

Weekend Edition, Saturday, January 5, 2002 - .

## newest babies Local parents proudly present West Niagara's

tion to their family units.

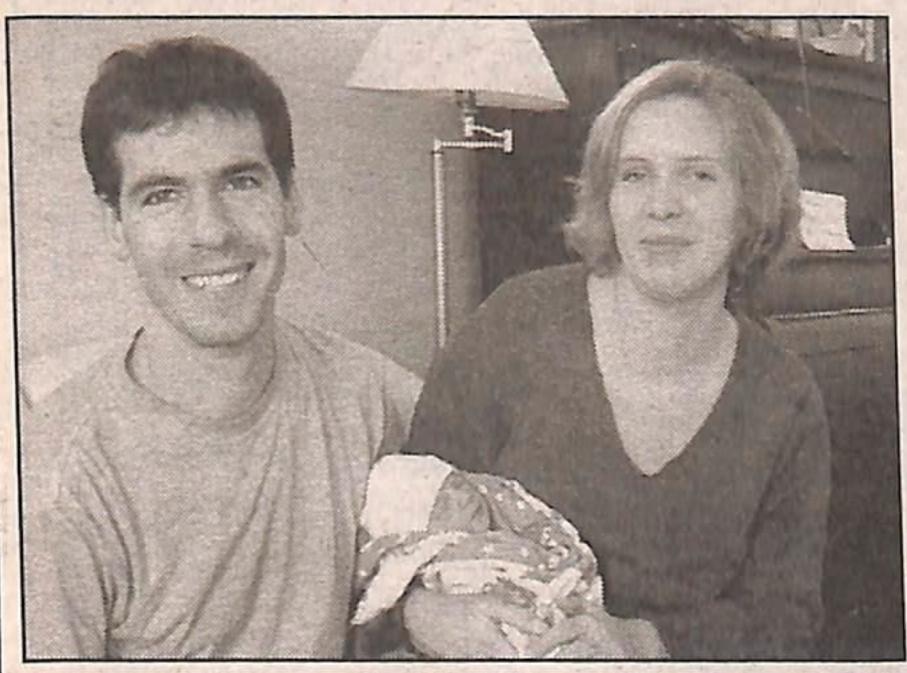
At exactly 4:37 a.m. on Jonah January

Jeff and two older siblings.

Born on schedule, this newest Grimsby resident Wotherspoon made his was the first New Year's

On January 1, residents entry into the world as the of West Niagara gathered first baby to be born in the West Lincoln Memorial an array of donated items to celebrate the New Year, area of West Niagara. Hospital. In honour of his birth, President of the champagne, but for two and ten ounces, little Jonah Hospital Auxiliary Barb carrying everything home. engraved with his birth date and a small blue teddy bear to keep him company in his crib. Local businesses pitched in and presented

families the time was spent was welcomed by his Page, presented Jonah Not too long after preparing for a new addi- mother Sarah and father with a silver spoon Jonah's arrival, the second West Niagara baby and the first home birthed child, joined her family at 7:15 a.m. in their Beamsville Daughter of home. Andrew and Teresa Knegt,



Andrew and Teresa Knegt of Beamsville show off their youngest child Ashlyn Dawn. Born at 7:15 a.m. on January , Ashlyn was the second baby to be born in the West Niagara area in the New Year, but the first to be born with the assistance of a midwife in their family home.



Before heading home from the hospital and starting life anew, the Wotherspoon family of Grimsby, takes a moment for a quick picture with their newest addition. From left to right are Sarah, Jonah, Caleb, Haley and Jeff. Born at 4:37 a.m. on January 1, Jonah was the first baby of the New Year to be born in the West Lincoln Memorial Hospital and in all of West Niagara.

Ashlyn Dawn Knegt is the fifth child to be born in her family and the first to be born at home.

Opting for a home birth supervised by a midwife, Mrs. Knegt stated that she wouldn't have traded the intimate experience for the most clinical institution available.

"This way you don't have to go out into the cold and you don't have to worry about getting caught

in the van," said Mrs. Knegt. "And as far as I know, my family doctor does not deliver, but she (the midwife) is there the whole time and you know who you're getting."

Although Jonah will be the last child to grace the Wotherspoon family, the Knegt's claim they will hold out for as many children as the Lord gives them.