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MEDIA RELEASE:

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New Year Baby 2019

Myra Judith Dawn Mitchell was the first baby born at Norfolk General Hospital for 2019. Myra was delivered by Caesarean Section at 1:27 in the morning on January 1 weighing 8 pounds, 6 ounces. The proud parents Jenna Moerschfelder, 27 and Ian Mitchell, 28 of Selkirk said they did not know until Myra's birth that they were having a little girl. "There are so few surprises left and we wanted to be surprised" said Ian. However, they did have names picked out; Myra is named after her grandmothers.

Giving birth on New Year's Day was a surprise as well as the baby was due on December 26, 2018. Jenna said that she started contractions on December 30 at 3:30 in the morning. The couple arrived at NGH on December 31 at 8:30am. Myra was delivered at 1:27am on January 1.

As for the birthing experience, new mom Jenna remarked "We had a great support team (NGH and the Midwives of East Erie) and, I only yelled at Ian once! I don't think it could have gone any better. The nurses were great, friendly, bubbly, advice on positioning – they held my hand and even had party hats for all of us, although I don't quite remember my hat."

The couple wishes to thank Mahnaz Najafian and Juanita Peterson from Midwives of East Erie, Dr. Jamie Szabo and the attending nurses. They also expressed thanks to the NGH Board of Directors for the gift of a Musical Snow Globe and the Volunteer Association to Norfolk General Hospital and Norfolk Hospital Nursing Home for the handmade receiving blanket. "We wanted to have our baby at a small, rural hospital. The NGH staff and the Midwives were great to us" explained new dad Ian.

Jenna is a Personal Support Worker at Anson Place Care Centre in Hagersville. Ian is with the Maintenance Department at West Haldimand General Hospital. The couple is engaged to be married but said wedding plans are now on hold for the time being and the date is to be determined while they care for their newborn.

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