

# Firefighter goes to great heights for children

BY ROGER VARLEY  
Staff Writer

As a Markham firefighter, Glenn Edwards often climbs ladders.

Today, he is climbing in full firefighting equipment, including a self-contained breathing unit, the equivalent of the height of Mount Everest. Early next year, he will climb the real thing.

A well-seasoned endurance competitor, the 35-year-old firefighter is climbing on a stair-stepper exercise machine at Markville Shopping Centre at Hwy. 7 and McCowan Road starting at 9:30 a.m.

He expects to complete the equivalent of a 29,035-foot vertical climb after about 11 hours of non-stop stair-stepping.

The 11-year firefighting veteran has two goals in mind. The first is to raise funds for the Children's Wish Foundation of Canada.

While Mr. Edwards climbs, fellow firefighters will pass a boot among onlookers for donations.

"So far we've raised close to \$8,000 and it would be nice to crack the \$10,000 mark," said Mr. Edwards, who works out of Thornhill's Green Lane firehall. "So we need about \$2,000."

The second goal is to stay in shape and bring attention to the real ascent of Mount Everest by a team of firefighters



**GLENN EDWARDS:** Climbing the height of Everest today at Markville Shopping Centre.

he will lead early next year. He hopes to become the first Canadian to reach the summit without supplemental oxygen.

He also hopes the real climb will raise money for the Children's Wish Foundation by "selling" the mountain's 8,850 vertical metres.

Mr. Edwards is no stranger to endurance tests, having travelled the globe in pursuit of adventure.

*His exploits and more on the campaign can be seen at [www.heroesinmotion.com](http://www.heroesinmotion.com).*



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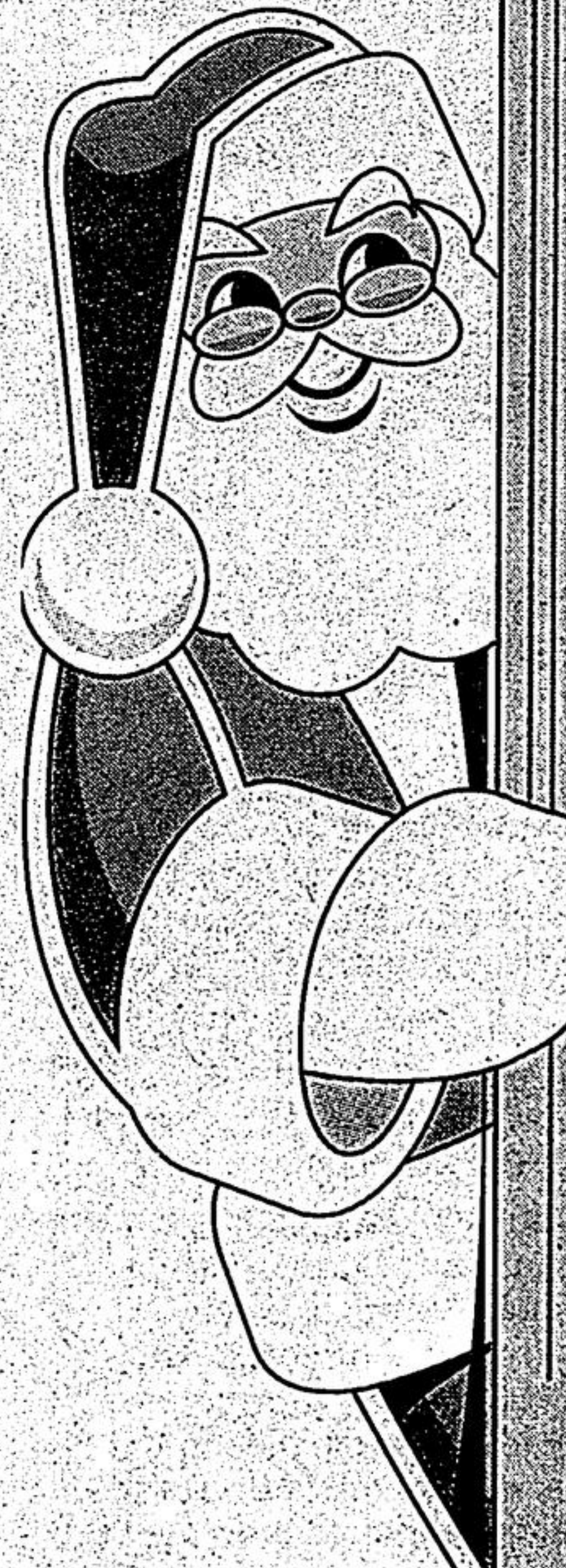
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