

Author's first book deals with death

By JENNIFER VANDERMEER
Editor

Henriette MacArthur wants to share a story that she created for her daughter when they experienced a death in the family.

Oma died in 2000 and MacArthur's daughter, Carly, had a lot of questions about death – typical for a six-year-old child.

"I looked for a book for my daughter to validate her feelings," said MacArthur, "I couldn't find one that I liked."

So she wrote one of her own.

The Thamesford author created "Henry and Harriet," a hopeful story that validates the feelings of children when someone dies.

MacArthur said for a year after her mother's death, she kept track of the questions Carly asked.

"I wrote the book just for her with no intention of publishing it," said MacArthur.

Opportunity knocked and MacArthur created More Than Words publishing company, for books that help understanding grow. 'Henry and Harriet' follows the friendship of two caterpillars and how one of them feels when the other becomes a butterfly and leaves him behind.

"I think it's a good story, but I believe it fills a niche," said MacArthur, who has sold one-quarter of the 1,000 copies that have been printed – before she's even starting to heavily market the book. "The feedback I've got so far has been great."

A second book, to help children



FIRST BOOK: Henriette MacArthur, of Thamesford, formed More Than Words publishing company and published her first book, *Henry and Harriet*, to help answer children's questions about death. The book will be launched next week. (Jennifer Vandermeer photo)

understand Alzheimer Disease, is expected to be launched by year's end.

MacArthur and book illustrator Anna Koot will be at the launch of "Henry and Harriet" at Patina's in

Ingersoll on April from 5 to 7:30 p.m. and April 21 from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Information about Henry and Harriet and MacArthur's company can be found at morethanwords-books.ca.