

COMMUNITY CENTRAL

CHRISTI WOMACK,
Community News Editor, 745-7824
christi.womack@heraldtribune.com

BEST BETS ACT NOW

SUBMIT YOUR EVENT for the Herald-Tribune's online calendar and have it considered for publication in the Herald-Tribune community calendar. Submit items three weeks in advance at www.heraldtribune.com/calendarform. For assistance, go to www.heraldtribune.com/calendarformhelp. For a complete week of calendar listings, visit events.heraldtribune.com.

TODAY

SURVIVING THE TRAIL. 9 a.m. at Myakka River State Park, 13208 State Road 72, Sarasota. Learn what to take for a day on the trail. Classroom instruction and a short hike. \$25. R.S.V.P.: 316-8139.

SARASOTA INTERNATIONAL CRICKET CLUB JUNIORS PROGRAM. 10 to 11 a.m. at the Sarasota International Cricket Club, 7401 University Parkway, Bradenton. For ages 10 to 15. Free. 232-9956 or www.sarasoatcricket.com.

BRIDGE STREET MARKET. 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Bridge Street in Bradenton Beach. Produce, plant, arts and crafts, beach-style gifts, jewelry, clothes, home decor, food and music. Interested vendors: Melissa Enders, (215) 906-0668 or melissaenders76@yahoo.com.

UFO AND PARANORMAL GROUP. 1:30 to 4:30 p.m. at Asia Restaurant, 6844 U.S. 41 N., Bradenton. Alternative Thinkers Group has a discussion facilitated by Jackie Church-Miller; the topic is about fear and unhappy experiences that manifest in our lives. Buy lunch from the menu; \$4.50 minimum. 792-0308.

LEARN MASSAGE FOR COUPLES. 2 to 3:30 p.m. at Sarasota School of Massage Therapy, 5899 Whitefield Ave., Sarasota. Free. Registration: 921-5539.

SUNCOAST CONCERT BAND. 3 p.m. at Payne Park Auditorium, 2100 Laurel St., Sarasota. \$5 at the door, free parking. 907-0935, 924-4436 or www.suncoastconcertband.org.

JAZZ ON SUNDAY. 5 to 7 p.m. at the Polo Grill and Bar, 10670 Boardwalk Loop, Bradenton. Featuring the Les DaCosta Quartet. Presented by the Jazz Club of Sarasota. \$5 club members, \$8 others. 366-1552 or 782-0899.

MONDAY

MOON MYAKKA BIKE RIDE. 6:30 p.m. at Myakka River State Park, 13208 State Road 72, Sarasota. Leisurely 10-mile trip. Lights required, helmets recommended. \$8 Friends of Myakka members, \$10 thers. R.S.V.P.: 373-7839.

Rotarians continue fight to end polio

By LISA MOORE

Correspondent

Rotarians celebrated more than 20 years of fighting to eliminate polio worldwide and made a vow to wipe out the disease.

The End Polio Now celebration was Tuesday at the University of South Florida Manatee-Sarasota in conjunction with the Perlman Music Program's Winter Residency.

Itzhak Perlman, an internationally known violinist and polio survivor, was honored for his support of Rotary International's effort in fighting the illness. He spoke at the reception and encouraged the Rotarians to "continue the success of eradication."

Steve Schlueter, of the Rotary Club of Anna Maria Island, said that in two and a half years, Rotary has raised close to \$200 million.

With \$355 million in matching grants from the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, Rotary International will dedicate \$555 million to the eradication campaign. "We're getting closer," Schlueter said.

Perlman was credited for "being a firm advocate and major spokesman to raise the funds necessary to get the job done," said **Jim Henry**, a member of the Rotary Club of Sarasota. "We're very close to wiping it out."

Henry said several Rotarians from his club, including himself, have visited Nigeria to distribute polio vaccines.

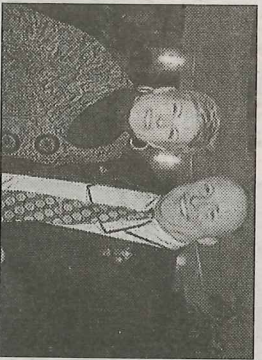
"It was quite an experience," he said.

After the reception, guests walked outside to view the illumination of Rotary's End Polio Now logo, projected in red, white and yellow on the side of the building. Meanwhile, the sounds of a string concert lured guests from the reception to a tent to watch

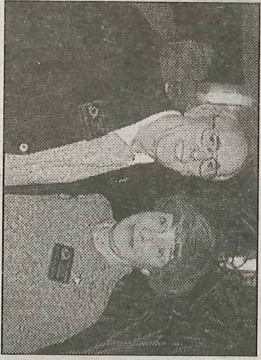


Rotarians and guests, from left, Tim Milligan, Toby Perlman, Jules Rose, Itzhak Perlman, Susan Atherton, Norma Johnston and John Cavanaugh at the End Polio Now reception Tuesday in the University of South Florida Sarasota-Manatee Rotunda during the Perlman Music Program Winter Residency.

SPOTTED: To see a Herald-Tribune gallery of more photos, go to tinyurl.com/7dhww3h.



Debra Lowe and Steve Schlueter.



Rotarians Ken and Ruth Ruskin.

scribed as the "poster child" for polio.

"We all have a deep passion for ending that disease," he said.

Debra Lowe is the major gifts officer for Rotary clubs in Florida, Georgia and the Caribbean. "I work with all these amazing



ABOVE: From left, Joyce Riley, Ed Pereira, Norma Johnston and Robert Johnston at the End Polio Now reception at the University of South Florida Sarasota-Manatee Rotunda during the Perlman Music Program Winter Residency. **BELOW:** From left, Rotarians Liliane Sealy-Schrock, Jim Henry and Jean Henry.

