

Close to 300 people turned out for the annual Beef Day, held July 3 at Wilce Century Farm in Cramahe Township. "It was an excellent night, and an excellent place to have it, a real picturesque spot," (alongside Cold Creek) said Dave Denure, president of Northumberland Cattlemen's Association. Photo: John Campbell



Singer Stephanie Bird entertained people with her music at the Northumberland Cattlemen's Association Beef Day. Photo: John Campbell

Prices at "all-time high" for beef cattle

By John Campbell

News - Northumberland County - It's operators, who fatten cattle The lower return puts the "never been better" in the beef industry for market, have chosen to feedlot operators at "a real than right now, with prices being paid to sign deals with packers "for disadvantage" when it comes producers for their cattle "at an all-time what looked to be pretty good time to replace the animals high," says the president of the Nor- money" but those contracted sold, Denure said. "Some of thumberland Cattlemen's Association. prices have been overtaken those guys could see some

The prices "started to really climb" by what's being paid out in tough times this fall." last fall, but now every week they're the live market, Denure said. But in a supply-and-"a little higher than the week before," Many are receiving \$300 demand market, nothing is auctioneer Dave Denure said. "We to \$400 less for a finished ever certain for very long, haven't found our plateau yet."

The price paid for dressed weight be getting if they hadn't say what's going to happen." (of an animal partially butchered) recently rose to between \$2.65 and \$2.70 a pound, he said, which is "a long ways above" the \$2.12 beef producers received before the mad cow scare caused prices to plummet a decade ago.

The Canadian beef industry went into a terrible slump following the discovery of bovine spongiform encephalopathy (BSE) in a single cow in Alberta in 2003, which led other countries to place temporary import bans on Canadian beef.

The fallout led to an exodus of domestic beef producers as revenues plunged.

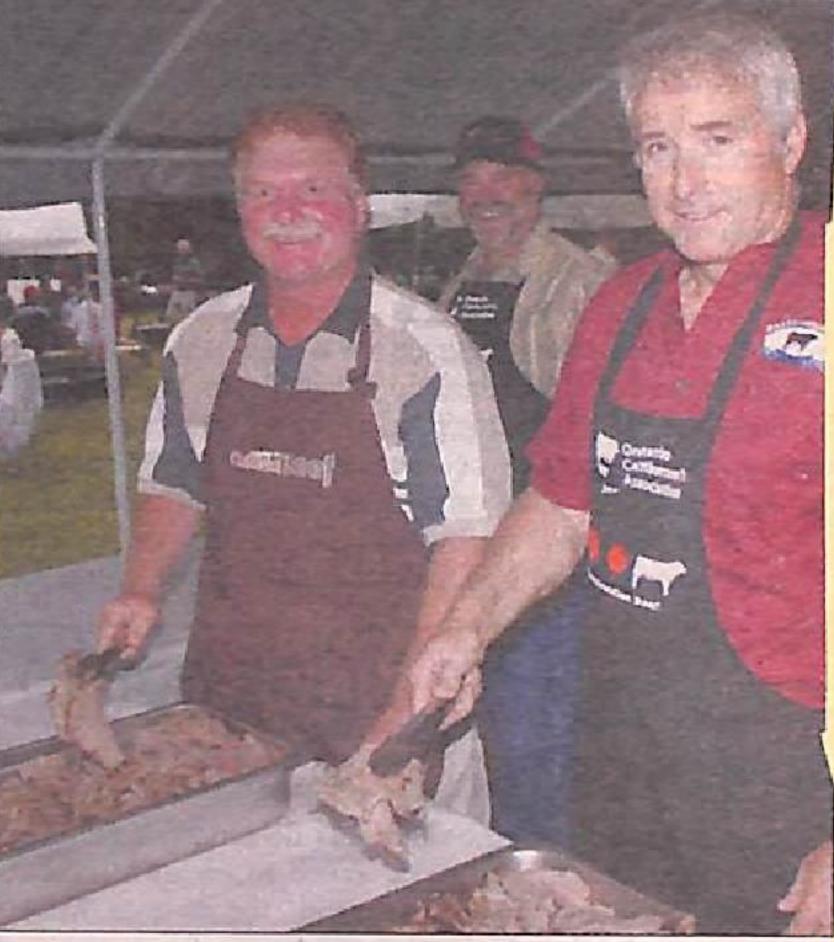
Today, worldwide demand for beef is on the rise but "there's such a shortage of the product," that it's driven up prices, Denure said. "There's been a lot of guys who have quit the industry and nobody has filled that void."

Canada has boosted beef sales to other countries through various trade deals, "and they're telling us that they're moving more product all the time overseas," he said. "A 93-cent dollar ... helps with the export trade."

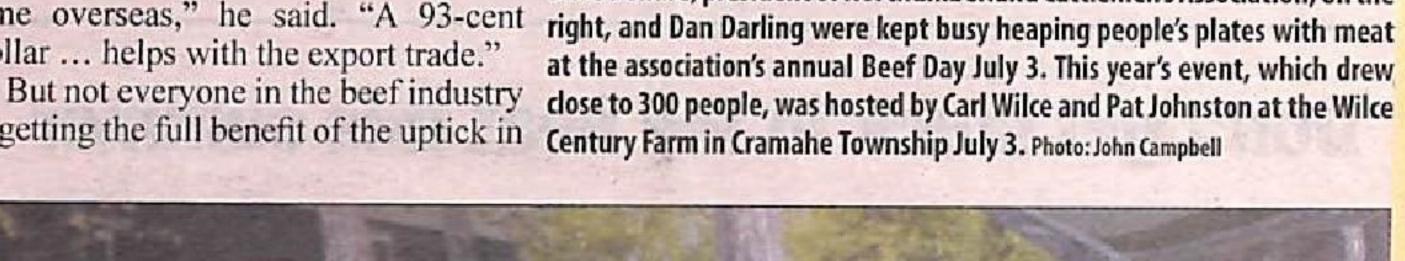
is getting the full benefit of the uptick in

prices. In recent years feedlot contracted those cattle."

steer "than what they could Denure added. "It's hard to



Dave Denure, president of Northumberland Cattlemen's Association, on the





Glenn Dorland serves Ferron and Brenda Waite at last week's Beef Day which the Northumberland Cattlemen's Association holds every year at a different farm. This year's event, which drew close to 300 people, was hosted by Carl Wilce and Pat Johnston at the Wilce Century Farm in Cramahe Township July 3. Photo: John Campbell

Generator brings peace of mind

By John Campbell BRIGHTIP FOR FORTH STORY AND ARE looked after and other basics through-

residents at The Bridge Hospice iliaries. won't have to fret about losing bad.

The application for assis- "Over the Christmas period we had a Warkworth Legion.

\$3,977 grant from a charitable tricity], that the resident rooms mind.

News - Warkworth - Volun- tario Command of the Royal out the building," said Brenda Partridge, a teers caring for terminally ill Canadian Legion and its Aux- member of the hospice's stewardship and communications committee.

power when the weather turns tance was supported by the resident [and] I just remember being very anxious because of the snow and ice storms The facility has installed a After last winter, "it's really we had and thinking what's going to hapnatural gas generator to pro- comforting now we don't have pen here," she said. It's "so wonderful" to vide emergency power, using a to worry [about having no elec- have a generator on site to give peace of

Legion Branch 380 president Len Kenny has a similar unit at his residence and it ran more than four days in total last winter, he said. Thirty seconds after the power goes off, it automatically comes on.

The Howard Ballard Foundation and Farm Credit Canada also provided funding for the project which cost \$9,800 in total.

It's not the first time the Warkworth Legion has helped out The Bridge Hospice, which relies on the support of community organizations to offer palliative care services. The Legion donated \$1,000 in 201 and again in 2012.