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Nancy and Brad Cripps hold their new daughter, Cassandra, who was impatient to be born into the world and arrived early at the Cripps' home last week. Photo by Wendy Long.

## Surprise home delivery

By Wendy Long

Baby Cassandra Cripps arrived exactly the day she was due - but she had no intention of waiting to get to the hospital.

Cassandra was delivered by Acton mom Nancy Cripps, 29, early last Wednesday morning in her home with the help of 10-year-old son Mark.

Cripps said she went to bed Tuesday evening "just like normal." The baby was due the next day, but Cripps hadn't felt any warning signs and didn't expect the baby.

She woke up shortly after midnight with labor pains. She woke eldest son Mark to get him ready to head to Grandma's and called her husband, Brad, at work. She timed her first recognizable pain at 12:29 a.m.

Before Cripps had a chance to wake her youngest son Adam, 6, she realized the baby was coming...and quickly.

As she was calling 911, Cripps felt the baby's head. "I dropped the phone and Mark picked it up," Cripps said.

Mark began relaying information from the 911 operator to his mother, telling her to lie down.

"I didn't want to at first," Cripps said. "I knew the baby was coming and I thought she would come sooner if I lied down."

But Cripps did lie down on the

couch while Mark continued to relay help from the 911 operator.

Brad arrived home, saw the baby's head and ran "right back up the stairs" to greet the ambulance, Cripps said.

By the time the ambulance attendants arrived downstairs, Cripps was holding her new daughter in her arms. Cassandra Tessa Ann Faith arrived at 12:45 a.m. January 20, about 15 minutes after Cripps timed her first labor pain. Mom and newborn were taken to Georgetown hospital, where she weighed in at a healthy 7 lbs, 3 1/2 oz.

Cripps said she was in labor with her first child, Mark, for eight hours, but gave birth to Adam only 15 minutes after she was admitted to the hospital. Cassandra decided to beat the record.

"Mark didn't sleep all night long he was so excited about his baby sister," Cripps said. "He couldn't wait to get to school and tell everyone about it."

Cripps said she received excellent care in the hospital, and thanks Dr. Cawkwell, Dr. Andrews and the nursing staff.

"To me the heroes of it are my son, the telephone operator on 911 and Ian and Valerie, the ambulance attendants," said Cripps, expressing her gratitude.

Proud grandparents are Margaret and Lyle Cripps, who welcome Cassandra as their sixth grandchild.

## RSI continues landfill hearing pursuit

By Dianne Cornish

Reclamation Systems Incorporated (RSI), a private company which has proposed the establishment of a landfill in a mined-out portion of the Acton Quarry, has "no intention" of withdrawing its proposal. Official confirmation of the RSI position is contained in a recent letter from one of the company's lawyers to Environment Minister Ruth Grier.

A copy of the letter and accompanying information about RSI's continued pursuit of a hearing before a Consolidated Hearings Board (CHB) was included in a staff report to Halton Region's planning and public works committee, Wednesday. In his report, Halton's planning commissioner Rash Mohammed said notice has been given that "RSI is proceeding with its application to the Joint Board and that all deficiencies identified by the Joint Board decision of September 16, 1992 are intended to be rectified so that RSI will be in a position to again request the establishment of a new Joint Board Hearing at the earliest possible date."

In light of the information, Mohammed suggested that regional council might want to reconsider a proposed \$50,000 reduction in the non-program expenditure section of its 1993 budget. Retaining the money would help cover the region's costs for any hearing preparation that might be required this year or next, the report said.

No members of the planning and public works committee commented on the report, which was received as information. Regional council will have an opportunity to look at Mohammed's report and other items on the committee's agenda at its meeting next Wednesday.

The RSI application was the subject of a preliminary CHB hearing in Acton last June. On September 16, 1992, the Board ruled that it has no jurisdiction to deal with the matter, basically because RSI had not completed applications necessary to allow for the calling of a hearing under the terms of the Consolidated Hearings Act (CHA).

A section of the RSI lawyer's letter to Environment Minister Grier, dated Dec. 9, 1992, clearly states the company's objective hasn't

changed since the Board announced its decision. "RSI is, understandably, disappointed in the September 16th decision of the Joint Board in relation to its preliminary hearing, but has no intention of withdrawing its application," the letter states.

After Wednesday's committee meeting, when asked to comment on RSI's intention to have the proposal come back before a hearing, Mohammed said, "I'm not surprised, but I am surprised that they've come back this quickly."

Halton Hills town administrator Dan Costea said the town received official word of the company's restated notice to the Environmental Assessment Board's hearing officer, "just before or after the beginning of the year (1993)." He, too, said it was "no surprise" that RSI has decided to proceed with its application for the Acton Quarry landfill.

RSI president Walter Graziani confirmed during a telephone interview Thursday that the company will pursue a hearing. "We still are proceeding; we never withdrew," he said.

Graziani said the company is  
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## Group discusses racial concerns

By Laura Salverda

A meeting on Tuesday in Georgetown drew 28 concerned citizens opposing racism and was deemed a success by both organizers, local resident, Elizabeth Carmichael, and Anti-Racism Consultant with the Ontario Anti-Racism Secretariat, Saleem Yacoub.

"It was a good meeting," Yacoub said. "Everybody was asked to speak and show their concerns."

Yacoub said he began the meeting with a brief overview of the "five guiding principles" of the Anti-Racism Secretariat: all government agencies taking an active role to combat racism, recognizing the racial diversity of Ontario when designing and delivering services, forming co-operative partnerships with local governments, groups and businesses for shared responsibility of problems, forming commitments to initiatives that are open and inclusive to reach out to those who have not previously been heard and recognizing and respecting the unique identity of aboriginal peoples.

"The question everybody was asking though, was, 'where do we go from here?'" Yacoub continued. "We want to establish a permanent vehicle to deal with any situation or recurrence of this kind with the Klan or any of these violent groups."

"The answer lies in more effective education. We want to establish a partnership between the schools and the community to enlighten the public, our sons and daughters."

Yacoub, who has travelled the globe, described Canada and especially Ontario as a great place to live.

"We as Canadians are and always will be the envy of the universe. No  
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