Wine, food fest goes tropical for hospital

BY SANDRA BOLAN sbolan@yrmg.com

Palm trees. A grass hut bar. Margaritas and mojitos.

The Ballantrae Golf and Country Club will be transformed into a tropical paradise for this year's edition of the Wine and Food Festival.

It is the first time the event has had a theme.

It has raised more than \$100,000 for various charities.

"We're providing a theme and if people would like to dress in a more casual mood, that would be fine," said Councillor and event founder Phil Bannon.

June 3 marks the eighth annual wine and food festival. It has raised more than \$100,000

for various charities.

Last year, \$15,000 was donated to the Markham Stouffville Hospital buy a bed program. This year, all money raised will once again go the hospital, but a specific program has yet to be chosen, according to Mr. Bannon.

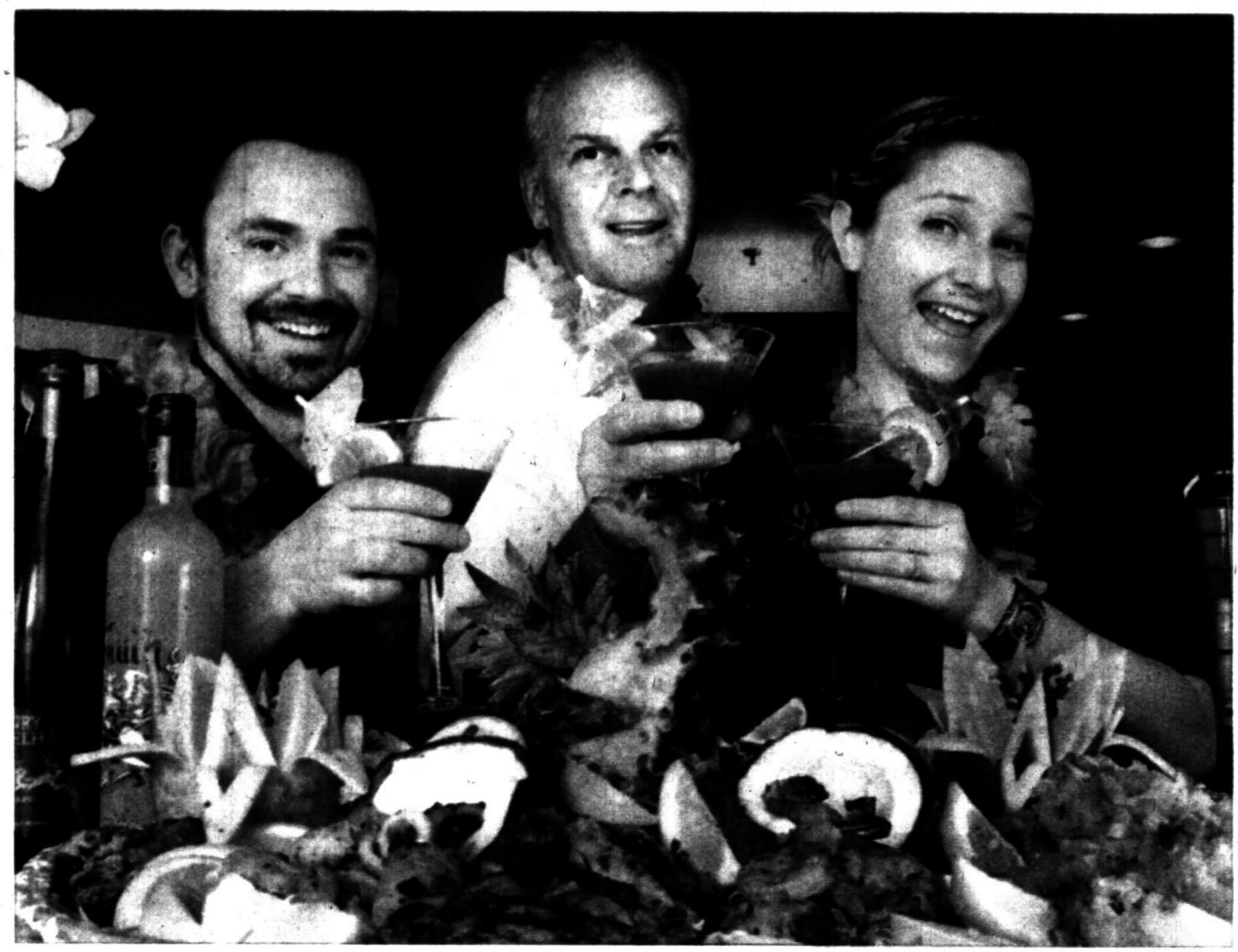
Among the eateries serving up special dishes buffet-style are The Earl of Whitchurch, Stakeout Dining Lounge, Hanson's Restaurant, Fishbone Bistro and Passion for Desserts.

There will also be about a dozen wineries, including Willow Springs and Pelee Island.

Raffle prizes include a Blue lays' box for 10 people and a 60-inch flat screen TV.

Tickets are \$40 each and available from www.philbannon.ca or 905-640-7422. There is a maximum of 300 tickets available.

The event runs from 6:30 to 9:30 p.m.



TAFF PHOTO/MIKE BARRETT

Organizer Phil Bannon is flanked by George Bigelow and Leanna Collins, co-owners of The Earl of Whitchurch, which is taking part in this year's Wine & Food Festival. The June 3 event has a tropical theme this year.

Who will be Whitchurch-Stouffville's

2013 Sports Person of the Year?

DEADLINE JUNE 9, 2013

Nominations should include nominee's detailed resume and letters of support.

Award to be presented during the opening of the 29th annual Strawberry Festival

E-mail: jmason@yrmg.com Mail or hand deliver to:

Stouffville Sun-Tribune

6290 Main Street, Stouffville, Ontario L4A 1G7

Attention: Jim Mason For more info: 905-640-2612 ext. 23

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Who do you think should be Whitchurch-Stouffville's

2013 Citizen of the Year?

Nominations are open for this year's award.

We are looking for a person who:

- makes our community a better place to live, work and play
- is involved to benefit more than his or her family or business
- sets a positive example for others

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e-mail: jmason@yrmg.com Mail or hand deliver to: Stouffville Sun-Tribune 6290 Main St. Stouffville, Ont. L4A 1G7

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