

# Foundation doing good work

(Left) Members of local groups that are part of the Grandmothers Campaign were shown last week how the money they raise is being spent in Africa to deal with the consequences of the AIDS epidemic. The meeting was held June 5 at St. Paul's United Church's The Gathering Place. Photo: John Campbell



Ida Nambeya Mukaka, a full-time field representative for the Stephen Lewis Foundation in Africa, described how money raised in Canada is being used to help grandmothers raise orphaned grandchildren. Photo: John Campbell

EMG 12/14  
SMPG

By John Campbell  
**News - Warkworth** - Since 2003, the Stephen Lewis Foundation has funded more than 1,100 initiatives and partnered with 300 community-based organizations in 15 African countries to provide care and support to women, orphaned children, grandmothers and people living with HIV and AIDS.  
Together they are turning the tide against an AIDS epidemic that has claimed more than 20 million lives in Africa; today nearly one in every 20 adults live with HIV in sub-Saharan Africa.

Millions of children orphaned by the disease are being raised by their grandmothers. The Stephen Lewis Foundation helps them through its Grandmothers to Grandmothers Campaign, which has raised \$19.5 million in support of grassroots organizations that provide food, educational supplies, uniforms, medical care, housing, counselling, and testing.

"We cannot yet cure AIDS but we know how to prolong the lives of those who are HIV positive and increase the quality of their lives," Gwen Sherry, president of the Trent Hills Grannies, told members and guests last week. "We have enough resources in the world for the children and the grandmothers left behind by AIDS once we decide in the world community that is what we want to do. We know how to create a world where girls and women have economic power and self-esteem necessary to speak out for their own safety and human rights, and where men and boys know that to be a man is more about respect and equality than about conquest."

Helping to bring about the necessary changes are people such as Ida Nambeya Mukaka, a full-time field representative for the Stephen Lewis Foundation in Africa.  
"She has been called the face, the hands and the heart of the foundation," Sherry said, by way of introducing the evening's guest speaker who was there to talk about her personal journey and professional experience.  
Mukaka operates on the front lines "combating HIV/AIDS and attendant problems at the community level," Sherry said.

"Grandmothers are becoming advocates of their own rights," Mukaka said. "When HIV and AIDS came to Africa, it traumatized all of us," she said. "It made us lose confidence. ... Nobody stood up and said we needed treatment because we thought it was our fault to have this disease, so everybody was watching everybody dying."

The foundation "can never go the political way" to bring about change but the work that it is doing is giving people the confidence "to create a new community," that recognizes life is precious and to be celebrated every day, Mukaka said.

"She got a good job with the foundation and was able to raise two daughters an adopted son, and has been able to provide a quality education for her children."  
"So thank you very much for the work that you do," Mukaka said.  
With the aid of photos, she described her work as a field representative to evaluate the programs being funded by Canadian grandmothers. Feeding programs, for example, are giving "confidence to the children" and allowing them to focus on learning while at school.  
The money Canadian grandmothers have raised "is bringing a lot of changes" and helping to rebuild communities, she said. "It is good work being done."  
When she saw that poor housing "defeats us," the foundation began partnering with local organizations to provide better accommodations for grandmothers and their grandchildren.  
The foundation is helping to change attitudes, as well.

## ■ CRAMAHE COUNCIL

# Safety concerns in Colborne

BOB OWEN  
For Northumberland Today

**CRAMAHE TOWNSHIP** - On May 20 it was brought to the attention of Cramahe Council that were safety issues on Victoria Street. Concerns were expressed about the safety of children who cross the road.

Council asked operations director Dan O'Brien to prepare a report detailing how safety zones are created. After looking at the conditions on June 3, council asked O'Brien to draft a bylaw which he will bring to the June 17 meeting.

The bylaw will define the zone, the speed limit and the times when the zone will in place.

... Everybody gets the same raise in Cramahe Township.

Cramahe Township Council voted at its May 20 meeting to grant its administrative staff, firefighters and library staff 1% raises - the same as it gave to its more than unionized employees.

In 2013 the township signed a three-year agreement with its CUPE staff, giving them 1% every year on July 1.

... Cramahe Township will have entries in this year's historical atlas of Northumberland. At the May 20 meeting of Cramahe Council, Peter Wilson outlined his plan to create a Master Edition of the Historical Atlas of the Counties of Northumberland and Durham. At the meeting, council was advised that new entries would be accepted for this final edition.

On June 3, council agreed to spend \$2,000 to have the Castleton Town Hall and the Colborne Registry Office included. The page with the Cramahe heritage buildings will include information about their history.

The first atlas of the two counties was produced in 1878.

## McKINNEY, Dorothy Phyllis (nee Harris)

Passed away on Sunday, June 8, 2014 at ReachView Village Nursing Home, Uxbridge, in her 92nd year. Dorothy is recently predeceased by her husband of 65 years, James Harold McKinney; sons Jim (Linda) of Stouffville, Bill (Lillian) of Aurora, Bruce (Vicki) of Burlington; grandchildren James (Danielle) of Toronto, Steven (Cara) of Niagara Falls, Jennifer of Aurora, Kelly (Jason) of Lake Louise, Alberta and Tracy of Toronto, as well as her great-grandchildren: twins, Tom and Ali of Toronto. Dorothy also leaves behind relatives in Queenstown, New Brunswick along with many nieces and nephews in the areas of Saint John and Fredericton, New Brunswick, Toronto, Ottawa, Lake Rosseau and Hamilton. Dorothy was proud of a long career as a legal secretary and always spoke fondly of her last employers, Sitzer and Sitzer. Born and raised in Toronto, Ontario, Dorothy also loved to play the piano and was often asked to play for sing-alongs at parties and family gatherings. After her retirement in May 1981, Dorothy and Harold moved to Warkworth, Ontario, where they enjoyed many years of happy retirement, making many friends and attending many a country auction. Cremation has taken place and a Memorial Service for Dorothy is being planned for a later date. Arrangements entrusted to the Low & Low Funeral Home, Uxbridge (905-852-3073). For online condolences, please visit [www.lowandlow.ca](http://www.lowandlow.ca)

TDKUNTO STAR  
V MDE 14/14

EMG 12/14  
**KOCK, Lou** - (Born in Holland, long time resident of Hastings) Peacefully at Campbellford Memorial Hospital, June 5, 2014 in his 84th year. Beloved husband of Brenda (nee Hegan formerly Edwards) for over 18 years. Dear father of Lois MacEachern (Larry) and Paul (predeceased) (Mary Ellen), and the late Sylvia Kock. Grandfather of Kelly & Luke. Great grandfather of Christopher. Brother of Rosa Bakker (late Art) of Duncan, B.C. Survived by many nieces and nephews. Family and friends gathered at **BRETT FUNERAL CHAPEL, HASTINGS**, from 7-9 pm on Sunday. A funeral service was held at **WARKWORTH FREE METHODIST CHURCH**, 56 Mill Street, Warkworth on Monday, June 9, 2014 at 1:00 pm. Reverend David Atton officiated. A reception followed. Interment at Trent Valley Cemetery, Hastings. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to Hastings Food Bank. Condolences and memorial donations may be sent online from [www.brettfuneralchapel.com](http://www.brettfuneralchapel.com).  
CL-4470987

EMG 16/14

EMG 12/14  
NORTHUMBERLAND TODAY