



Chance Porsborg preparing to shear a sheep at David Wall and Stacy Zahn's farm this past Saturday. (Submitted picture)

■ **SHEAR**Ctd. from 1A

Once he finished school, he started his own business which continues today where he shears

for 40 to 50 sheep producers and 20 to 30 hobby farmers. On average, Porsborg can shear 160 to 200 sheep in a day and shears around 5,000 sheep each year. Porsborg at times also partners

up with a man from Medina to shear lambs. For Porsborg, the Zahns and Walls, they really like working with sheep and enjoy being around them.

■ **HALL** Ctd. from 1A

went to bed that evening but woke up at 2 a.m. feeling contractions which carried on into the early morning hours. At that time, she called her midwife team in Minot to tell them she was coming and by 6:42 a.m. Ethan and Lexi were on their way.

However, ten minutes down the road Lexi knew that she wouldn't be able to make it to Minot. She told Ethan to turn around, throw on his hazard lights and speed it up to SMP Health St. Andrew's. The goal was to get to St. Andrew's emergency room to have the baby. The plan almost worked but as they entered the parking lot their little girl was born right there in the pickup.

Officially, Mackenzie Alanna Hall was born at 7:02 a.m. on Sunday, March 15. For Lexi, and the timing on how Mackenzie was born, was a gift from God. She pointed out that at if the labor would have happened further down the road an ambulance would have needed to come to her, but since the labor started just out of Bottineau she was able to get to St. Andrew's and have medical attention at once right there in the hospital's parking lot.

Another miracle that Lexi spoke about is that the nurses at St. Andrew's work 12-hour shifts and the change up happens each day at 7 a.m. and 7 p.m. As they pulled into the parking lot, a nurse had just arrived for the day and quickly went to Lexi's aid and helped her in delivering Mackenzie, along with other staff members from the ER that Ethan ran into the hospital to get help from.

And, for Lexi, one other miracle happened that morning in all the excitement that was going on. She said that she felt her father's presence, Mitch Schmidt, who lost his life at an early age from cancer, that morning, guiding her in a way as decisions were being made on the road.

After the birth, Lexi and Mackenzie were taken into St. Andrew's emergency room for care and monitoring. She and Mackenzie were then put into an



Pictured above is Ethan and Lexi Hall with their children Mackenzie and Colson. (Submitted photo)

ambulance and sent to Trinity for care.

According to Nikole Soli, public relations and foundation director at SMP Health St. Andrew's, the birth of Mackenzie and St. Andrew's aid goes much further than the ER room.

"What makes this story even more special is the continuity of care behind it," Soli said. "Prior to Mackenzie's birth, Lexi had received her prenatal care right here at St. Andrew's with Kelly Tiffany, FNP, who worked closely along side her midwife at Trinity."

"Dr. Tyrone Berentson, M.D., the provider at St. Andrew's for the Hall family's children well checks, will continue caring for Mckenzie as she grows, something the family is very excited about," Soli said. "When Lexi reflects on the experience, one message rises above everything else. She shared that throughout

this entire journey she felt safe, supported and truly cared for – in the moments of uncertainty and urgency, the tight-knit nature of the community surrounded her family.

"That sense of belonging – knowing help is close, familiar, and deeply compassionate is what made all the difference. Mackenzie Alanna Hall's birth is a beautiful reminder that in our community, extraordinary care can happen anywhere, even in a parking lot, and that family isn't just who you're born into, but who shows up when it matters most."

For Lexi, she is thankful for her care at St. Andrew's. "The care was great," Lexi said. "Our family was blessed that morning by all the assistance St. Andrew's gave to Mackenzie and I and our entire family." Mackenzie one day as she grows older will have a great story about how she was born.

■ **KALK** Ctd. from 1A

Service commissioner where he made regulatory decisions that concerned energy production, transmission and pipeline safety. "He worked closely with numerous stakeholders, providing input, analysis and perspective on complex issues while building strong relationships with leaders across the state," the press release said.

Outside of his position with the public service commission, Kalk has taught at North Dakota State University, the University of Mary and Park University.

"His teaching portfolio includes logistics, environmental policy, energy management, and organizational leadership,"

the press release stated. "He has worked with traditional and non-traditional, military, and international learners, demonstrating a strong commitment to student achievement and academic quality."

Kalk has also served as the assisted vice president for Strategic Partnerships, director of the Energy Systems, Design and Operations and executive director of NDSU Research and Technology Park.

He also served on the National Coal Council, president of the Midwest Area Regulatory Commissioners, chair of the Clean Coal and Carbon Management Committee of the National Association of Regulatory Commissioners and

as a member of the 2015 U.S. Department of Energy Clean Coal Technology delegation to China.

Kalk also has one other special reason in being named the president of Bismarck State College, his father is a graduate of Bismarck State College in its lineman school.

There were 51 applications for the president of Bismarck State College and the BSC Presidential Search Committee interviewed 11 candidates in the initial round to a field of six where Kalk was chosen as the president of the college.

Editor's Note: Information for this article came from the SBHE, the Bottineau Courant and Brian Kalk.

■ **BCSO** Ctd. from 4A

that Frazer might have dementia and may be confused.

Along with the BCSO, the Bottineau Fire Department and EMS started to look for

her that morning. In the early afternoon, the BCSO placed an emergency response call to all residents to assist in the search, which brought people out to search for her.

According to a relative of

Fraser, she was found inside a small, unheated trailer sleeping. She was taken to SMP-Health St. Andrew's where she was checked over and observed and was then discharged to a family member.

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