

**WELCOME, NEW ROTARIAN**

**BRIAN MARTIN**  
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Look for his bio in an upcoming issue of *The 5th Page*.



**NEW MEMBER PROPOSAL**

The following individual has been proposed for membership in Rotary:

**Cindy Sparks**  
Classification: Service Industry, Additive Manufacturing  
Sponsor: Jenny Schnurr

Objections should be made in writing within seven (7) days to The Board of Directors, Rotary Club of Lexington, 401 W. Main Street, Suite 305, Lexington, KY 40507. Objections are kept in strict confidence.



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**THE FOUR-WAY TEST**  
Of the things we think, say or do...

1. Is it the TRUTH?  
2. Is it FAIR to all concerned?  
3. Will it build GOODWILL and BETTER FRIENDSHIPS?  
4. Will it be BENEFICIAL to all concerned?

UPCOMING PROGRAMS		UPCOMING EVENTS/VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES	
Oct 3	Matthew Mitchell, Winning Tools: 3 Leadership Principals that Build Purpose, Respect, and Success	Sep 27	Early Morning Mixer, 46Solutions, Lexington Green, 8-9:30am, free
Oct 10	Adam Edelen, CEO & Founder, Edelen Renewables	Sep 28	Tails & Tail-gate for Town Branch, POSTPONED TO NOV. 2nd
Oct 17	No Lunch Meeting, Service Week, Doing Rotary Differently	Oct 16	Membership Recruitment, Broke Spoke, W. 6th St., 5-6:30pm
Oct 24	Nick Mingione, Head Baseball Coach, University of Kentucky	Oct 17	Back Pack Pack-Up, God's Pantry Food Bank Winchester Rd, 1:00pm
Nov 7	Dr. Ryan Quarles and Dr. Greg Feeney, KCTCS and BCTC	Oct 17	Spin to Win the Fight Against Polio, CycleYOU, 6:30pm
Nov 14	David Lyons, Murder Podcast	Oct 23	Keeneland, Lexington Room, \$100, 11:00-6:00pm
		Oct 25	Early Morning Mixer, 46Solutions, Lexington Green, 8-9:30am, free
		Oct 31	Thursday, Happy Hour at Lost Palm, The Manchester Hotel, Distillery District, 5-6:30pm

**RIDE TO END POLIO NOW**

Do you at times wonder why we are still talking about polio and the PolioPlus campaign? Sure, we hear about the occasional case from Pakistan or Afghanistan, but aren't we ready to move on? Not so fast. As reported by the AP earlier this month: "Gaza recently reported its first polio case in 25 years – a 10-month old boy, now paralyzed in a leg. The World Health Organization says the presence of a paralysis case indicates there could be hundreds who have been infected but aren't showing symptoms."

So, vaccinations continue and Rotary is still needed in this fight. Looking for a way to help? Consider the following:

**Ride to END POLIO NOW**  
**Spin to Win the Fight Against Polio**  
October 17 – 6:30pm at CycleYOU  
**Be a Rider/Support a Rider**  
Funds go to  
The Rotary Foundation  
Receive Paul Harris Fellow credit for your donations!  
<https://raise.rotary.org/LexingtonRotary/challenge267>



# The ROTARY Club of Lexington

## WHEEL HORSE

September 26, 2024  
— TODAY'S PROGRAM —

Presiding: President Bret Anderson	Speaker: Allison Lankford, Executive Director, Gatton Park on the Town Branch
Inspiration, Pledge, & 4 Way Test: Cheyenne McBride	Program: Update on Gatton Park
Introduction of Guests: Michele Ripley	<b>Location: The Mane on Main</b>
Introduction of Speaker: Sharon Reed	

See Peggy's weekly club email for meeting details: ordering lunch and how to view the meeting live online via Zoom or view a recording of the meeting later.

**MEET OUR SPEAKER**



**ALLISON LANKFORD**  
The Rotary Club of Lexington is pleased to welcome back to the podium Allison Lankford, Executive Director of Gatton Park on the Town Branch, formerly known as Town Branch Park. The focus of Allison's presentation will be to update us on the status of this historic, donor-supported project that promises to change Lexington's downtown in a way not imaginable just a few years ago.

The Board of Town Branch Fund is a committed group of civic leaders and philanthropists who joined together to advance the vision of Gatton Park on the Town Branch. Together, the Board and staff are securing financial support, as well as working with public space experts

and community members to develop the design, programming plan and governance structure to transform the Manchester Parking Lot behind Rupp Arena into an inclusive, dynamic, and uncommonly beautiful green space that reflects the spirit of Lexington. Currently held at Blue Grass Community Foundation (BGCF), Town Branch Fund will evolve into a standalone nonprofit to operate the park. Gatton Park on the Town Branch will provide a crucial link between Town Branch Trail (existing and new downtown portion) and the Legacy Trail, knitting together the urban core and truly bringing a piece of Lexington's iconic countryside to its city center. In addition to raising the money necessary to build the Park, the Fund is responsible for the design, programming plan, revenue model, and governance structure for the park.

Prior to taking on her current role, Allison led BGCF's advancement efforts for over a decade, serving as Sr. Vice-President and General Counsel.

That followed stints as an attorney at the Lexington firm of McBrayer, McGinnis, Leslie & Kirkland and Wyatt, Tarrant & Combs in Louisville. A graduate of Furman University in Greenville, South Carolina with a degree in Sociology and Political Science, she received her law degree at the University of Kentucky School of Law.

Allison's presentation is of special significance to our Club, given our own investment in the project, evidenced by our commitment to fund the nature plantings in the Children's Adventure Playground to the tune of \$100,000, payable over a five-year period.

Please give a warm Rotary welcome to Allison!





The Rotary Club of Lexington  
401 W. Main, Ste. 305  
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Phone: 389-8100

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**WHEEL HORSE CONTRIBUTORS**  
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Set up & printing by Lynn Imaging  
Editorial Standards: *Chicago Manual of Style*, 17th ed.

**POSTPONED: “FUN(D)” RAISER TO SUPPORT ROTARY’S TOWN BRANCH PROJECT**

The previously announced second annual Town Branch Tail Gate Fundraiser scheduled for this weekend (Ole Miss) has been postponed. Our new date will be November 2nd.

**ROTARY FIRSTS**

While cleaning out her office recently, Rotarian Susan Adams came across a Wheel Horse she was given as a new member back in 1994. It contained the following, with attribution to *The Pulse*, Sacramento, California Rotary:

- Rotary became bilingual in 1916 when the first club was organized in a non-English speaking country: Havana, Cuba.
- Rotary first adopted the name “Rotary International” in 1922 when the name was changed from the International Association of Rotary Clubs.
- The Rotary Club which first held meetings on a weekly basis was Oakland, California, the Number 3 Club.
- The first Rotary Club banner (from the Houston Space Center) to orbit the earth was carried by Frank Borman, a member of that club.
- The first Rotary International Convention held outside the U.S. was in Edinburgh, Scotland in 1921

Thanks, Susan, for sharing this blast from the past!

**CONGRATULATIONS TO 6740 RLI GRADUATE GARY McCORMICK**

On September 14, Lexington Rotarian Gary McCormick joined the 2024 fall Rotary Leadership Institute graduating class, in recognition of his completing almost eighteen hours of training during three RLI events. Joining him for the day as RLI participants were new Rotary Club of Lexington (RCOL) members Sarah Diener, Kimberly Hammond, Brian Martin, and Don Tharpe and tenured club members Eileen O’Brien and Shawn Lyons.

Special thanks to RCOL club members Susie Basham, Jack McAllister, Bill Wilson, Laurel Martin, Barry Stumbo, Jenny Schnurr, Augusta Julian, and Dean Hammond, who facilitated the courses presented on the 14th and to Dean, Jack, Martha Riddell, and Judy Worth, who served as the Planning Committee for the event. The next RLI event will be held in late January/early February, pending, of course, on the publication of the UK basketball schedule for 2025.



Former District Governor Dean Hammond presents Gary McCormick with his RLI graduation certificate.

Rotary in Review

WORKING TO MAKE KENTUCKY’S WORKFORCE STRONGER

Last week’s speaker was LaKisha Miller, Executive Director of the Kentucky Chamber Foundation Workforce Center. The session was moderated by Workforce Center Chair and fellow Rotarian, Amanda Huddleston. The Workforce Center was established in 2017 to empower Kentucky’s workforce and lead the way in talent development. Miller said that workforce development is a top priority for the state. The Workforce Center was established by former Chamber President Dave Adkisson and it was the first center of its kind in the country.

She said the good news is that Kentucky has rebounded from COVID-19 with two million jobs created since the end of the pandemic. However, it is still hard to find quality talent. Workforce participation is measured by those who are sixteen or older who are not institutionalized or in the military and who are actively looking for work. Miller said that Kentucky has struggled the past twenty years in this area, with participation hovering at 57 percent; the national average is 62 percent. During that time the state’s population has grown by 2 percent while some neighboring states have grown by 18 percent. The Workforce Center’s focus is twofold: reducing barriers to employment by those

who have been incarcerated or convicted of drug-related offenses and attracting more talent to the state.

Miller talked about several programs that assist employers in increasing the talent pipeline. The Employer Academy is a three-day program that focuses on recruiting and retaining recovering addicts. The how-to-do-it program has been presented to 100 employers and collectively they have hired 500 recovering addicts or formerly incarcerated individuals. She also mentioned the Fair Chance Academies that are being developed to assist in hiring veterans and immigrants. Ninety-seven percent of the businesses in the state are classified as small businesses and the academies help leverage education among small business owners.

Miller said that strategic partnerships are critical. The Talent Pipeline Management program is the first public/private partnership involving the National Chamber of Commerce, the Kentucky Education and Labor Cabinet, SHRM-CP, Goodwill Industries, and the Kentucky Hospital Association. She emphasized that it is critical for businesses to connect with the local and state Chamber, community and technical colleges, and local school districts. For example,

the Bus to Business program provides transportation for school students to visit local businesses to learn more about career and trade opportunities. The Educators to Industry program is a partnership between business and industry and teachers to inform them about career opportunities that do not necessarily require a college degree. Currently, the program focuses on the construction and distilling industries, with the logistics, aviation, and health care industries soon to be added. The real purpose is to educate the educators about the myriad job opportunities available.

Miller concluded her remarks by touching on artificial intelligence (AI) and its impact on the workforce and businesses. She said it is here to stay and it is rapidly changing the skill sets that will be needed in the future. Her focus is to help businesses to understand AI better and to remain competitive. More conversations are needed with business leaders about critical workforce challenges (besides AI) that include, among other topics, transportation and child care issues. The Kentucky Chamber Foundation Workforce Center is working to make Kentucky’s workforce stronger.

– Paul B. Chewning

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