

# Weekend warriors seek donations for wounded

**ANDREA CONNELL**

SPECIAL TO GUELPH REVIEW

A group of local recreational athletes are getting their hands and everything else dirty in an effort to raise money for Wounded Warriors, a charity that supports injured Canadian soldiers.

The Army Navy and Air Force Vet-

the space located at 32 Gordon St.

McAlpine said the charity speaks to the group of racers because they realize the ANAF is more than just a social club; they recognize what veterans have done for the country, fighting in both World Wars and more recently, serving in Afghanistan.

They aren't the only ones who recog-



PHOTO: KRISTINE MATHERS

Four members of the eight-member team ANAF Club 344, will be collecting donations from the public for the Wounded Warrior project at Stone Rd. Mall tomorrow and Sunday. From left to right: Ben Mathers, Dayna Horgan, Jennifer Reynolds, Mark McAlpine.

erans Club (ANAF) 344 is sending two women and six men to race the Tough Mudder, a hardcore muddy obstacle course designed by British Special Forces, in Toronto on August 18.

Tough Mudder races work in partnership with the Wounded Warrior program and the funds raised are used for combat stress recovery programs, adaptive sports programs, and counseling services for soldiers returning from the field.

ANAF Club executive and team member Mark McAlpine is participating in the race to give back to the club, and show his respect for veterans.

"I want to raise money for the club to recognize what they do for the community. I am involved in the club, I play darts and I really enjoy my time spent there."

The ANAF is used by many members of the community for social events, and as a music venue for local musicians at

nize the sacrifices soldiers make serving their country.

The team received an \$800 donation from Russ Bateman, owner of Cornerstone Plumbing Solutions Inc. He served 13 years in the military, including eight months in Kandahar as a Platoon Commander.

"I knew a number of soldiers wounded or killed in Afghanistan including members of my platoon," Bateman said. "It is important for me and our company to give back to the community, and to members of the military who have been injured or killed."

The ANAF Club will be at Stone Rd. Mall tomorrow and Sunday accepting donations for the non-profit charity. The team will present the money raised to Wounded Warriors representatives before the start of the race in August.

For more information visit: <http://www.woundedwarriors.ca/>