LOCAL NEWBORN NEARLY HITS THE TRAILS

By Aubrey Bird, Staff

L ifelong Burkittsville resident Rosemary Kent entered into labor two months early while taking a scenic stroll through the Black Hills Forest with her husband Saturday.

The Kents have made a habit of taking a light walk every day just to get out of the house, according to father Hudson Kent.

"I remember catching a glimpse of our initials carved high up in a tree inside of a heart, which I know we did as teenagers," Rosemary Kent said. "Only this looked fresh. It was still bleeding dark sap."

"Then, I felt a chill go down my spine, and I knew that Tristan was going to be born on that day, and if we didn't get moving, it would happen right there in that forest," Kent reflected with a smile as she held the newborn Tristan in her arms.



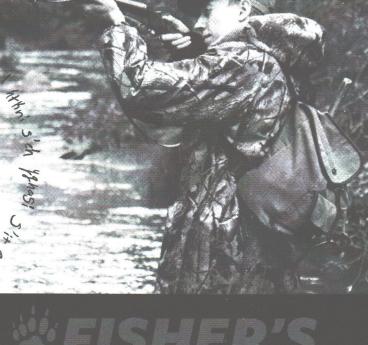
The Kents rushed to the hospital, where Rosemary gave birth to a healthy baby boy, according to doctors.

Despite his premature birth, doctors said Tristan Kent was in great health, although his ecstatic parents were surprised to note that he didn't even cry.

"What can I say, besides that I'm glad we made it out in time and got Rosie and the baby to a hospital," Hudson Kent said. "I can't imagine anything worse than being stuck in the forest with a medical emergency to worry about. Let alone when there's a kid involved."

Tristan will be kept in the hospital under observation for a few more days before being sent home to join his adoring family, according to Rosemary Kent.

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