



PHOTO BY BOB OWEN

Members of the Castleton United Church Women celebrated with Rita Cowie last week. Mrs. Cowie was given a special Guardian Angel award for the many preemie bonnets she has knitted for newborn babies. Seated, from left: Beth May, Lois Snelling, Rita Cowie, Joyce Buchegger. Standing: Irene Osborne, Jean Papineau, Connie Moore, Linda Crawford, Cecilia Terpstra, Georgina Millions, Sheila Rusk, Jill Sellers, Anne Harrison.

Rita Cowie honoured for knitting bonnets for babies

By Bob Owen
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COLBORNE
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Rita Cowie's hands are never still — or at least it seems that way.

The Cramahe Township resident was congratulated last week by the Castleton United Church Women for the many bonnets she has knit for preemies.

Mrs. Cowie has been knitting the bonnets for newborns since 1991. She says she started when there were preemies born in her family.

And she just continued, dropping them in drop boxes in Guardian Pharmacy stores. At the

same time she would pick up yarn left in the boxes, take it home and knit some more.

She has no idea exactly how many she has made. She's not sure how long it takes to knit one, but she can knit two a night, then assemble them later. Guardian Drugs has given her over 200 stickers as part of its Guardian Angels program. The drug chain provides a book of patterns, but Rita has the basic pattern long ago memorized. She likes to knit with variegated wool; it works out well. And unless she is taking on an intricate pattern, she can do the knitting while she's preparing meals or focusing on other things.

Last Thursday, Rita was presented with a plaque to commemorate her many hours of work. Since 1996 she has been doing the bonnets as a Castleton United Church Women activity, and the group has supplied her with the wool.

When asked where she learned to knit, Rita replies that she comes from a family that knits, crochets and quilts.

In fact, she has decided to take a rest from her bonnet-making and take a course in machine embroidery in Campbellford. She also has some quilt tops ready; and then there's the Shiloh Ladies Group quilt to put together ...

DEATH NOTICES

DINGS DALE, MARGARET MATTHEW
Peacefully at the Quinte Health Care Centre in Trenton on Thursday, January 20th, 2005. Margaret Dingsdale (nee Hunter). Beloved wife of the late Norman Dingsdale. Dear mother of Norman (Margaret), Marlene (Jerry) Beckett, Christopher (Christine), Mark (Sherry), and Michael. Cherished grandmother of fourteen grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren. Sister of Bill, Jean, and Irene and predeceased by two siblings, John and Joseph. A Funeral Service was held at MacCoubrey Funeral Home, 11 King St. W. in Coborne on Tuesday, January 25th, 2005 at 2pm. Interment at Walker Cemetery in Cramahe Township. Visitation was held at the funeral home on Tuesday, January 25th, from 1 to 2pm. Those wishing may make a memorial contribution by cheque to Colborne Community Care, Brighton Community Care, or the Children's Aid Society of Northumberland. Condolences received at www.maccoubrey.com
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MCMMASTER, BEATRICE
At the Golden Plough Lodge, Cobourg, on Tuesday, January 25, 2005 at the age of 97. Beatrice Nicholson wife of the late John Wesley McMaster. Loving mother of Madeline (Mrs. Keith Purdy). Predeceased by her daughter Laura Hamelin and by her sons Wesley, Lawrence and Robert. Predeceased by her sister Violet Cooper. Mother-in-law of Alan Hamelin. A complete funeral service will be held at the MacCoubrey Funeral Home, 30 King Street East, Cobourg on Thursday, January 27 at 2pm. Friends may call at the funeral home one hour prior to time of service. Those wishing may make memorial donations to the Canadian Cancer Society or to the Golden Plough Lodge Aux. Condolences received at www.maccoubrey.com

RING, JOHN WAYNE
Suddenly at his residence, Cobourg, on Friday, January 21, 2005, in his 63rd year. Wayne Ring beloved husband of Doris (nee King). Loving father of Todd Ring and Tracy Walsh. Dear grandfather of Ashley, Christina and Sophie. Dear son of Isobel Reddick of Brighton. Brother of Ben and his wife Carole also of Brighton. Friends called at the MacCoubrey Funeral Home, 30 King Street East, Cobourg on Sunday from 2-4pm. A private family service will be held at a later date. In lieu of flowers, donations to the Canadian Cancer Society or to the Access Centre, Northumberland, would be appreciated by the family. Condolences received at www.maccoubrey.com

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COLBORNE CHRONICLE

Former CAO paid

Cramahe Township treasurer Mora Chatterson revealed last week that fired township CAO Merlin Dewing has received all of the money owed to him by the township. The money was paid out in two, roughly equal cheques.

The first payment was made just after the settlement was signed last fall. The remaining cheque was cut on Jan. 7, 2005.

According to a document released by Mayor Lee Dekeyser on January 7, Mr. Dewing received \$155,327.37 in cash, plus benefits payments of \$5,755.95. The cash included his monthly payment of \$8,763.44 for September and \$8,581.25 for October, 2004. The payments have come out of the 2004 budget.

DEATH NOTICES

Pattison, Aldora
Peacefully at the Northumberland Hills Hospital, Cobourg, on Friday January 14th 2005 in her 78th year. Aldora Bellamy beloved wife of the late Malcolm Pattison. Dear mother of Gwen Mercer (Ron) and Bob Pattison (Gail). Loving grandmother of Bryan Mercer (Cheryl), Ron (Tammy), Tracy (Shane), and Robbie Pattison. Great grandmother of Wyatt, Taylor, Andrew, Matthew, MacKenzie, Trinity and Serena. Sister of the late Wallace and Claude. Aldora will be missed by her sisters-in-law Mary Bellamy, Vi Pattison, Bertha Whittaker and her many nieces and nephews.

Friends were invited to call at the Ross Funeral Chapel, 135 Walton St., Port Hope, Monday from 2 - 4 & 7 - 9 pm.

Service was held in the chapel on Tuesday January 18th at 11 am. Interment Fairview Cemetery, Grafton. Memorial donations to the Osteoporosis Society or The Ontario Heart and Stroke Foundation would be appreciated.

COMING EVENTS