

PERFORMING
AT THE SHARON

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Johnny Mathis Serenades Enthusiastic Crowd Thursday at The Sharon

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THE VILLAGES

Chances are the audience enjoyed Johnny Mathis' ballad-filled concert Thursday night at the Sharon L. Morse Performing Arts Center.

Perry and Rosalie Vitale, of the Village of Caroline, certainly did.

"I think Johnny is better than ever," Rosalie said during intermission. "He sang all my favorites. He's just magnificent. Oh, the romance."

Backed by an orchestra, Mathis let his smooth voice bring to life songs from his storied career, including "Life Is a Song Worth Singing," "It's

Not for Me to Say," "Gina," "I'm on the Outside," "When I Fall in Love," and the Vitales' favorite, "Chances Are."

"We dance to that even now," Rosalie said.

Between sets, comedian Gary Mule Deer had the audience in stitches with his rapid-fire jokes. He sometimes told the jokes using the guitar's microphone.

Back in the 1950s, Perry had taken Rosalie to see Mathis at the Copacabana in New York after her senior prom.

"I ended up marrying her," Perry said.

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