhered to each banner. The hand-painted mulberry paper was created using acrylic paint and beautiful textures as the basis for these forms. This work resulted in five banners adorned with these fantastic shapes and colorful papers. The installation was so successful that the Ypsilanti Library asked Silver Club to extend this show until September. The finished installation really let’s our members and their creative process shine!
Volunteer Spotlight: Jennifer Melinsky

Jennifer Melinsky is one of our volunteers here at the Silver Club. She joins us on Wednesday morning and brings a great smile and energy to our group. Jenn participates in all aspects of our program; visiting with club members, sharing stories, joining in daily activities, she lends a hand wherever needed. Jennifer became a volunteer through the Michigan volunteer program and has been with us since January.

Jennifer, what do you like about volunteering at Silver Club?

“I love hearing the member’s stories and history, you have such a wide range of individuals and backgrounds, it’s fascinating and I enjoy the variety and the uplifting experience volunteering at Silver Club provides. One club member always comes prepared with questions and inspires me to google the facts and figures with him. The members keep me on my toes and make me think, challenging me and making me smile. I also enjoy sharing and singing all the great old songs on Wednesdays. Silver Club and all who participate provide a nurturing environment and bring out the best in all of us.”

A celebration luncheon for our volunteers took place on June 20th at Weber’s Inn. It was our way of saying “THANK YOU” to the remarkable people, like Jennifer, who faithfully come each week and spend a few hours with our Silver Club members!

We welcome volunteers. To become a volunteer and share in the Silver Club experience please contact Kathi Tobey at 734-998-6555 or email: kathitob@med.umich.edu.

Meet Our Staff and Volunteers

Staff: Lisa Chasse, Shannon Etcheverry (Director), Patricia Hall, Jeanne Kero, Danni O’Brien, Elaine Reed, Randy Thackston, Kathi Tobey, Marianna Voica, Cara Yonovitz

Volunteers: Jasmine Chang, Tiffany Chen, Polly Connor, Vanessa Dinh, Dorothy Doss, Alice Fishman, Lori Fithian, Stephanie Francalancia, Sara Holmes, Ramakrishnan Krishnan, Jennifer Melinsky, Myrna Miller, Katie Munson, Bianca Nelson, Jacqui Roe, Tammy Salo, Natalie Schafer, Jennifer Steiner, Cathy Strachan, Randy Thackston, Gloria Van Alstine & Annie, Mariah, Rubina Veerakone, Mary Wisgerhof, Heidi Yeager

Advisory Council: Beverly Bagozzi, Julie DeLoria, Alice Fishman, Sara Holmes (Council Chair), Leslie Kamil, Jean Kelsey, Clare Kolevar, Myrna Miller, Jacqueline Roe, Cathy Strachan, Julie Young

Save the Dates!
Silver Club Members Art Exhibitions for September!

• Matthaei Botanical Gardens - Photo Exhibition: “As I See It” - Sept. 12
• NCRC - North Campus Research Center Gallery - Painted Collages: “Reinventing Matisse” - Sept. 12
• Silver Club - “20 Year Anniversary Art Retrospective” - Members art work through the years - Sept. 14

The exhibits will be displayed throughout September and October with special artist “Meet & Greet” sessions planned closer to September.
An Opportunity to Support Silver Club

The goal at Silver Club is to always accept families in need, even if they are experiencing financial difficulties. We use a sliding-fee scale so that each family pays what it can afford. The balance comes from grants and assistance from a wide array of supporters. We are so grateful to Silver Club families and friends for their generous support of our programs in whatever way they feel comfortable.

How You Can Help:
Be an ambassador – promote the Silver Club by referring families who are caring for a person with memory loss to our programs.
Volunteer – if you have time, there are many ways to help, including spending time with members during program hours, participating on Silver Club committees, or helping with special, time-focused projects.
Make a gift – the Silver Club relies significantly on public funding and contributions. “Gifts in kind” such as artwork, books and equipment make an immediate impact. The easiest way to make a monetary gift is through our online link: https://leadersandbest.umich.edu/find/#/give/basket/fund/367384.

For more information about giving, contact us at (734) 998-9352.