

3 THINGS YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT THE
NEXT D6740 ROTARY LEADERSHIP INSTITUTE (RLI)*

1. IT'S COMING SOON

The next District 6740 RLI will be held on Saturday, October 11. Check in is at 9:30 AM. The Institute will begin at 9:45 AM and conclude at 4:30 PM.

2. IT'S IN PERSON (AT OUR NEW LOCATION!)

The event will be held at the Science Education Center, Bluegrass Community & Technical College, 500 Newtown Pike, Lexington.

3. IT'S FREE

DG Greg Palmer and our District Leadership have agreed to pay the registration fees for ALL D6740 members attending Parts I, II, or III. (Rotarians from other Districts are welcome to attend. However, they will be charged a registration fee of \$60 plus a minimal processing fee for credit card purchases.)

Online registration is now OPEN:

- Register online with your DACdb log in at:
<https://www.dacdb.com/SecLogin3.cfm?EventID=77865146>
- If you don't have (or know) your DACdb log in, go to <https://rlihoa.org> and select:

Future RLI Events (from the DACdb Calendar)
RLI Parts I, II and III, In-Person - District 6740 October 11th 2025 at 9:45 am More info

At the bottom of the screen, choose either [RLI Guest Registration](#) or [Request ezLink Registration Link](#).

*For more information, contact D6740 RLI Co-coordinator Judy Worth at jkworth@icloud.com or (859)494-9889.

NEW MEMBER PROPOSAL

The following individual has been proposed for membership in Rotary:

Kristie Woodrum

Classification: Associations & Organizations

Sponsor: Crystal Newton

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.

POLLINATOR GARDEN

Rotarians Wanda Bertram, Virginia Carter, Jeff Thompson, Jack McAllister, Harry Richart, Larry Cowgill, Bill Wilson, Gerry van der Meer, and Judy Worth (not pictured) rolled up their sleeves and got their hands dirty at the Rotary Rainwater/Pollinator Garden at Kenawood Park.



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UPCOMING PROGRAMS

UPCOMING EVENTS

Sep 18	Doing Rotary Differently, No Lunch Meeting	Sep 12	Lexington Sporting Club Match, Soccer Stadium, Shives Drive, 6 pm, \$10
Sep 25	TBA	Sep 13	RESCHEDULED Toyota Bluegrass Miracle League, Opening Day, Shillito Park, 10- 2:00pm
Oct 2	Kenny Brooks, Head Coach, Women's Basketball, University of Kentucky	Sep 22	Backpack Pack-Up, God's Pantry Food Bank, Winchester Rd., 1-2:30pm
Oct 9	Mayor Linda Gordon, Lexington Fayette County Urban Government	Sep 26	Early Morning Mixer, 46Solutions, Lexington Green, 8-9:30am
Oct 16	Doing Rotary Differently, No Lunch Meeting	Oct 5	Walk to End Alzheimer's Disease, Alltech Arena, KY Horse Park, 2:30pm
Oct 23	Bob Quick, President, Commerce Lexington and Ashli Watts, President, Kentucky Chamber of Commerce	Oct 8	Keeneland Outing, Lexington Room, Tickets \$125
		Oct 11	Rotary Leadership Institute, Bluegrass Community and Technical College, Newtown Pike, Free
		Oct 16	Ride for Polio, CycleYou, 6:30pm
		Oct 30	Spooky Trivia, Details Coming Soon!
		Nov 15	Pickle & Pints, Club Pickleball Tournament Fundraiser
		Nov 20	Field Trip, Blue Grass Stockyards, Lunch and Tour, Iron Works Pike, 11:30-1:00

The ROTARY Club of Lexington
WHEEL HORSE

September 11, 2025
— TODAY'S PROGRAM —

Presiding: President Jamie Schrader
Inspiration, Pledge, & 4 Way Test: Cheyenne McBride
Introduction of Guests: Rod Hartzler
Introduction of Speaker: Michele Ripley

Speaker: Renee Shaw
Program: Making it Matter: Local Media's Role in Civic Understanding
Location: The Mane on Main

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MEET OUR SPEAKER



RENEE SHAW

Today's speaker, Renee Shaw, is the Director of Public Affairs and Moderator at KET, currently serving as host of KET's weeknight public affairs program *Kentucky Edition*, the signature public policy discussion series *Kentucky Tonight*, and statewide election specials. Through the years, she has also been the force behind legislative and Kentucky Supreme Court coverage, the weekly interview series *Connections*, townhall-style forums, and multi-platform initiatives around critical issues facing Kentuckians.

As an award-winning journalist, Renee has earned three regional Emmy awards from the Ohio Valley Chapter of the National Academy of Television Arts and Sciences. And in 2023 the academy inducted Renee into the Silver Circle

Society, one of its highest honors that recognizes television professionals who have performed distinguished service for 25 years or more. She earned a national media award from Mental Health America for her decades-long focus on the issues of mental health and opioid addiction, and the Green Dot Award for her coverage of domestic violence, sexual assault and human trafficking. She has been honored by various state agencies for her work on criminal justice reform and socio-economic issues, and by the Kentucky Press Association for excellence in public affairs programming.

Recognizing her collective body of work, Renee was inducted into the Kentucky Journalism Hall of Fame in 2025, which called her "Kentucky's leading TV news journalist." A proud graduate of Western Kentucky University, she was inducted into its Hall of Distinguished Alumni in 2023. Previously, she was named to the Kentucky Civil Rights Hall of Fame.

Among her numerous honors from education and civic organizations are Women Leading Kentucky's Governor Martha Layne Collins Leadership Award, the state media award from the Kentucky Society of the Daughters of

the American Revolution, recognition as a "Kentucky Trailblazer" by the UK Martin School of Public Policy and Administration, Berea College's Service Award, the Coretta Scott King Spirit of Ivy Award by Alpha Kappa Alpha, one of *The Kentucky Gazette's* inaugural "50 Most Notable Women in Kentucky Politics," and the Community Action Council's "Unapologetic Woman of the Year."

Renee is a 2007 graduate of Leadership Kentucky, a CASA of Lexington board member and longtime member of the Frankfort/Lexington Chapter of The Links, an international organization of women of color committed to volunteer service. She has served on the boards of the Kentucky Historical Society and the Lexington Minority Business Expo.

From rural Tennessee, Renee was an only child in a household where public broadcasting was part of not just the daily routine, but of her early education. "Mister Rogers and Sesame Street and Electric Company, those were my early teachers. My mother and I would watch and rehearse the alphabet. But I also learned about diversity and appreciating differences." It was this early exposure to public broadcasting and educational

SPEAKER, 2

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FROM PAGE 1

SPEAKER

television that led her to pursue that as a career. Renee has worked at KET since 1997. KET is Kentucky’s largest classroom, town hall, performance stage, history and science center, nature preserve, tour guide and more, providing trusted programming, lifelong learning opportunities and essential services used by more than two million people each week.

SAVE THE DATE: PICKLE ‘N PINTS — SATURDAY, NOV. 15 AT PKL LEX

Ready, set... dink! Our brand-new fundraiser, Pickle ‘N Pints, hits Saturday, November 15 at PKL LEX, the city’s newest pickleball hotspot. Picture rally-after-rally energy, music, and a crowd that’s there to play hard and cheer harder. With at least six courts going at once, it’s wall-to-wall action and a full-on party vibe.

We’re running two tournaments so everyone can swing at their level: Beginners at 4:00 PM, Advanced at 6:00 PM. Entry is \$50 per person (doubles teams) and every participant gets a pint glass plus a beverage token—thanks to our friends at Country Boy Brewing. We’ll also crown a King and Queen of the Court—bring your A-game and your loudest fans.

Not playing? Come anyway! Friends, family, prospects, and partners are all invited to watch, mingle, and make some noise for their favorites. Between matches, test your swing in the Golf Simulator “Closest to the Pin” contest and see if your short game is as sharp as your third shot drop.

We’re seeking event sponsors to help us make a big community splash: Bronze \$1,000 • Silver \$2,000 • Gold \$3,000. Your sponsorship funds Rotary service projects and puts your brand in front of an engaged local crowd all evening.

Mark your calendar and recruit your doubles partner now! Player spots will go fast! Registration and full details are coming soon—watch your email. Whether you’re competing, cheering, or raising a pint with friends, Pickle ‘N Pints is set to be a fun, fast, and friendly night that fuels Rotary’s work across Lexington and beyond. See you court-side—bring the energy.

We’re looking for committee members to make this inaugural fundraiser a success! Join us after today’s lunch for a short committee meeting if you’re interested in helping! For more details, reach out to Susie Basham at 859.533.3776 or susie@theagencyky.com.

Rotary in Review

LEXINGTON PHILHARMONIC ENRICHING CENTRAL KENTUCKY

Last week’s speakers were Mélisse Brunet, Music Director and Conductor, and Brooke Raby, Executive Director, representing the Lexington Philharmonic (LexPhil). Now in its 64th year, LexPhil provides eight large scale performances and 150 educational programs annually that reach over 20,000 people. Founded in 1961 as the Lexington Philharmonic Society, it began as a volunteer orchestra of about sixty-five musicians, playing three concerts at the “old” Henry Clay High School on Main Street. LexPhil is now a fully professional orchestra with forty-eight core musicians and hundreds of other performers who are hired as needed. Speaking first, Raby said the mission of the Lexington Philharmonic is to enrich the lives of central Kentuckians through the core values of innovation, collaboration, access and, artistic excellence. She observed that LexPhil has been the fortunate beneficiary of regional, national and international grants that further enrich the scope and quality of music provided to the community and supplement financial support from ticket sales and local contributors and sponsors.

Next up was Maestra Brunet, now in her fourth year as LexPhil’s Music Director and Conductor. Mélisse will have the honor of conducting the American Conductors Orchestra at Carnegie Hall in New York City on October 29 in a performance featuring new music. She provided a brief review of the 2025-26 LexPhil season. On September 7, the Concert for Lexington at the Singletary Center for the Arts, will feature both classical and popular music to help celebrate Lexington’s 250th year. This free event features performers who are “local”, either being from or now based in Lexington. A second performance is scheduled for September 20 with Symphony Stroll, an immersive evening of music, art, and nature at the Josephine Sculpture Park in Frankfort. Brunet remarked that food and beer trucks will be available that evening, and she encouraged Rotarians to bring their dogs to the performance.

The Witching Hour, on October 11, kicks off LexPhil’s formal season. This will be a Halloween-themed concert featuring Berlioz’s *Symphonie Fantastique*. Heartsong, featuring Rachmaninoff’s Symphony No. 2 will be on November 22 at the Singletary Center. December 12 and 13 bring Cathedral Christmas, two holiday performances featuring the Lexington Singers at the Cathedral of Christ the King. Twist & Shout, a pops concert featuring Beatles music, will be on January 23 at the Singletary Center. The Lexington Singers will again be featured on February 21 with Jubilee & Joy, a tribute to Beethoven and his famous Ninth Symphony. The season concludes with American Stories, celebrating the 250th anniversary of the founding of the United States of America. Also at the Singletary Center, Aaron Copeland’s *Lincoln Portrait* will be performed with Poet Laureate Silas House narrating.

Brunet concluded the program discussing *Maestra 2023*, a documentary film which follows fourteen female conductors - including Mélisse – competing in Paris for top honors in the prestigious La Maestra competition. Directed by Maggie Contreras and produced by David Letterman, it garnered numerous awards at the 2023 Tribeca Film Festival and elsewhere. Out of 202 women who applied to enter the competition, not only did Brunet become one of the fourteen finalists but she ended up being a central figure in the film. *Maestra* is now on Netflix and highly recommended viewing.

– Paul B. Chewning

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