Senjors enjoy a free lunch in Colborne

By Ray Yurkowski

EMC News - Colborne
Cramahe Township seniors
took advantage of a free
lunch last week, courtesy of

Community Care, the Colborne Masonic Lodge, the municipality and a host of sponsors and volunteers.

The annual summertime

picnic has been a fixture in the community for decades says municipal councillor and Community Care volunteer Pat Westrope, who recalled an event started in the mid-1980s by a former reeve of pre-amalgamation Cramahe Township.

But Community Care Northumberland executive director Trish Baird calls it "a celebration of our seniors."

The more than 100 who signed up for the event, held at Victoria Square in the centre of Colborne, were treated to some live lunchtime entertainment from local country singer Jeannie Mintz.



Those attending the annual Community Care senior's picnic in Colborne last week were treated to some live lunchtime entertainment from local country singer Jeannie Mintz. Photo: Ray Yurkowski

Community Care provides a host of programs for seniors in the Colborne area.

A diner's lunch is held on the second Wednesday of month at the Keeler Centre. The \$10 fee includes a full course meal, door prizes and a short program.

Meals on Wheels are delivered every Tuesday and Thursday during the noon hour. The five-dollar meals are prepared in town and include an entrée, salad or soup and a dessert.

A transportation program is offered for people who need a lift to medical appointments, shopping or for social outings. The cost depends on the length of the drive.

Every morning, security calls check up on a client's health status and allow a short visit on the telephone. As well, volunteers do some Friendly Visiting at their home on a regular basis.

The Community Care meeting room is a busy place. A knitting group meets there Mondays at 10 a.m. and Tuesdays, there's the men's coffee group at 10 a.m. and a ladies group at 1:30 p.m. At 10 a.m. on the first Wednesday of the month it's Eyes Forward, a group for sight-impaired



More than 100 Cramahe Township seniors showed up for a free lunch last week at the annual Community Care picnic in Colborne. Photo: Ray Yurkowski

people to share information and encourage one another.

A quilting group, a time for socializing and making quilts to donate or for themselves, is held every Wednesday at 7 p.m. at the Salem church.

For more information on these and other programs, email <colborne@commcare. ca> or call 905-355-2989.

As well, Community Care is looking for players and teams to compete in the first annual Road Hockey Rally, to be held on September 22 at the new facility in Colborne.

The single-day, double-elimination competition guarantees two games, lunch, an event T-shirt and a grab bag full of goodies. Players ages eight through 13 are eligible to participate with boys and girls playing together in a mixed-tournament format. Divisions will be organized by birth date and registration is limited to 144 (48 per division). The event has been organized and will be run by a team of area volunteers in an effort to raise \$3,000 in support of Community Care Northumberland.

"This volunteer committee wanted to offer a great annual event to the children of Northumberland County," said Baird in a press release. "It helps keep them active and teaches them about giving back to their local community."

Better hurry though; the registration deadline is August 31. Log onto <www.roadhockeyrally.ca> for more information.