

# Stouffville Sun-Tribune

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## Top female amateurs tee it up at Granite Club

Stouffville club steps in to host nationals

BY MIKE HAYAKAWA  
Staff Writer

One golf course's loss turned out to be a Stouffville club's gain. In the case of the Granite Golf Club, their good fortune was the right to host this year's Royale Cup National Women's Amateur Championships. Slated to start Monday and run to Aug. 3, it's one of the oldest golfing competitions in Canada with more than 90 titles awarded. The field includes 120 competitors from across Canada and the United States.

"We're definitely proud to be hosting a national event like this," John Gravett, Granite Golf Club general manager and chief operating officer.

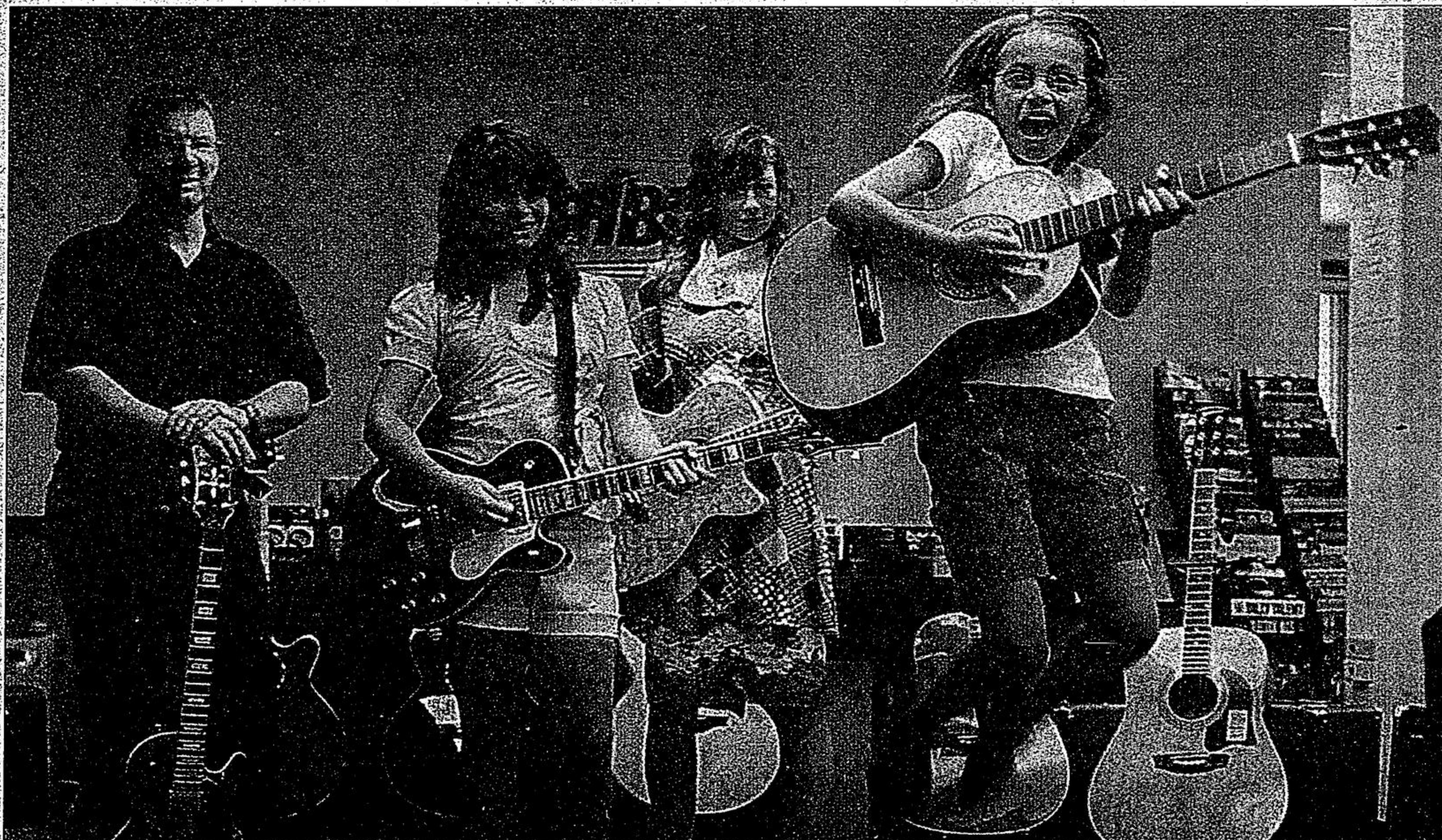
The private, family-oriented club, on the York-Durham town-line just northeast of Stouffville, opened in 2001 on the rolling hills of a former horse farm.

Another unnamed GTA club that was awarded the event was forced to back out when a scheduling conflict arose. Like a white knight, the Granite Golf Club stepped into the picture.

"What happened was, there was a misunderstanding of the dates," Mr. Gravett said. "As a result, we were made aware that the RCGA was looking for another club to host this event last fall and we contacted them and they chose us. Usually you have to

See GOLF, page 13.

## THEY WILL ROCK YOUR SATURDAY



STAFF PHOTO/SJOERD WITTEVEEN

Amanda, 10, does her best impression of a rock star as Jim McMillan (from left), Melanie Otto, 13, and Amanda Zelina, 21, look on during practice at We Rock School of Music. They are preparing for Music in the Park in Stouffville Memorial Park Saturday from 2 to 4 p.m. A variety of local musicians will perform.

\$20 MILLION PUMPED INTO ECONOMY BY 136,000 FANS THIS WEEK

## Canadian Open big business for region

BY CHRIS TRABER  
Staff Writer

Bringing the Canadian Open to the greens of Angus Glen Golf Club translates into major green and sheen for Markham and York Region, Royal Canadian Golf Association governor and tournament chairperson Jim Clark said.

An estimated \$20 million is being infused into the economy by

the 136,000 fans expected to attend the event, which wraps up Sunday. Equally important is the opportunity to showcase York to an international audience via the largest media contingent in the 103-year history of our national championship.

"That's a huge figure," said Mr. Clark, who lives and works in Markham.

"If you do the basic math for the

156 players, caddies, family members, officials and employees who do the staging, they alone translate into several thousand hotel room nights in the area."

An informal survey of hotels and motels in Markham and Richmond Hill suggests accommodations are a scarce as holes in one.

More than 400 print and electronic media members have registered to cover the event that will be

contested on Angus Glen's recently re-configured north course, association media and public relations director Anthony Alfred said.

In addition to major broadcasters, including CBS and the Golf Channel, prestigious dailies and speciality sports magazines, the likes of Sports Illustrated and Golf World, will be on hand.

See STOUFFVILLE, page 21.

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