

Your communities

WENDY KILLEEN

PEOPLE

GRACE RACE: Each year, runners and walkers take to the streets of Chelmsford to raise money to help Kenyan orphans.

The Grace Race has raised \$172,000 in the past seven years to build a school and orphanage in Naivasha.

And the work continues. The fund-raising goal for this year's race on Oct. 1 is \$95,000 to complete phase two of the project, which will finish the interior of the school, including electrical work, furnishings, and equipment, and begin construction of the orphanage.

The project, which was started by Grace Community Church in Chelmsford, is "to enable orphaned children to achieve the knowledge and skills necessary to grow and develop physically, emotionally, professionally, and spiritually," according to the group's website.

The completed facility will provide room and board, education, and vocational training for 100 orphans ages 5 to 18. Many have lost their parents to AIDS.

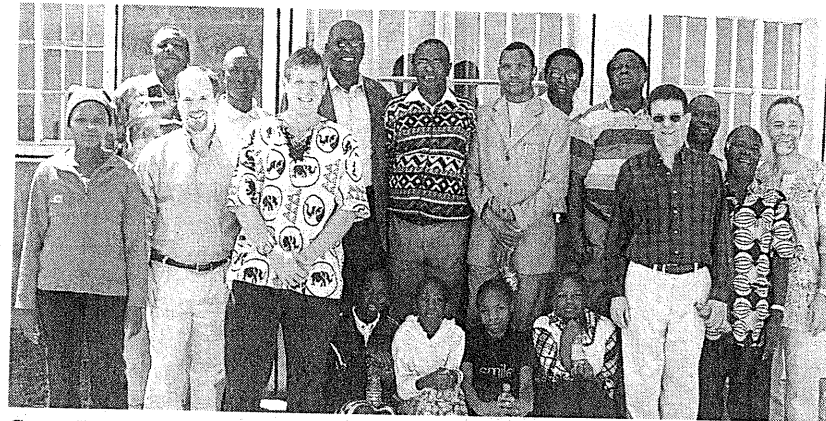
The 5-mile race is USA Track & Field-certified, and there is also a 3.1-mile walk. Both begin at Grace Community Church, 275 Billerica Road, Chelmsford. Online registration at www.active.com is open until 6 a.m. Sept. 30. Registration the day of the event begins at 8:30 a.m. The race begins at 10 a.m. Registration fee is \$25.

Call 978-764-1760 or visit www.gracerace.org.

HOSPICE LEADER HONORED:

Diane Stringer, president and chief executive of Hospice of the North Shore & Greater Boston, is receiving this year's Live United Leadership Award, given by North Shore United Way.

The annual award recognizes



Grace Race team members visited the school and orphanage site in Kenya.

the leadership, commitment, and values of an individual who supports the work of an area nonprofit organization and who embodies the community spirit of "Live United."

Margo Casey, executive director of North Shore United Way, said the organization provided funding to hospice in its early days. "Diane started sowing the seeds of success from the very beginning when it was merely a volunteer-led organization," said Casey. "It has been an inspiration to watch as Diane has transformed Hospice of the North Shore & Greater Boston to where it is today."

Stringer has led the nonprofit since 1989. Under her leadership, it developed Massachusetts' first licensed hospice inpatient facility, the Kaplan Family Hospice House in Danvers, in 2005. In 2010, she spearheaded the expansion of the house and also led the acquisition of Partners Hospice in Waltham.

Casey said Stringer, a Wrentham resident, is known for her collaboration with area health systems, including hospitals, long-term care, and assisted living facilities. She pioneered

the creation of innovative programs, including Palliative Care of the North Shore & Greater Boston and the Bertolon Center for Grief & Healing, the only bereavement support and counseling center in Massachusetts. She also was instrumental in the creation of the first statewide pediatric palliative care funding in the nation.

Stringer is being honored at the Live United Leadership Award breakfast from 7:30 to 9 a.m. tomorrow at the Hellenic Center in Ipswich.

The event also launches the North Shore United Way's 2011-12 annual campaign. Tickets are \$50 and can be purchased at www.nsuw.org.

WHO'S WHAT WHERE: As part of Cohen Hillel Academy's gala on Oct. 2, the Dr. Bennett I. Solomon Community Leadership Award will be presented to **Ruthie and Robert Salter, Evelyn and Robert Rothbard, and Esther and Jack Schlüsselberg**, who, because of their own commitment to the community, inspire others to action. Hillel Academy is a K-8 independent day school in Marblehead. Ruthie Salter and Evelyn Rothbard

are the daughters of the Schlüsselbergs. This year's gala includes a preshow supper reception followed by the 6:30 p.m. performance of the Tony Award-winning musical "South Pacific" at the Opera House in Boston. . . . The Catholic Schools Foundation recently honored board member **Mark V. Mathers** of Lynn-

field for his help in raising and distributing more than \$7 million a year in support of Boston Catholic schools and the foundation's signature program, the Inner City Scholarship Fund. Mathers is also a board member of the Boston College Club, Catholic Charities North, and the Irish Pastoral Centre. . . . **Shawn P. Middleton** of Woburn is the new director of marketing and communication for the Centering Healthcare Institute in Boston. Middleton is a former director of community and public affairs at Northeast Health Systems, which includes Beverly Hospital. . . . The House of the Seven Gables in Salem has awarded the Caroline O. Emmer-ton Award for Community Service and Philanthropy to **Donald C. Seamans** of Marblehead in recognition of his dedication and long years of service. Three young women from Salem's Dominican community, **Shantel Alix, Janice Dominguez, and Scarlett Gonzalez**, also received \$500 scholarships from The Gables to assist them with their educational goals.

Items can be sent to wendykilleen@gmail.com.

