

JOIN ROTARIANS TO WALK THE TALK FOR ALZHEIMER’S!

Few Rotarians have not been touched by Alzheimer’s. As “People of Action”, we don’t just talk about it. The Lexington Walk to End Alzheimer’s is on Sunday, October 5, and we would like to have a Rotary Team participate to show our support. If you are interested in walking with us, please contact Sarah Diener by email at sdiener@abc-seniors.com, or by text at (859) 229 – 8622. The walk is about one mile in total and takes place entirely within the beautiful Kentucky Horse Park. Rain plan is to walk inside the Alltech Arena. If you have not previously attended the Walk, it is a nice event with lots of vendors, giveaways, and a moving ceremony that takes place before the walk itself.

Details for the event are as follows:

Date: Sunday, October 5, 2025

Time: Event opens at 1:30 pm, ceremony at 2:30 pm, walk at 3:00 pm.

Location: AllTech Arena, Kentucky Horse Park, 4089 Ironworks Pike

Cost: The walk is free to attend. Registration is required. You can register for our team at the following link or contact Sarah Diener and she will register for you.

Link to join the Rotary Team: <http://act.alz.org/goto/RotaryClubofLexington>



NEW MEMBER PROPOSALS

The following individuals have been proposed for membership in Rotary:

Ruth Ann Palumbo

Classification: Associations & Organizations, Elevate Arts

Sponsor: Gregory Turay

Monica Owens

Classification: Service Industry, Automotive Manufacturing

Sponsor: K. Johnson/ J. 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.

GET “WRITE” WITH ROTARY; JOIN THE WHEEL HORSE TEAM

Looking for a way to contribute to Rotary? Like to write? If so, consider joining us on the Wheel Horse/5th Page team. There are many ways to contribute: as a writer of the Rotary in Review in a regular rotation or as a substitute, an interviewer for Living Legends, a reporter at Club events or a content creator. If you are interested or would just like to learn more about what we do, reach out to Editor John Wharton at jwoots54@gmail.com or 859-230-2892.

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UPCOMING PROGRAMS

- Oct 2 Kenny Brooks, Head Coach, Women’s Basketball, University of Kentucky
- Oct 9 Mayor Linda Gordon, Lexington Fayette County Urban Government
- Oct. 16 Doing Rotary Differently, No Lunch Meeting
- Oct 23 Bob Quick, President, Commerce Lexington and Ashli Watts, Kentucky Chamber of Commerce

UPCOMING EVENTS

- Sep 26 Early Morning Mixer, 46Solutions, Lexington Green, 8-9:30am
- Oct 5 Walk to End Alzheimer’s Disease, Alltech Arena, KY Horse Park, 2:30pm
- Oct 8 Keeneland Outing, Lexington Room, Tickets \$125 SOLD OUT
- Oct 11 Rotary Leadership Institute, Bluegrass Community and Technical College, Newtown Pike, Free
- Oct 16 Ride for Polio, CycleYou, 6:30pm
- Oct 27 Backpack Pack-Up, God’s Pantry Food Bank, Winchester Rd., 1:00-2:30pm
- Oct 30 UK Men’s Basketball game watching vs Georgetown, Roosters, Richmond Rd.
- Nov 6 Screening *Join or Die*, a film about you should join a club, Kentucky Theatre, 7:30pm
- Nov 15 Pickle & Pints, Club Pickleball Tournament Fundraiser, 6:00pm
- Nov 20 Field Trip, Blue Grass Stockyards, Lunch and Tour, Iron Works Pike, 11:30-1:00pm

The ROTARY Club of Lexington

WHEEL HORSE

September 25, 2025

— TODAY’S PROGRAM —

Presiding: Past President Jim Richardson
Inspiration, Pledge, & 4 Way Test: Cheyenne McBride
Introduction of Guests: Michele Ripley
Introduction of Speaker: Jeff Thompson

Speaker: Alexander Vazsonyi, Professor, Director of Graduate Studies, Professor Psychology, Professor of Sociology
Program: From Hurt to Hope: Can We Build Bully-free Communities in Kentucky and Beyond?

Location: The Mane on Main

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MEET OUR SPEAKER



ALEXANDER T. VAZSONYI

The American Academy of Child & Adolescent Psychiatry observes that “bullying” is a common experience for many children and adolescents and according to surveys affects as many as half of all children, male and female. What is bullying? By one definition, it is where one or more persons repeatedly harm someone on purpose, physically, socially, or verbally.

Today, Rotarians will learn more about bullying from Dr. Alexander Vazsonyi, Professor, Director of Graduate Studies, Professor of Psychology, Professor of Sociology with the UK Department of Family Sciences.

Dr. Vazsonyi was recruited to Family Sciences at the University of Kentucky in 2011, following fifteen years as a faculty member in Human Development and

Family Studies at Auburn University, to hold the John I. and Patricia J. Buster Endowed Professorship in Family Sciences (2011-2019) and to build a research culture. He also accepted appointments as Professor of Psychology (2011) and Professor of Sociology (2016) at the University of Kentucky. Dr. Vazsonyi’s research focuses on child and adolescent development and examines the etiology of child and adolescent adjustment (achievement, health-compromising behaviors, violence, and deviance). He is interested in socialization processes (parenting), but also individual differences (low self-control, sleep), ranging from family contextual experiences to larger cultural processes in understanding variability in adolescent development and adjustment. Much of his work has also focused on cultural and racial/ethnic minorities, as well as immigrants, both in the United States as well as abroad (e.g., Roma youth). He has published 170 peer-reviewed publications and twenty-seven book chapters. He served as the senior editor of the Cambridge Handbook of Violent Behavior and Aggression (2018). He has been identified multiple times as a top 2% percentile rank author in the world based on his research productivity and publication

record, see more details about his scholarly work here.

Dr. Vazsonyi serves as the Editor-In-Chief of the Journal of Early Adolescence and as a member of a number of editorial boards. He served and continues to serve on numerous national and international review panels, both for grant reviews as well as professional conferences. Along with numerous other awards, Dr. Vazsonyi was honored for exceptional achievements by his alma mater, the University of Arizona, both in 2008 and in 2017. He was a Fulbright fellow in 2003 at the University of Maribor. In 2025, he was invited to give the keynote address at the International Adolescence and Youth Research Congress, in Aydin, Turkey.

In addition to classroom teaching, Dr. Vazsonyi identifies mentoring both undergraduate and particularly graduate students as one of the most important and rewarding things he does. In 2018, he received the Teachers Who Made a Difference Award, College of Education, University of Kentucky. Over the past two and a half decades, he has chaired over twenty-five Ph.D. students, many of which hold postdocs or tenure-track positions at major universities, as well as over a dozen M.S. students.

The Rotary Club of Lexington
401 W. Main, Ste. 305
Lexington, KY 40507
Phone: 389-8100

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Paul Chewning Jaron Johns
John Meyers Jim Richardson
Bill Straus Peggy Trafton
John Wharton, Editor
Dan Koett, Assistant Editor
Set up & printing by Lynn Imaging
Editorial Standards: *Chicago Manual of Style*, 17th ed.

ROTARY LEADERSHIP INSTITUTE (RLI) IS FOR EVERYONE!

Don't be fooled by the name. The Rotary Leadership Institute is not just for Rotary leaders or those who aspire to club or district leadership. It's for everyone who wants to learn more about Rotary and Rotary International, **including new Rotarians** and those who've been around a while.

Here's a short quiz to test your own Rotary knowledge:

1. In what year did **Rotary start** and where?
2. **How many** Rotary **clubs** are there today and in how many **countries**?
3. What is Rotary's **Charity Navigator rating** and why did it receive that rating?
4. What are the **seven areas of focus** for Rotary clubs?
5. Name **three Rotary programs that concentrate on young people** (and which ones does our club support)?
6. Name **2 of our club programs** that are supported through **District 6740 grants**.
7. Name 1 example of an **International Grant** that our club has supported.
8. What are **Rotary Peace Fellowships** and name one example of their impact.
9. What are **Rotary Friendship Exchanges** and what are the three types?
10. What are **Rotary Fellowships and how can you join one?** (Note: Rotary has fellowships for **wine, beer, and whiskey**...no bourbon as of now but you can start one.)

To learn more about Rotary International **and** what's going on in our District, register for the upcoming Rotary Leadership Institute on **October 11 (9:30 AM check in to 4:30 PM)**. The Institute will be held at the **Science Education Center, Bluegrass Community & Technical College, 500 Newtown Pike, Lexington**. Registration is **FREE** thanks to DG Doug Palmer and our District Leadership. The actual fee is \$60 per person, but the value you'll receive is incalculable.

To register, go to <https://rlihoa.org>. Under Future RLI Events, find **RLI Parts I, II, and III, In-Person – District 6740**. Choose **MORE INFO** and follow the instructions to register. If you have questions or run into problems, contact D6740 RLI Co-coordinator Judy Worth at jkworth@icloud.com.

Rotary in Review

WHY STATEWIDE PUBLIC BROADCASTING STILL MATTERS

Renee Shaw came to The Mane on Main at our last meeting with equal parts clarity, conviction, and compassion, and the Rotary Club of Lexington was all the better for it. As KET's director of public affairs and moderator of flagship programs including *Kentucky Edition* and *Kentucky Tonight*, Shaw offered a master class in what local public broadcasting does best: explain complex issues, cultivate civic trust, and surface solutions that move communities forward.

Shaw opened with an affectionate nod to the mentors and colleagues who sustain KET, from board leaders to legal staff and longtime teammates, then launched into the throughline of her remarks: journalism's public purpose. Drawing on childhood memories of *Electric Company* and *Mister Rogers' Neighborhood*, Shaw explained how public media planted a professional calling. "Your parents are your first educator," she said, "but my second educator was public broadcasting." That early influence, she noted, still guides KET's mission to produce programming "by, for, and about Kentucky."

A recurring theme was trust, and the hard work required to earn and keep it. With national trust in media ebbing and audiences fragmenting across platforms,

Shaw argued that local public media has a special responsibility to be fair, factual, and solutions-oriented. She described KET's approach as "policy focused, people centered, and fact-based," and reminded the audience that good journalism doesn't tell people what to think, but what to think about.

Shaw outlined two storytelling frameworks central to KET's work: solutions-driven and explanatory journalism. Solutions-driven reporting, she said, moves beyond problem-spotting to spotlight practical responses that can be adopted by other communities, the kind of reporting that can ask, "Is taxpayer money making a difference? What is the ROI?" Explanatory journalism, meanwhile, unpacks complex topics so viewers can actually understand them. Shaw cited a past project that demystified the grand jury process as an example of public broadcasting doing the civic heavy lifting.

Throughout, Shaw emphasized inclusion and local voice. KET's statewide reach, from Paducah to Pikeville and Fulton to Florence, gives it a broad canvas, and she highlighted the network's practice of embedding in communities for several days to produce deep, contextual coverage. The result:

reporting that is informed by homegrown perspectives and useful to citizens and policymakers alike.

Shaw also shared recent and upcoming programming highlights. She described *Kentucky Edition* and *Kentucky Tonight* going on the road and previewed a three-hour documentary celebrating Lexington's 250th anniversary. Narrated by local actor Josh Hopkins, *Lexington: 250 Years* will premiere at the Kentucky Theater on Monday, Oct. 13, with a public screening at 7 p.m., a project she said exemplifies KET's role as "the portal of access" to civic life during legislative sessions and major state moments.

Before opening the floor for questions, Shaw returned to the ethical compass she follows, inspired by the late Jim Lehrer's "commandments" of journalism: do nothing you cannot defend, cover stories with the care you'd want if the story were about you, assume multiple perspectives, and keep opinion separate from news. "People don't care what you know until they know that you care," she said, and that ethic, combining rigor with empathy, was the throughline of an afternoon that reminded Rotary members why a trusted, statewide public broadcaster still matters.

– Dan Koett

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Financial Advisor
444 East Main Street
Lexington, KY 40507
+1 859 231-9527
James.A.Richardson@ms.com
NMLS #1255648

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