



# The Windjammer

## Today's speaker: An update on literacy

Heather Mitchell originally hails from New Jersey, but ventured out to attend Indiana University, graduating with a degree in secondary education and English in 1992. After graduating, she worked in the non-profit world, traveling to college campuses throughout the United States. One of those visits was to the University of Alaska Fairbanks, where she got her first taste of Alaska and met her future husband, Bob. They married and she relocated to



Alaska in 1994. While in Fairbanks, she earned an associate's degree in paralegal studies at UAF. After moving to Juneau in 1997, she began a career in banking at First

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## Rotary's push to end polio gets \$1M gift

Indian philanthropist and businesswoman Rajashree Birla has announced a new gift of \$1 million to Rotary to help eradicate polio. The gift brings her total contributions to the Rotary effort to more than \$7.2 million.

What's more, this gift will be matched two-for-one by the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, resulting in \$3 million in new funding for the Global

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### The Dish from District 5010

## Find out the facts about the Rotary Foundation

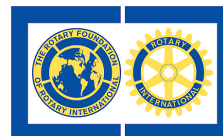
Would you like to know more about the work the Rotary Foundation does? Then make plans to attend the District 5010 Rotary Foundation Seminar from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Oct. 26 in Anchorage.

Presenters will include Sean Allen from Rotary International, Past District

Governor Carolyn Jones and Bob Weel from Polio Plus.

Visit the District 5010

website at [bit.ly/1bTkxvy](http://bit.ly/1bTkxvy) to learn more, and to register.



### Calendar

#### October: Vocational Service Month

- **Oct. 9:** Board meeting.
- **Oct. 15:** Club meeting. Speaker: John Venables, Alaska Day.
- **Oct. 22:** Lunch in various Rotarians' offices, to celebrate Vocational Service Month.
- **Oct. 29:** Vocational Service Awards.
- **Nov. 5:** Club meeting. Larry Persily, update on the potential Alaska natural gas pipeline.

### Greeters

- **Today:** Jim Strader and John Sandor.
- **Next week:** Aaron Morrison and Karen Morgan.

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[juneauwindjammer@gmail.com](mailto:juneauwindjammer@gmail.com).

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# Gift

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Polio Eradication Initiative. Rotary is a leading partner in the GPEI, especially in advocating government and donor support, fundraising, and building public awareness.

Through the End Polio Now: Make History Today fundraising campaign, the Gates Foundation is matching two-for-one every new dollar Rotary commits to polio eradication, up to \$35 million per year, from 2013 through 2018.

“Mrs. Birla’s generous gift is deeply appreciated and could not have come at a more opportune time in our fight to end polio once and for all,” says Ashok Mahajan, a former Rotary Foundation trustee and close friend of the Birla family. “Her generosity no doubt will inspire other private donors to step up and help Rotary take full advantage of our

innovative partnership with the Gates Foundation.”

Birla’s gift underscores India’s commitment to remain polio free. India — which some experts believed would be the last nation to beat polio — hasn’t recorded a case of the disease since January 2011. Only Nigeria, Pakistan, and Afghanistan remain on the list of countries where the wild poliovirus has never been stopped. India’s nearly 3,200 Rotary clubs have been instrumental in supporting National Immunization Days, massive initiatives that reach nearly 175 million children under age 5 with the oral polio vaccine.



“Thanks to the efforts of Rotary and its partners — including India’s Health Ministry, WHO [World Health Organization], UNICEF, CDC [U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention], the Gates Foundation, and other organizations — India continues to be free of polio,” says Birla, whose son, Kumar Mangalam Birla, has transformed the Aditya Birla

Group into a Fortune 500 global conglomerate. “Now we owe it to humanity to see that Nigeria, Afghanistan, and Pakistan also become polio free in the near future.”

# Literacy

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National Bank of Anchorage in loan documentation and closing and continued in this position after moving to Alaska Pacific Bank in 2000. In eight years at Alaska Pacific, she held positions in loan processing, collections and special credits, consumer lending, residential construction, commercial, and small business lending, and management of the consumer and commercial loan processing department.

In July of 2008, she chose to leave full-time work to spend more time assisting her children, who were 6 and 3 at the time.

A Rotarian since 2007, she now fills a new classification as the owner and operator of Excel Academic Services, a private academic tutoring business she started in September. In addition, she is the Reading Tutors Coordinator for United Way of Southeast Alaska.