

**INSIDE:** Letters ..... 6  
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**3** Farmers' markets are making a big comeback in York Region's communities.

**ARTS & CULTURE CALENDAR**

**EVENT:** Art for a New Millennium exhibit  
**WHEN:** Continues to Sept. 17, 954-1795  
**WHERE:** Varley Art Gallery, Unionville



**5** Pavement-marking worker struck and killed while on the job on Hwy. 7 in Markham.

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# Stouffville Tribune

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TO REACH US: (905) 294-2200

## Stouffville firefighters help launch safety plan

*Risk Watch program launches tomorrow*

BY BRUCE STAPLEY  
 Correspondent

Stouffville firefighters will be pumping gas, checking oil and washing car windows for kids' safety Friday afternoon in Vaudorf.

The firefighters, with trucks on hand, will be joined by representatives of York Region Health Services, along with police officers and paramedics from the region, at the Cango Gas outlet at 14806 Woodbine Ave., from noon until 4 p.m.

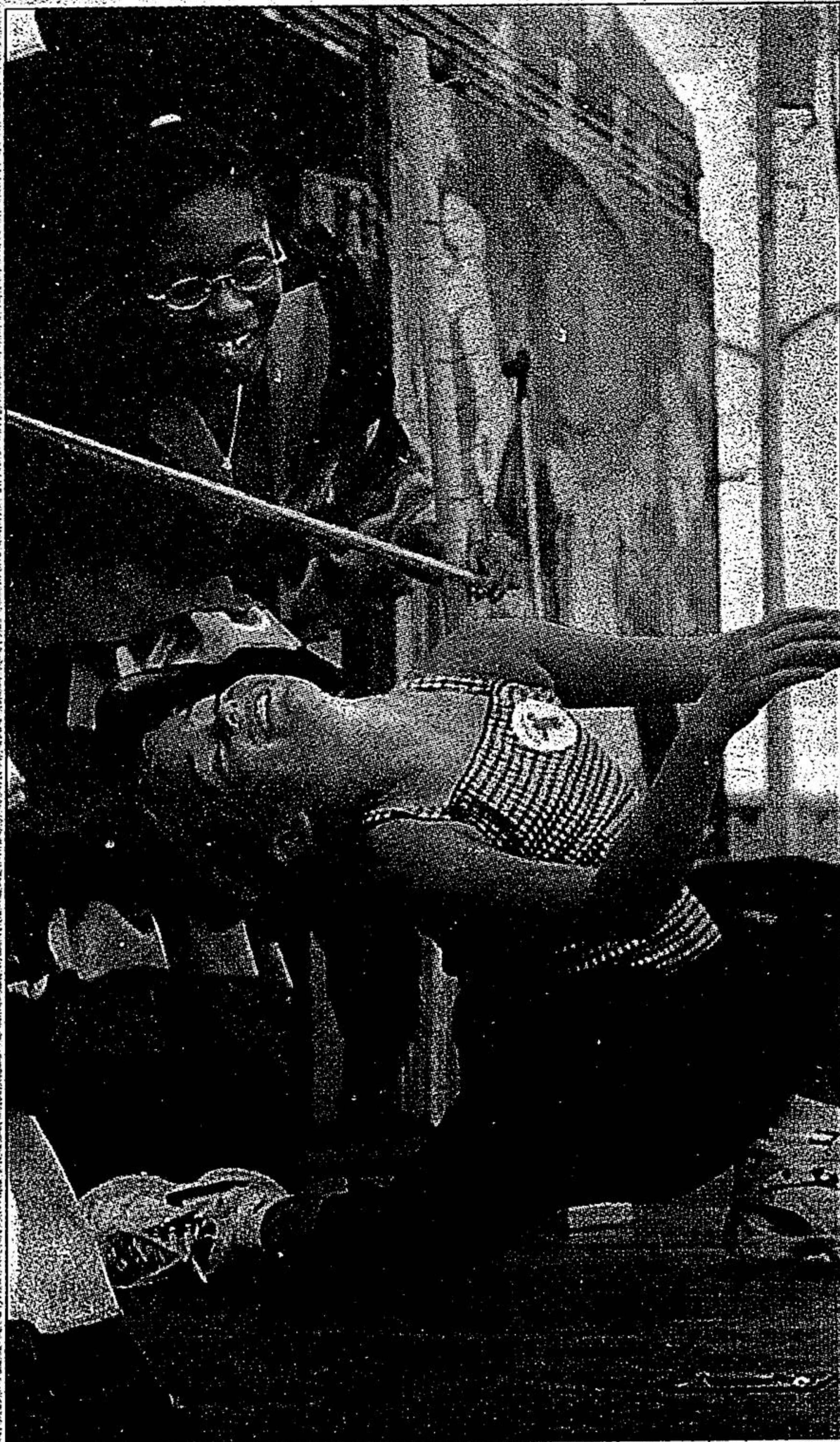
The effort is in support of Risk Watch, a program aimed at promoting injury prevention to elementary school students. One cent from the sale of each litre of premium gasoline goes toward the program, with other volunteers at Cango, Gasrite and Sunys stations in Newmarket, Markham, Maple, Schomberg and Baldwin on the same day.

The program, to be introduced this fall to selected separate and public schools throughout the region, involves a curriculum that includes poison awareness, bicycle, pedestrian and motor vehicle safety, fire and burn prevention, water safety, fall prevention and firearm injury prevention.

"We have a Risk Watch coalition in York Region which is to provide the schools with a curriculum package," said Tim

See BALLANTRAE, page 8.

## HOW LOW CAN YOU GO?



STAFF PHOTO/STEVE SOMERVILLE

Jennifer Shotbolt surprises performer Judith Gulston as she bends her way under a low, low, low limbo stick at the Brainchild Summerfest Saturday in Markham. The festivities help raise funds for brain cancer research. For more photos from the event, see page 9.

## Off-track betting parlour wins challenge

*Company wins right to open location on Main Street*

BY KATHLEEN GRIFFIN  
 Staff Writer

Heritage Champions has won.

Yesterday the Ontario Racing Commission issued the off-track wagering parlour an operating licence to open a teletheatre on Markham's Main Street.

"It's obvious the right decision has been made," said Leslie Patterson, co-owner of the business in the Village Lanes at 144 Main St.

But after eight months of uncertainty and, more recently, preparing a statement of claim for a planned lawsuit against the town, the decision may be too little, too late, said Patterson's husband Daniel Sarafian, who attended the hearing.

"After council's last decision, we decided to go ahead through the courts," he said. "Now I don't know what will happen."

ORC hearing chair Stanley Sadinsky and his four-member panel agreed unanimously that while council's six-six tie vote on July 11 wasn't a ringing



**DON COUZENS:** Markham mayor disappointed with racing commission's decision.

endorsement, neither was it clear opposition.

And he did not agree with town solicitor Rob Robinson that failing a clear mandate either way, council's January 6-4 vote opposing the venue should stand.

"Council was asked to reaffirm its opposition by expressing a lack of support. The issue for us is what inference we should draw from council's unwillingness to express its lack of support. The proper inference to draw is that the Town of Markham neither supports nor opposes the estab-

See UPSET, page 14.

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