

The Arlington Connection

ENTERTAINMENT, PAGE 5 ❖ CLASSIFIEDS, PAGE 6

PHOTO BY SHIRLEY RUHE/THE CONNECTION



Barry Barnett Keith stands beside the portrait of Ruth Bader Ginsberg, one of his favorite portraits in his show "Girl Power" that opened on Nov. 8 at the FOHTA Gallery on S. Monroe Street.

'Good People On Both Sides'

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Election Results

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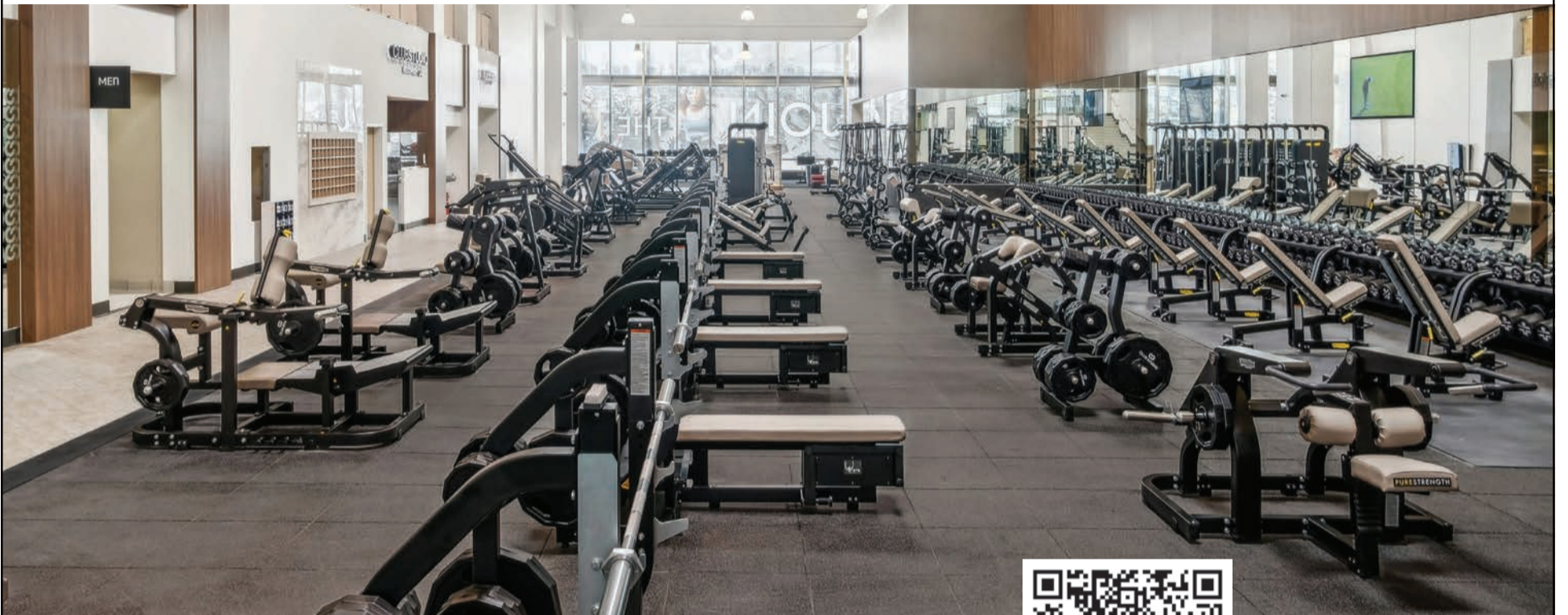
Girl Power

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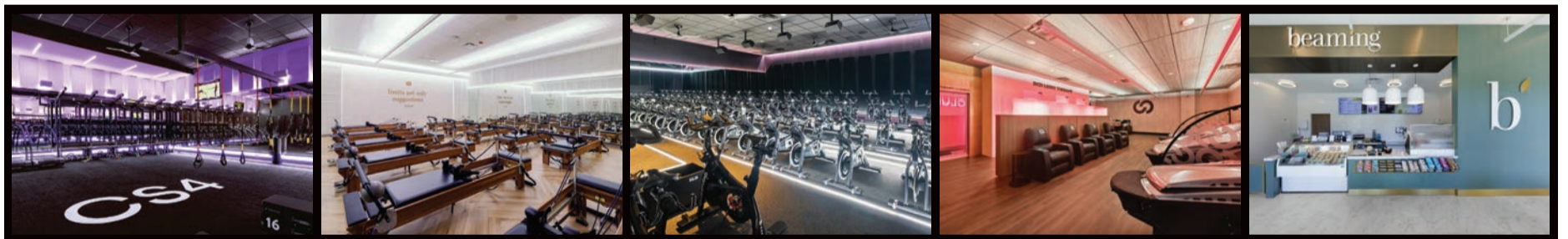


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'Good People on Both Sides' In and Around Arlington

Election 2024 was an emotional rollercoaster, not unlike 2016.

BY EDEN BROWN
ARLINGTON CONNECTION

Warren, an Arlington plumber for over 30 years, was smiling from ear to ear as he entered the house to fix the kitchen sink leak. Donald J. Trump had won the presidency again. "I left my safety vest in the car," he said, "Because, you know, I know you didn't need me to make you feel bad." I like Warren. He is a good plumber and a good person, and he has never been shy about voicing conservative views. He doesn't charge according to zip code. He gives me a perspective I don't get from other people. "Thanks," I said. "I appreciate that, but I'd kind of like to see you in it." He was wearing the safety vest because Trump had worn it when he rode on the garbage truck. It had become a symbol of how much Trump connected with the working class.

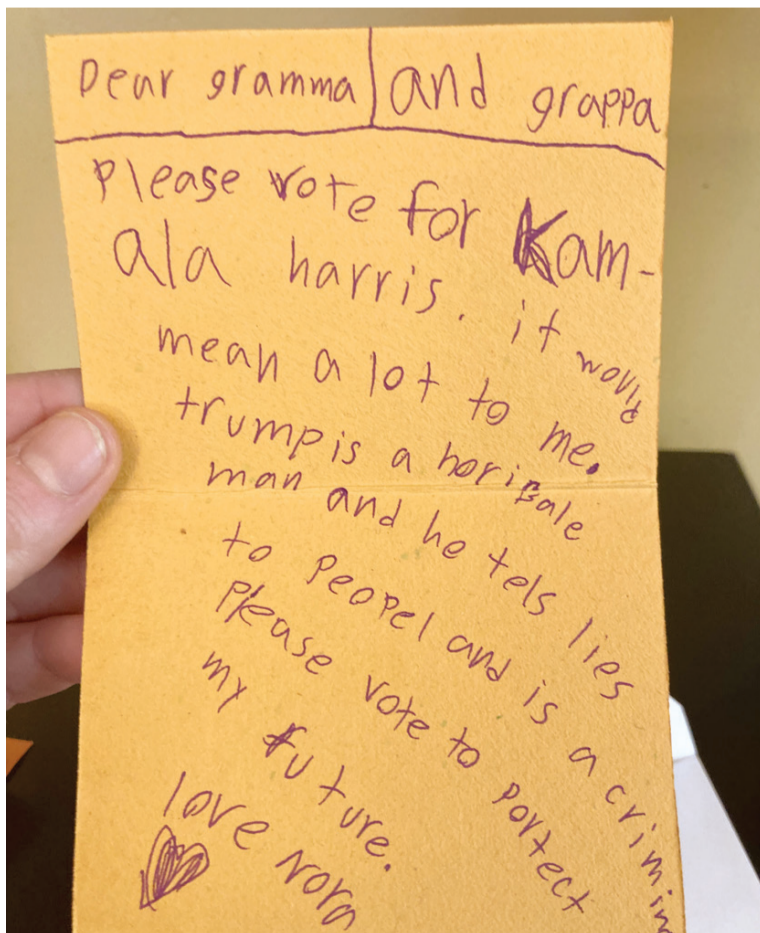
"Why did you vote for Trump?" I asked. "Well," he said, "The economy. He is better for the stock market! When Trump was president last time, my portfolio went up. Then Biden came in and it went down. Now it is going to go up again!"

Did your vote have anything to do with Harris being a woman? "No," he said, convincingly. "She was just stupid. She didn't know the difference between a man and a woman." He smiled and told a few jokes, none of them politically correct. Warren asked for the channel wrench. His mother raised five kids after his father died young. He had worked since he was out of high school. He has travelled all over the U.S. to see every major stadium and loves seeing different parts of the country. He was really shocked when he visited his cousin in Prairie du Chien, Wisconsin this summer, and learned about the rape of a woman by an illegal Venezuelan immigrant last year. "Prairie du Chien is a little slice of heaven along the Mississippi," he said. "We need to do something about all these gang criminals coming into the country and Trump will do it."



Warren, in his safety vest, on his way to fix the insinkerator.

PHOTOS BY EDEN BROWN



Nora's letter to her grandparents in Georgia.

Arlington County Election Results

UNOFFICIAL AS OF NOV 10, 8:46PM

County Board

ELECTION USES RANKED CHOICE VOTING. FOR COMPLETE RESULTS VISIT THE VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF ELECTIONS.

Candidate	Votes	Percent
Julius D. "JD" Spain, Sr.	62,772	58.21%
Juan Carlos Fierro	16,429	15.24%
Madison F. Granger	13,793	12.79%
Audrey R. Clement	13,588	12.60%
Write-In	1,253	1.16%

54 OF 54 PRECINCTS; 0 EARLY VOTES LEFT

School Board

TOP 2 FINISHERS

Candidate	Votes	Percent
Kathleen A. Clark	67,206	37.33%
Zuraya Tapia-Hadley	53,986	29.99%
Paul C. Weiss	30,664	17.03%
James Vell Rives IV	25,694	14.27%
Write-In	2,491	1.38%

54 OF 54 PRECINCTS; 0 EARLY VOTES LEFT

Metro & Transportation Bonds

	Votes	Percent
Yes	91,932	78.88%
No	24,618	21.12%

53 OF 54 PRECINCTS; 0 EARLY VOTES LEFT

Local Parks & Recreation Bonds

	Votes	Percent
Yes	90,574	77.86%
No	25,750	22.14%

53 OF 54 PRECINCTS; 0 EARLY VOTES LEFT

Community Infrastructure Bonds

	Votes	Percent
Yes	82,997	71.87%
No	32,486	28.13%

53 OF 54 PRECINCTS; 0 EARLY VOTES LEFT

Utility Bonds

	Votes	Percent
Yes	100,109	86.05%
No	16,224	13.95%

53 OF 54 PRECINCTS; 0 EARLY VOTES LEFT

Public School Bonds

	Votes	Percent
Yes	90,140	77.47%
No	26,208	22.53%

53 OF 54 PRECINCTS; 0 EARLY VOTES LEFT

SOURCE: VPAP.ORG

might be "mean." "Don't worry," said her grandmother, "No one will hurt you." Two minutes later they passed a house with huge signs saying FU*K BIDEN and FU*K HARRIS. Nora's eyes got big. "That's a bad word, Grandma," she said. "Should we go somewhere else?" "No," said her grandmother, "We aren't going to be knocking on that door, and that mean message is why we are asking people to vote." Many of the people she

Nora, age 9, wore her "Vote Like a Girl" T-shirt when she went to knock on doors to get out the vote in Bethlehem, Pennsylvania. She was concerned about running across anyone who supported former president Trump. They

SEE ELECTION 2024, PAGE 4

Election 2024 Was an Emotional Rollercoaster, Not Unlike 2016

FROM PAGE 3

met that afternoon told her they weren't going to vote for Harris because they didn't like going to the supermarket and having to choose between milk, bacon, and eggs because they could not afford all three. But some of them said they were Haitians, and didn't like being called dog and cat eaters. When she got home, she wrote to her grandparents in Georgia asking them to please vote for Harris.

Bettie, 88, couldn't get to the polls because she had a bad hip operation last year that left her unable to walk. She had voted by mail-in ballot. Her husband, Joseph, answered the door. "Me? I'm not registered. I can't vote because I can't see anymore and my wife can't help me fill out the ballot because she can't take me to vote." Did he want to vote? "No," I am 93 and I think I have voted enough. I don't think there is much to choose from this year. But my wife wanted to vote and we heard today her ballot was no good because she didn't date and sign the outside of it." "Would she like to fix it?" "Why yes, she would, but she can't leave the house; if someone could help we'd be most grateful." And two hours later, after a lot of driving and filling out forms, Bettie got to fix the outside of her ballot, and her vote was counted. "This is very nice of you," she told the ballot cure volunteer. You are going to a lot of trouble. Are you sure you want to do all this for me? "Yes," said the volunteer, "I want to make sure your vote is counted, no matter who it is for." Bettie nodded thanks. This could be her last election. Then she sat down to eat the dinner her grandson brings over for them every night.

Chris, a 30-ish flight attendant on United Airways from London to Washington said he was worried. He wanted Kamala Harris to win, badly. "Do you think she can pull it off?" he asked. When passengers told him she could, he smiled. "I am Puerto Rican," he said. "My family



Workers at a McDonalds restaurant on Route 95 South, at 10 pm, talking about how excited they were to see a woman become president of the United States and how they would stay up all night to find out the results.

is from New Jersey. We all voted for her because we aren't garbage."

Alex, a contractor working in Arlington, drives a small orange pickup truck and has a ready smile. He is about 35, originally from Central America. He didn't vote. He looked a little sheepish about it but said "There wasn't really a good choice." He didn't vote for the school board, county board, senate, or congress either? Nope, none of it. Doesn't he have children? Doesn't he care about schools? "My child is in private school," he said. "It's a Christian school, and the discipline is better there."

Nadia, who had not voted for Harris because she was punishing Biden/Harris for not doing more to stop the violence in Gaza, said she was upset about the election and would seek peace and pray, hoping for guidance at the mosque. "I

couldn't vote for Harris," she said. "And no one should blame us for not voting for Harris because they didn't see their family and friends being slaughtered; their social network feed wasn't showing them images of maimed and dead children and burn victims 24 hours a day for the past year. My conscience wouldn't allow a vote for Harris."

At the rest stop on 95 South, a young man paced around his car, smoking, looking distraught. It was 11:30pm on Election Day and it was looking like Harris had lost, but Pennsylvania and Michigan hadn't been called yet. "You okay?" I asked. "No," he said. "I'm gay and I'm Latino and I'm afraid for my future. I just got in my car and drove to try to reduce my anxiety."

In Arlington, once the blue wall states were called red, Democrats walked around in a daze for

US President Election Results

CURRENT AS OF NOV 11, 11:31AM

Candidate	Votes	Percent
Alexandria		
Harris	60,264	77.29%
Trump	15,359	19.70%
Stein	760	0.97%
Oliver	397	0.51%
West	201	0.26%
De la Cruz	166	0.21%

32 OF 32 PRECINCTS REPORTING; 0 EARLY VOTES OUTSTANDING

Arlington		
Harris	97,228	77.89%
Trump	23,925	19.17%
Stein	1,254	1.00%
Oliver	790	0.63%
West	251	0.20%
De la Cruz	227	0.18%

54 OF 54 PRECINCTS REPORTING; 0 EARLY VOTES OUTSTANDING

Fairfax County		
Harris	377,522	65.76%
Trump	176,158	30.69%
Stein	10,178	1.77%
Oliver	2,844	0.50%
West	1,246	0.22%
De la Cruz	1,151	0.20%

264 OF 264 PRECINCTS REPORTING; 0 EARLY VOTES OUTSTANDING

Fairfax City		
Harris	8,583	64.89%
Trump	4,188	31.66%
Stein	188	1.42%
Oliver	70	0.53%
De la Cruz	47	0.36%
West	28	0.21%

6 OF 6 PRECINCTS REPORTING; 0 EARLY VOTES OUTSTANDING

SOURCE: [HTTPS://WWW.VPAP.ORG/ELECTIONRESULTS/20241105/LOCAL/FAIRFAX-CITY-VA/](https://www.vpap.org/electionresults/20241105/LOCAL/FAIRFAX-CITY-VA/)

most of the week, dropped X accounts, and checked their federal retirement accounts. Republicans checked Bitcoin prices, celebrated appointments like Thomas Homan as 'Border Czar,' and kept their signs on the front lawn. There was finger pointing. Ezra Klein, Fareed Zakaria, Karan Thapur, George Conway, Tom Nichols and many others all had something to say about the shock wave that rippled through the U.S. on Nov. 5. Was the bottom line really that the price of groceries described the economy better than the positive jobs market and stock market highs? Or was Trump's slash and

burn politics just too cathartic for people who had suffered through a COVID pandemic, a Fentanyl epidemic, the high cost of housing, gender and racial tension?

There was a sense that businessmen and reality TV stars, not politicians, might have the answers.

I voted early. Unremarkable, except for the lump in my throat and tears in my eyes as I walked out of the building. Why? I wondered. It was the first time, in a half-century of voting, that I had been emotional. It was hope the majority of Americans would make a smart woman president after all ... and fear they wouldn't.

BULLETIN BOARD

Submit civic/community announcements at [ConnectionNewspapers.com/Calendar](https://www.connectionnewspapers.com/calendar). Photos and artwork welcome. Deadline is Thursday at noon, at least two weeks before the event.

DONATIONS NEEDED

Pet Food Bank. AWLA has established a Pet Food Bank to serve qualifying residents of Arlington County and the City of Falls Church. In consideration of the effect financial obstacles have on a pet owner's ability to afford pet care, the AWLA Pet Food Bank program's goal is to keep family pets out of shelters. If you are

an Arlington County or City of Falls Church resident and are in need of assistance in feeding your pet, follow this link and fill out a pre-registration form. Visit goo.gl/forms/s2FuFdaYWdZm4tPw2.

Donations Needed. Our Lady Queen of Peace Catholic Church, 2700 South 19th St., is seeking to replenish its food pantry. Particularly needed are rice (large bags appreciated, the

pantry will rebag), dry beans, canned vegetables, soup, small jars of peanut butter, small jars of jelly, pasta and pasta sauce. Donations are collected during Mass each Sunday. Visit www.ourladyqueenofpeace.org for more.

ONGOING

Create a Wildlife Sanctuary. The Audubon at Home Wildlife Sanctuary certification

program assists homeowners in restoring their home's natural habitat by providing information on sustainable gardening practices. These practices include using native plants, removing invasive species, reducing use of pesticides and fertilizers, and creating space for native flora and fauna. Visit audubonva.org/audubon-at-home-1/ for more.

ENTERTAINMENT



“A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum” can be seen Oct. 29 to Jan. 12, 2025 at Signature Theatre in Arlington.

CENTERS FOR OPPORTUNITY ARLINGTON

The Centers for Opportunity Arlington is a safe, stigma-free place to spend time for those recovering from homelessness, substance use, and mental illness. It has a donation closet that needs adult clothing and shoes. Some participants at the Center are looking for jobs and need the proper attire. Located at 3219 Columbia Pike, Suite 101, Arlington. Contact Greg, Program Coordinator at 703-567-1346.

VOLUNTEER FOR ARLINGTON'S COMMUNITY AMBASSADOR PROGRAM

Arlington Neighborhood Village, in partnership with Arlington County and Marymount University, has started the Community Ambassador Program (CAP). CAP is a volunteer fueled system that identifies “Ambassadors” connected with civic associations, faith communities, senior centers, apartment buildings, etc. These individuals will be trained to be a reliable source of information about the many opportunities available to older adults in Arlington.

Ambassadors will spread the word about programs and support services, opportunities for social and civic engagement, and educational and enrichment activities for older adults in their own neighborhoods. They are actively recruiting ambassadors to act as a bridge between their community and the Arlington safety net, providing information and soliciting feedback to improve offerings that help older adults remain safe, independent, engaged, and connected to their community. Contact cap@anvarlington.org if this is something you are interested in or want to learn more. Let's work together to create a supported and connected community for all ages!

Receive Support Services

Are you a senior in Arlington? Do you need support services but don't know where to look? Are you looking for fun and enriching activities in Arlington? Email or call 703-509-8057 and they will connect you with an Ambassador.

THURSDAYS THRU NOV. 21

Ballston Farmers Market, Thursdays from 3-7 p.m. At Welburn Square,

www.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

near Ballston Metro, Arlington. More than 20 vendors in Ballston – both fan-favorites and newcomers. This year also sees the return of the Mega Markets – sponsored this season by VIDA Fitness. Mega Markets feature the addition of live music from local musicians and a Beer and Wine Garden.

UNTIL JAN. 26, 2025

Assembly 2024: Horizon Scanning Exhibit.

At the Museum of Contemporary Art, Arlington. The exhibition is organized by MoCA Arlington Curator of Exhibitions Blair Murphy and guest curator Jared Packard. Launched in 2019, Assembly highlights current material and conceptual trends among contemporary artists. Since 2022, the exhibition has had a national focus, showcasing work by some of the country's rising stars and giving them a platform on the doorstep of the nation's capital. Assembly 2024: Horizon Scanning opens on the eve of the presidential election, four miles from the center of Washington, DC. In this time of multiple, overlapping, and seemingly perpetual crises, and with that proximity in mind, the exhibition brings together artists whose work can help us grapple with our tumultuous present by offering strategies to navigate and reimagine the future.

OCT. 29 TO JAN. 12

“A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum.”

At Signature Theatre, Shirlington, Arlington. It's a comedy night in Sondheim's zany, hysterical, Tony Award-winning musical romp. In one of the greatest musical comedies of all time, three households reside next to each other in ancient Rome. Just outside their doors, the exploits of a quick-thinking Roman slave, a braggart soldier, a beautiful courtesan, a lovesick young man and others devolve into uproarious chaos in a fast-paced, witty and monumental escapade. With mistaken identities, wily ruses, madcap chases, a love story, and a happy ending of course, “A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum's” audacious and irreverent spectacle has something for everyone.

SEE ENTERTAINMENT, PAGE 7

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An independent, locally owned weekly newspaper delivered to homes and businesses.

**Published by
Local Media Connection LLC**

**1606 King Street
Alexandria, Virginia 22314**

Free digital edition delivered to your email box. Go to connectionnewspapers.com/subscribe

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Award Winning Newspaper

FROM PAGE 5

NOV. 8-24

“Disney’s The Lion King Jr.” At Thomas Jefferson Community Theatre, 125 S. Old Glebe Road, Arlington. Presented by Encore Studio. Dates: Friday, November 8, 2024 at 7 p.m.; Saturdays, Nov. 9, 16 and 23, 2024 at 11 a.m. and 3 p.m.; Sundays, November 10, 17 and 24 at 3 p.m. The young and carefree lion cub Simba faces serious consequences that force him to flee his kingdom of the Pride Lands, leaving his cruel uncle Scar to rule in his place. With the help of his new friends Timon and Pumbaa, Simba learns the joys of “Hakuna Matata,” or “no worries,” until his past catches up with him. Will responsibility and honor win out? Discover the answer for yourself as you sing along to the classic songs of Elton John and Tim Rice, including “I Just Can’t Wait to Be King” and “Can You Feel the Love Tonight.” We recommend this production for ages 4 and older.

Preshow Experiences: Join Encore for Simba’s Scavenger Hunt—where every step brings you closer to the magic of the pride lands! Enjoy this fun family-friendly activity with roaring challenges and fun surprises as you interact with the cast before the show! Ticket Add-On to the Saturday, November 16, 3 p.m. Performance, Event begins at 2 p.m. Get ready for a wild and wiggly treat in Timon & Pumbaa’s Pudding Party! Join them for a delightful “Build Your Own Treat” experience. Treat yourself and create your pudding parfait “grub” just the way you like it—layer it high with all the “slimey, yet satisfying” gummy bugs! Ticket Add-On to the Saturday, November 23, 3 p.m. Performance, Event begins at 2 p.m. Visit www.encorestage.org to purchase tickets online or call (703) 548-1154. For additional questions, email boxoffice@encorestage.org.



“Disney’s The Lion King Jr.” will be featured Nov. 8-24, 2024 At Thomas Jefferson Community Theatre in Arlington.



Yasmin Elhady

Jeremy Mclellan

Omar Regan

Sabeen Saddiq

Preacher Moss



The Human Appeal USA’s Comedy Takeover Tour takes place on Saturday, Nov. 23, 2024 at Cooperative Plaza Conference Center in Arlington.

to National Landing, this event is a fantastic way to give back, connect with neighbors, and be part of the transformation happening in our community. Volunteers will receive trash grabbers, buckets, gloves, and safety

vests (available on a first-come, first-served basis). You’ll have the chance to explore our neighborhood along the 23rd Street corridor and nearby areas while picking up litter and beautifying our public spaces.

FRIDAY/NOV. 15

Stormwater Management Case Studies.

10-11:30 a.m. Online. Tired of parts of your yard flooding when it rains? Have you ever wondered what you can do to control stormwater on your property? Maybe you experience property damage from excessive water runoff, live in a community that floods frequently, or care about the health of local streams. Join Extension Master Gardeners Cindy Robertson and Kathryn Kellam, who will share helpful advice and lessons learned in managing and capturing stormwater in their Northern Virginia yards. Free. RSVP at <https://mgvnv.org/rsvp-for-public-education-classes/> to receive a link to participate.

SATURDAY/NOV. 16

National Landing Community Cleanup.

10 a.m. to 12 p.m. Meet at Crystal City Metro, 1750 S Clark Street, Arlington. Join in the National Landing Community Cleanup and help keep our neighborhood looking its best. Whether you’re a long-time resident or new

Donations and Help Needed for Knights of Columbus Thanksgiving Day Dinner for the Needy

As we approach the Thanksgiving holiday, let us reflect on all of the blessings which God has given us and how we might share those blessings with others in our community. This year Arl2473 will once again be serving the greater Arlington community and its surrounding areas.

How Can You Help?

Donate your time: As always, we need help preparing, delivering and serving Thanksgiving meals between 8 a.m. and 1 p.m. on Thanksgiving Day. please con-

tact us at kates9er@gmail.com or call Kate McMorrow at 571-358-5728

Donate money: We always need money to purchase some of the food and supplies for this event. If you wish to make a donation, complete the secure donation form; toward the bottom, choose a donation amount and then select “Thanksgiving Meals” under “preferred charity”.

Thom Galvin (the Brother with the white beard) and Richard Duff (Brother in green shirt)



“Cheese and Crackers”



By KENNETH B. LOURIE

I remember it like it was a few weeks ago rather than the three-plus decades it has been. It was the moment when I understood – for the first time, a phrase my father had been saying for years. We were driving east on Rt. 9 from Framingham, Ma. on the way to Rt. 128 (the beltway of Boston sort of) as I was joining him on a business trip to Newport R.I. I was sitting in the passenger seat of my father’s Buick Grand Marquis, we were just talking when in response to something (I can’t remember that), he said it: “Cheese and crackers.” Immediately I looked at him and said: “Is that what you’ve been saying all these years? Cheese and crackers? I thought you were saying Jesus Christ. I started laughing. I must have heard him utter this exclamation a thousand times. Yet, on this day, I heard it differently, you might say. (Say it fast, with a partial stutter, like my father always did and it might sound the same to you. It sure did to me – for years.) Add to the fact that my father regularly made-up words that were not in any dictionary (“surgerize,” and “conflition” come to mind) and half the time you weren’t sure what the heck he was saying. On this day, while riding in the car, I understood – for once.

Rarely would Richard or I accompany my father on his driving trips to visit clients and prospects throughout New England. Aside from the fact that we were both living in Washington, D.C, these trips home to Ma. were timed to occur during his business trips (he sold jewelry/was a manufacturer’s representative) when he would be away from home for two-to-three nights. We came home while my father was away to keep mother company so she wouldn’t be alone. Having suffered irreparable nerve damage in both ears years before, my mother (I was going to say “she, again” but I can still hear my father admonishing us: “Don’t call your mother ‘she’) was hearing impaired. As you might imagine, being home by herself was a bit scary for my mother. As an example, how could she call for help and engage in a conversation over the phone or even hear a fire alarm. Certainly, she could speak but she wouldn’t be able to answer any questions and provide the kinds of answers that might ultimately save her life.

But this trip home was for my father’s benefit. He was nearing aged 70 – when he was planning to retire. Yet five days a week, he drove all over New England selling jewelry. Most days he would drive hours in the morning, hours between appointments, and more hours in the evening on the way home. He never complained. He loved what he did. After owning a jewelry store in downtown Boston (“Barry’s Jewelers”) for over 20 years, this outside sales alternative/lack of overhead was perfect for him. Nevertheless, my mother always worried because “(A) she was a worrier and (B) my father wasn’t getting any younger and she could see the toll it was taking on him. And when he told the story about driving on Rt. 9 and somehow ending up on the crossroad below, asleep at the wheel, not remembering even taking the exit, we all worried some more. My father’s business was all about driving. There was no plan (B). He was the sole source of income and needed to make money so my parents could retire to Fl. This drive to Newport was in pursuit of that family goal. Since the trip there was up and back in the same day, I went along and then drove home the multiple hours back home in the late afternoon so my father wouldn’t have to. My brother made similarly timed visits. It was a win-win. We got to spend time alone with our father and it helped our parents manage their lives/reach their financial goal while approaching their retirement. And the lobster roll we’d have for lunch in Newport was just a side benefit. I can still see my father taking his first bite.

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Barry Keith Show Opens at Arlington Gallery

BY SHIRLEY RUHE
ARLINGTON CONNECTION

The opening reception for Barry Barnett Keith's solo show "Girl Power" was buzzing with activity on Friday, Nov. 8 at FOHTA (From One Hand to Another) Gallery. Long time supporters mingled with a few of Keith's art students as well as the Arlington Arts Community.

Marsha Semmel says she was on the Arlington Arts Commission with Felecia McFail, who owns the gallery. "She sat next to me, and we formed a bond," Semmel says. "It takes guts to open a gallery after a first career. She is a very determined person and has steadily built this gallery to feature new local artists."

Keith has spent about a year on tonight's show which is a collection of paintings, drawings, and comic book art that pay homage to the beauty and strength of women. "I love comic book art, and every show I do I try to put in some comic book character. This one called 'Hawk Girl' is done with a big pen and colored pencils. It took me about three weeks working on it every day. It has a lot of detail." The show includes Catwoman, Ruth Bader Ginsberg, students in his classes and superheroes as well as the portrait of his wife, which she says always seems to show up at his shows.

A long time friend wrestles with a large landscape he has just purchased. "I'm going to put it on a wall but I don't know where. My walls are already covered with Barry's paintings."

Keith gets his ideas from a lot of different places. "I saw a movie about Ruth Bader Ginsberg and then it inspired me to do her portrait. "I put it on a bill because they were

talking at the time about finding new faces for our currency."

A striking woman's portrait is getting a lot of attention. "I met Elizabeth at the Earth Day Festival on Langston Boulevard last year. She was there with her kids, and she was so noticeable that I asked her if I could paint her."

Therese Marie Stripling gazes at a portrait of herself. "It was a complete surprise. My husband had it done, I guess from a photo, and I saw it for the first time tonight." Stripling says she goes to as many of Keith's exhibits as she can. "His work is topnotch. You can tell the essence; you can feel the person."

A portrait of two of Keith's students hangs on the wall. "They just left." But Daniel Fisher and his younger sister Dashiell, also both students for several years, are there and excited to talk about their own experiences as students of Keith.

McFail says she opened the gallery downstairs in her home, first displaying her own art work which is freelance calligraphy. "Over time I've invited other artists who have such a hard time finding space. I've had over 25 people including photographers, quilters, jewelers and crafters as well as holding a wine tasting and book signings in the gallery." McFail's first career was a postal clerk but when she retired sixteen years ago, she pursued her dream of opening a gallery for community artists. Last year she says she had five shows in the gallery.

Keith has had a number of local shows in Arlington but is headed to Baltimore next year. He says he hasn't settled yet on the next topic for his show. "Girl Power" will be shown at FOHTA Gallery at 2206 S. Monroe Street from Nov. 8-Jan. 4, 2025.



Barry Barnett Keith stands beside the portrait of Ruth Bader Ginsberg, one of his favorite portraits in his show "Girl Power" that opened on Nov. 8 at the FOHTA Gallery on S. Monroe Street.

PHOTOS BY SHIRLEY RUHE/THE CONNECTION



Supporters, students and the Arlington arts community gather at the opening of "Girl Power" on Nov. 8.



Felecia McFail opened her gallery in her home in 2007 as a place for local artists to find exhibit space.



Therese Marie Stripling with a portrait of herself which was a surprise her husband had commissioned from a photograph.



Daniel Fisher and his younger sister Dashiell, two art students of Barry Barnett Keith, are happy to be included in the opening night reception of "Girl Power."