

‘DRIVE FASTER, THE BABY IS COMING’

By Matthew Manguso, mmanguso@subletteexaminer.com

PINEDALE – It doesn’t happen very often – it’s been so long since a baby was born in the Marbleton/Big Piney Clinic no one could put an exact date on it – but when a baby is ready, it’s ready and that means parents have to seek medical care quickly.

For Raven and Ethan Schroeder, this was exactly the case Saturday when their new baby girl Jocelynn decided she was ready to enter the world.

“It was very exciting,” Raven said with a chuckle.

It all began last Friday when Raven and her two young sons decided to drive up from Evanston and pay a visit to Ethan, who works on a rig in the Jonah Field. The family checked into a hotel in Pinedale and settled in for a comfortable weekend together. Saturday morning, Ethan went to work, and a few hours later Raven began having contractions and birth pangs. Frantically, Raven called her husband and told him the baby was coming, now.

“It’s about an hour from his rig to the hotel where we were staying so he rushed home, picked me and my two sons up and we drove to Marbleton.”

The reason the Schroeder’s chose the Marbleton Clinic was both out of necessity and, coincidentally, that they knew Dr. Deborah Brackett was on duty. Brackett, who returned to the clinic last April, had a special connection to the Schroeder family; when she was in Lovell, she delivered a granddaughter of North Big Horn Hospital CEO Rick Schroeder, Ethan’s father.

“When she went into labor, Ethan called Rick and said, ‘What do I do?’ and Rick said go to the Marbleton Clinic,” Brackett said. “Then Rick called me and said I was going to be delivering another one of his grandchildren.”

With a doctor ready and waiting, the Schroeder’s got on the road and began racing toward the clinic at a very high speed.

“Oh, about 117 mph,” Raven said with a nervous



COURTESY PHOTO

Dr. Deborah Brackett holds newborn Jocelynn Schroeder, who was minutes away from being born in her parent’s car.

laugh. “I was scared to death that she was going to be born in the middle of nowhere and that my husband and I would have to deliver her. I kept saying, ‘She’s coming. Drive faster.’”

Luckily, Ethan remained calm and was able to

soothe his wife’s anxiety while navigating the road, and their two sons, who are two and three years old, sat quietly in the backseat.

“I don’t think they’ll ever forget that experience,” she said.

Though it felt like an eternity, the family made it to the clinic in record speed, and just in the nick of time – they reached the clinic at 10:38 a.m. and little Jocelynn arrived just five minutes later at 10:43 a.m.

“I don’t remember much about the delivery, it went so fast,” Raven said. “I do remember them saying I have to push and then I asked my husband if she was here and he said, ‘yea, the baby’s out.’”

With only two pushes, Jocelynn came into the world weighing 4 pounds, 11 ounces and measuring 18.25 inches long.

When things had calmed down a bit, Raven and Jocelynn were transported back to Evanston by ambulance, where they spent the next 24 hours in the hospital just to make sure mother and child were OK, which they were.

“It was going to happen no matter what. I’m just glad she made it down here,” Brackett said. “It was kind of fun. What are the odds of delivering the same person’s granddaughter?”

Coincidences aside, the Schroeders were thrilled to have a healthy baby girl born in a medical clinic instead of on the side of the road in the sagebrush.

“The doctors and nurses and everyone at the clinic were so calm and fantastic. They were just great,” Raven said.

Now, it’s back to business as usual for the Schroeders. Ethan has a couple weeks off from work, Raven is comfortably back home and their sons are excited to have a new baby sister. And in case you were wondering if Raven and Ethan are planning on adding any more kids to the bunch: “At least not for a few years. We’ve had enough excitement.”



Happy Birthday PAC!

NEW PROGRAMS

LEARN TO NORDIC SKI:
Feb. 10 @ 6 - 7:30pm (Class); Feb. 15 & 22 @ 1 - 4pm (On-snow)
Learn the basics and more to go nordic skiing on your own!

DISCOVER SCUBA DIVING: Tuesday, Feb. 4 from 5:30 - 7:30pm
Learn the basics of scuba diving with PADI certified instructors!

PADI OPEN WATER SCUBA DIVING:
Tuesdays, Feb. 18, 25 & March 4 from 5:30 - 9pm.
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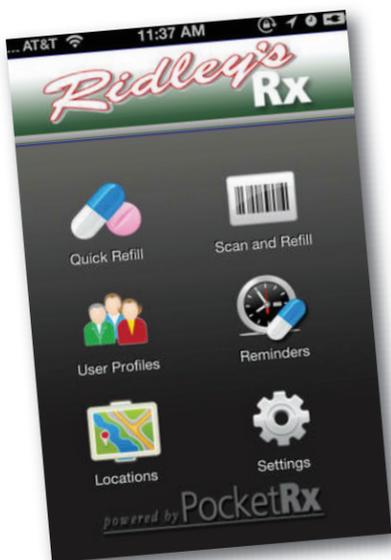
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