

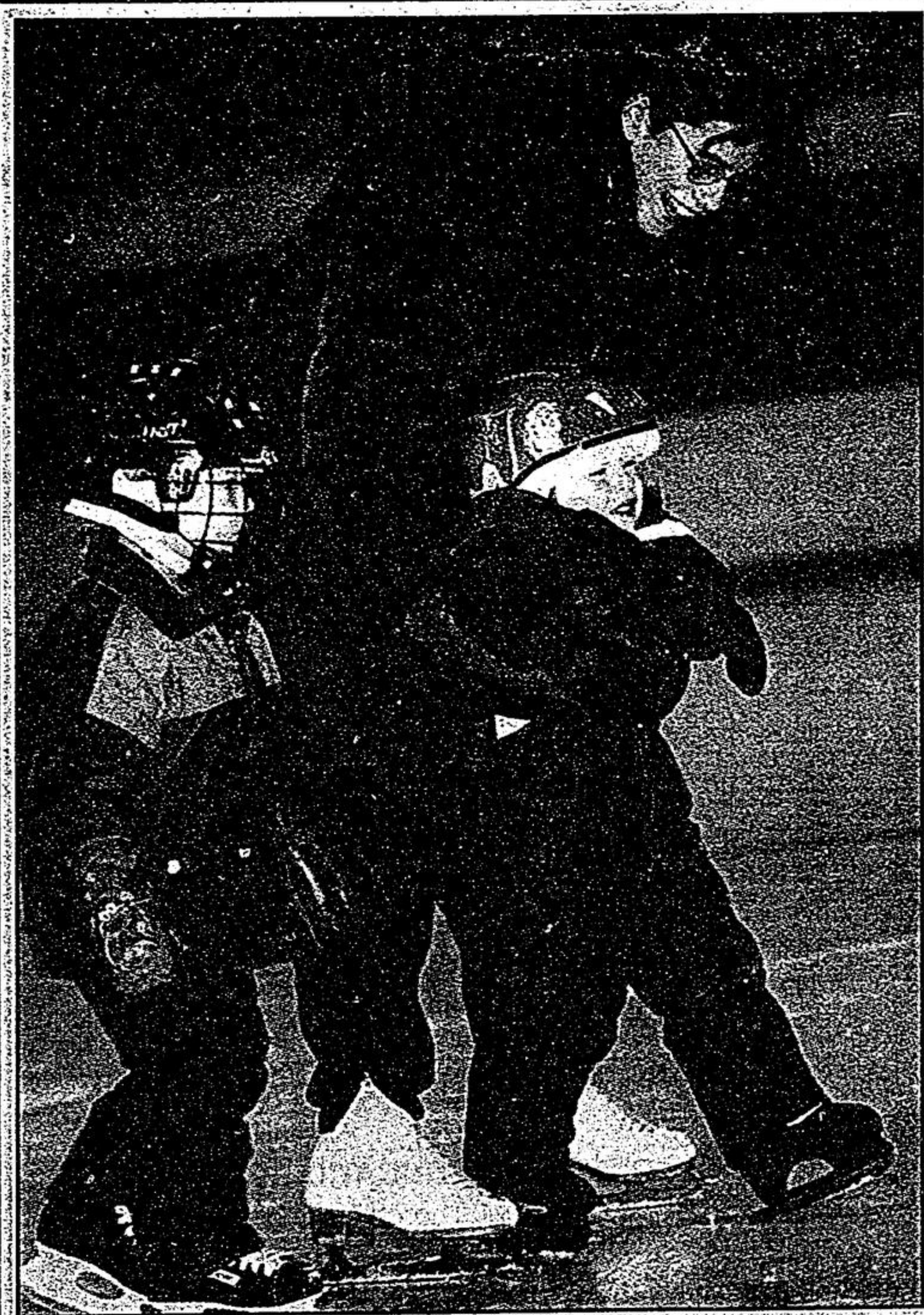
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On ice

Instructor Julia Wilson helps Connor Cadaret as Mark Weygang looks on during the Kidskate Learn to Skate program at the Recreation Complex. Photo/STEVE SOMERVILLE

Phone bills irk councillor

Long distance telephone charges within hamlets in Whitchurch-Stouffville will be eliminated if a move by a local councillor is successful.

On Tuesday, newly elected Ward 2 Councillor Mike Watson will present a notice-of-motion calling for free long distance telephoning within all parts of Whitchurch-Stouffville.

If Bell Canada, local council and the federal government all agree, residents of such hamlets as Ballantrae, Mount Albert, Vandorf, Pine Orchard, Cedar Valley and the Aurora Sideroad will be able to call anywhere in Whitchurch-Stouffville without being charged.

Watson is also asking that Whitchurch-Stouffville have its very own section in the white pages of Bell Canada's phone book instead of sharing it with Markham, Bethesda and Gormley.

York Region

Supercity considered

By KATHLEEN GRIFFIN
 Staff Reporter

York Region and its mayors put just about everything concerning amalgamation on the table Thursday.

For example: Three cities, based on federal government ridings, which would elect councillors and mayors, keeping the status-quo, which rural town mayors believe is still an option, or one mega-city, which would allow communities to keep their identities. A name was even suggested - TROY - for The Region of York.

But about the only thing councillors agreed upon is that they cannot agree on amalgamation.

That disagreement prompted councillors to throw up their hands months ago, deciding to take the issue right off the table and disband the two-year-old governance committee.

But the Toronto megacity decision and more provincial announcements expected in the next few weeks have forced councillors to take another look.

(Minister of Municipal

Affairs) Al Leach is giving us the opportunity to submit changes," governance chair Fred Cox told the committee Thursday.

"He has indicated that restructuring will take place and (implementation commissioner) Milt Farrow has told us we had better start working on a home-made solution."

Cox warned council if it can't agree on a solution, he has no doubt one will be imposed upon it by the province.

He asked Doug Barnes, the

(Please see page 3)

Vandorf group files complaint about noise on Hwy 404

By JOAN RANSBERRY
 Staff Reporter

More than 30 Vandorf residents have filed an official

noise complaint against Hwy 404.

Noise from the north-south provincial highway is adversely affecting the quali-

ty of life in the community, members of the Vandorf Ratepayers Association have charged.

"We wake to the morning (traffic) noise from rush hour, starting at about 5 a.m., carrying on through the day, peaking again in the early evening. It's getting worse. The only time I don't hear the traffic is when the train whistle blows," said A. Christopher Dymond, an Executive Drive resident and lawyer.

Vandorf residents are especially bothered by the traffic during the summer months.

"It's impossible to enjoy our backyards or, at times, to sit inside," said Dymond.

Darryl Crawford's home backs on to the highway. "Yes, we notice the noise in the summer. With increased development in our area, it brings more traffic," said

(Please see page 2)



Noisebusters

From left, Dave and Ivanka Bradley, Darryl Crawford, Nicole Bridges, Cathy and Christopher Dymond are protesting the noise levels from the nearby Hwy 404 (at right). Photo/STEVE SOMERVILLE



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