Commentary:

Stating Jefferson’s Case for a Retail/Garage Facility

By Thomas J. Lewis, President and Chief Executive Officer, Thomas Jefferson University Hospital

Jefferson Health System Affirms Continuing Strength in Series of Actions

In a series of affirming the current financial strength of the Jefferson Health System (JHS), the JHS Board unanimously agreed to a new and revitalizing set of principles designed to meet the needs of JHS members and the communities JHS serves.

The JHS Board’s approval is a reflection of the principles by Joseph T. Sebastianelli, JHS President and CEO, came after a year of extensive deliberation among JHS members to ensure that JHS and its members continue as the premier healthcare system in the Delaware Valley.

The JHS goal is to maintain the status of the JHS members as providing of leading-edge quality healthcare services to their communities and to assure continued financial stability by now and into the future.

The key principles, approved by both the JHS Board and each member Board, enable the continued financial stability of JHS and include that:

• Each JHS member will provide services within its own community based on the needs of that community as determined by its own Board of Trustees and medical staff within (JHS-defined financial standards).

• Thomas Jefferson University will continue as the primary academic affiliate of all JHS members.

• In addition, JHS will:

  • Maintain its financial strength through establishment of financial standards and performance goals for each member.

  • Reinforce and strengthen the members’ ability to cope with the medical malpractice insurance crisis through innovative and fiscally sound insurance and risk management programs.

  • Work to improve the quality of medical care through collaborative efforts by members to measure and assess their clinical outcomes.

  • Work to strengthen the position and relationship of JHS members with third-party payers. The goal is to achieve fair rates and appropriate administration of claims to meet the challenges of reimbursement and the cost of new medical technologies.

  • These principles provide JHS with the foundation for our next stage of development. I look forward to working with each of you as we embark on this new chapter in JHS history and value your continued support and individual contributions,” concludes Mr. Sebastianelli.

A Fun Time for All at Nurses’ Ball!

Nursing administration, several physician groups and area businesses helped to sponsor the First Annual Holiday Ball for nursing employees, family members and friends. All 160 who attended agree—it was a roaring success. So much so that you can book December 6, 2003 for the “second annual.” Deborah Caplan, RN, MSN, Nurse Manager and Sarah Gleason, RN, MSN, Nurse Manager, were the co-organizers. “We wanted to celebrate nursing and the very important work that Jefferson nurses do,” says Mrs. Caplan. Here are a few scenes from the event, showing Jefferson employees and family members.

In the photo below are: (1) Deborah Caplan, RN, MSN, and her husband Edward; (2) From left, Nancy McGaughey, RN, Doreena Kende cleanliness, RN, and her husband; (3) From left, Kebba Taylor, RN, Judi Anner, RN, MD, Kathy Lemer, RN, MD, and Darla Warner, RN, MSN; (4) Candice Callister, RN, and her husband; (5) At right, Diem Anh Nguyen, RN, BSN, with her brother.

Gerard T. Berry, MD, JMC ’75, Named JMC Vice Dean for Research

Gerard T. Berry, MD, JMC ’75, has been appointed Vice Dean for Research, Jefferson Medical College (JMC).

In making the announcement, Thomas J. Nasca, MD, University Senior Vice President and Dean, JMC, said: “Dr. Berry is an outstanding addition to our leadership team. He brings experience and insight in research, both basic and that translated into direct benefit to patients. He has made seminal discoveries in disorders affecting children with disordered metabolism, and will assist Jefferson’s clinical and research faculty achieve our vision for Jefferson at its 200th anniversary.”

Dr. Berry comes to Jefferson from George Washington University School of Medicine and Health Sciences where he has been Professor of Pediatrics since 2001.

Before that, his entire medical career was spent in Philadelphia.

In this Issue:

Retirement Planning Fair Set for March 4

Weather Emergency Hotline 1-800-858-8806

Hospital to Launch OmniBuret® Paperless Purchasing System
Smallpox Vaccination Plan Being Formulated

The Federal Centers for Disease Control has recommended that certain hospital-based healthcare workers be vaccinated for smallpox. The Jefferson Hospital Emergency Management Committee has been meeting over the past year to formulate a plan for Jefferson personnel. Committee members are aware of conflicting news reports and of employee questions and concerns. Members are working with government representatives at both national and local levels, and are waiting for necessary government information to complete the Jefferson plan. At the moment, there are no finalized plans to vaccinate Jefferson employees. The Committee will continue to consider all of the risks and benefits involved in a smallpox vaccination program. When details of the plan are ready to be announced, employees will be notified through the regular channels.

Mathew L. Thakur, PhD, Elected Vice President, Society of Nuclear Medicine

Mathew L. Thakur, PhD, has been elected Vice President-Elect of the Society of Nuclear Medicine, which has 13,600 members, 23 percent of whom are international. He will serve as President-Elect of the Society in 2003-04 and as President in 2004-05. Dr. Thakur is Director, Radiopharmaceutical Research Division, Division of Nuclear Medicine, Department of Radiology, Jefferson Medical College, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. He is also Professor of Radiation Oncology (JMC), and a member of his Kimmel Cancer Center staff.

Raphael J. DeHoratius, MD, Named 66th President of American College of Rheumatology

Raphael J. DeHoratius, MD, Professor of Medicine and Associate Director of the Division of Rheumatology, Jefferson Medical College (JMC), has been named the 66th President of the American College of Rheumatology (ACR). Dr. DeHoratius joined the JMC faculty as an Assistant Professor of Medicine in 1979 and has been a member of ACR since 1974. In announcing his presidency, ACR cited Dr. DeHoratius as a “dedicated and prolific volunteer in the organization” with “distinguished service for the ACR” including chairing numerous committees and subcommittees and serving on the ACR Board of Directors from 1990 to 1994 and from 1997 to the present.

Choir Seeking Instrumentalists

The Thomas Jefferson University Choir is looking for instrumentalists to play in the orchestra for the upcoming 2003 Spring Concert. Always needed are violins, viola, celli and bass players as well as woodwinds and brass players. Clarinet, flute, trombone, bass guitar, electric guitar and drums are particularly needed for this concert. Rehearsals will be the afternoons of March 31 and April 2 for the performance April 4. Interested musicians should call Peggy Barosky at 215-746-0385.

University Names Flynn A. Andrizzi New Vice President for Institutional Advancement

After an extensive national search, Flynn A. Andrizzi has been named Vice President for Institutional Advancement, Thomas Jefferson University. Mr. Andrizzi comes to Jefferson from the University of Utah Health Sciences Center, Salt Lake City where he served as Executive Vice President of Institutional Advancement for the John A. Moran Eye Center. At the Moran Eye Center he planned and implemented a $6.5 million capital campaign, the Campaign for Vision.

“In these challenging times for academic medical centers, Mr. Andrizzi’s success in a broad range of development activities will be an asset to Jefferson,” said Paul C. Brucker, M.D., University President. “His experience ranging from completing a highly successful capital campaign to managing major gift programs makes him an excellent choice for this position.

Prior to working at the John A. Moran Eye Center, Mr. Andrizzi served as Director of Major Gifts and Gift Planning for the University of Utah Central Development Office.

Mr. Andrizzi served as President of the Utah Planned Giving Roundtable in 2001. As a professional, Mr. Andrizzi has participated in numerous fundraising institutes and planning giving seminars with CASE, the Council for the Advancement and Support of Education, and the National Conference on Planned Giving. In his community, he served on the Board of Trustees of the Maas-A-Wish Foundation and as Chair of its Development Committee.

Mr. Andrizzi began his development career with the Mayo’s Task Force for the Homeless in Salt Lake City where his first project was helping to raise more than $2.2 million to construct the first homeless shelter in Salt Lake City.

A graduate of the University of Utah, he received a BS degree in communication and political science in 1990 and a master of public administration degree in human resource management in 1993. He is a doctoral candidate in educational leadership and policy at the University of Utah.

Hospitals Appoints New Vice President for Development

Stephan T. Smith has been named Vice president for Development, a newly created position at Thomas Jefferson University Hospital. He joins the hospital from Villanova University where he served as Senior Director of Development and Director of Major Gifts. There, he managed Villanova’s national major gifts program supporting the $200 million Campaign for Villanova.

“We have created this new position in order to build on the hospital’s outside support from the community,” said Thomas J. Lewis, hospital President and CEO. “Mr. Smith’s expertise in development management will make him a great addition to our staff.”

Before Villanova, Mr. Smith was Senior Development Officer for Major Gifts at Columbia University New York City.

Employee Benefits Hosting Retirement Planning Fair March 4

Employee Benefits will be hosting The Retirement Planning Fair March 4 at the Connelly Center, Room 101, Bimser Life Sciences Building (BSL), from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Open to all employees, the event will provide an opportunity to start or continue planning for the important life event of retirement.

Employers may stop by at any time during the Fair’s hours.

Representatives from TIAA-CREF, Fidelity Investments, The Vanguard Group, Citigroup, Independence Blue Cross, Medicare, Social Security Administration, and Gift Planning for the University of Utah Central Development Office.

For more information, contact Maria Reilly at 215-822-2063 or Barbara Warner at 215-826-2403.

Templeton Grant to Jefferson Medical College Phases Spiritual and Palliative Care Into Curriculum

Jefferson Medical College (JMC) has received the “Spirituality and Medicine Curricular Award” from the John Templeton Foundation, permitting Spiritual, Cultural, and End-of-Life Components (SCELC) to be integrated in the four-year end-of-life issues within existing required courses.

Principal Investigator for the award is James D. Pimlott, MD, Clinical Associate Professor of Family Medicine and Director, Center for Palliative Care.

The award is additionally important to Dr. Pimlott, because it allows Jefferson to emphasize important components of cancer care for the doctor-patient relationship, and the impact of spirituality, broadly defined, in the lives of patients, students and faculty.

University Celebrating Black History Month

Contact Activities Office at 3-7473 for events schedule.

The Jefferson Child Care Center has availability now for children in:

Infants

Young Toddlers 1

Older Toddlers 2

Preschool 3
Edward H. Jasper, M.D., Honored with Second Annual ‘Arthur D. Blackshaw Award for Courage’

Edward H. Jasper, M.D., Clinical Assistant Professor of Emergency Medicine, Jefferson Medical College, was honored as the recipient of the Second Annual ‘Arthur D. Blackshaw Award for Courage.’

The award presentation highlighted the fourth annual Domestic Terrorism Conference sponsored by Thomas Jefferson University Hospital. The continuing education workshop and conference was expanded to two full days because of the success of the previous conferences, and the increasing need for emergency ‘First Responders,’ including healthcare professionals, to be informed about the issue of domestic terrorism.

Dr. Jasper, who is Co-Chair of the hospital’s Emergency Management Committee, delivered the conference’s opening presentation, “Hospitl Preparedness.” Emergency Management Committee Co-Chair Eleanor Gates, RN, MSN, hospital Vice President for Neurosurgery and Trauma, presented the Blackshaw Award to Dr. Jasper. Linda Wilson, RN, PhD, Nursing, was Program Coordinator for the fourth straight year.

The award was created in memory of Mr. Blackshaw, a certified registered nurse anesthetist at Thomas Jefferson University Hospital, a Naval Reserve Fleet Hospital nurse corps commander and a veteran of the Gulf War. Before he died two years ago, Mr. Blackshaw was Content Coordinator of the first two successful workshops sponsored by the hospital’s departments of Nursing, Anesthesia and Emergency Medicine. He was also an active member of the hospital’s Emergency Management Committee.

Jefferson Participating in Diabetes Education Conference February 22

Patient success-stories and leading experts in diabetes care will feature the First Annual Taking Control Of Your Diabetes (TCOYD) Conference and Health Fair on Saturday, February 22, at the Pennsylvania Convention Center, Barby. Goldstein, M.D., PhD, Director, Division of Endocrinology and Diabetes, and Metabolic Diseases, Jefferson Medical College, Conference Co-director says, ‘With thousands being diagnosed with diabetes yearly, and more than 17 million Americans with the disease, hearing others who have been able to successfully manage and control their health, and live productive and rewarding lives with diabetes, is so valuable.’

Among the presenters will be Cheryl Marcus, R.D., CDE, Dietician and Diabetes Educator, Thomas Jefferson University Hospital, on “Successful Weight Management.” For more information, call 1-800-998-2693 or visit http://www.TCOYD.org

Call for Hindson Award Nominations

Nominations for the sixth annual Janet C. Hindson Award will be accepted until March 14. Pick up nomination guidelines in the Nursing Office, 1990 Gibbon, or for more information call 5-3220.

Gibbon Building is planned. A garage on Chestnut Street is the most economic option for this development for the hospital.

Jefferson University and Thomas Jefferson University Hospital have worked with InterPark, the garage developer, to find the optimum location for a garage. Since an ambulatory care facility is contemplated as part of the University’s future campus plan and that building would be significantly taller than the parking garage, it is better that the taller building be located on the Sansom Street side of the block. This building would extend two-thirds of the way towards 9th Street from 10th Street. On the east side of the block, along 9th Street between Chestnut and Sansom/PJ’s nets, interprojects, CP, and the office and retail complex, further enhancing the Chestnut Street corridor.

Also, as part of its continued expansion as a major academic center, the University plans to build a new academic/research facility at 11th and Locust streets, which would require the demolition of no more than one garage, further exacerbating the existing shortage of available parking space or on adjacent to the campus.

Finally, and perhaps most importantly, this is the parking garage InterPark finds financially viable for them to build. Without zoning approval, everything will remain the same – the profitable open-air parking lot will stay as is and nothing is likely to be built around it – Jefferson will still need additional parking and the local environment will not be improved.

I hope that you agree that the proposed facility is necessary and important for Jefferson and the surrounding community. Please call or email me with any questions or comments. Additionally, if you would like to offer your voice as an advocate for Jefferson’s vital interest in this project as it moves toward the critical approval stage, we could use your support. Thank you.

Hosptial to Launch OmniBuyer® Paperless Purchasing System

Thomas Jefferson University Hospital has awarded a contract to implement OmniBuyer® – a web-based procurement system from Omnicell Inc. enabling departments to purchase supplies and services electronically.

In addition, Cap Gemini Ernst & Young has been engaged to develop an electronic global supply catalog. When the implementation of both projects is complete, projected for May 2003, the hospital will have a totally automated, paperless requisitioning system governed by the hospital’s business rules.

“OmniBuyer® and the global catalog will completely automate the requisition to purchase (RTP) and approval processes,” says Ellis Reader, Director of Supply Chain Optimization for the hospital. “This end-to-end solution will reduce costs, increase productivity, eliminate much paperwork, and allow our employees to spend more time on activities directly related to patient care.”

Robert Bunchholder, a assistant Vice President for Material Management, Thomas Jefferson University, chaired the Search Committee which selected Omnicell Inc., based in Palo Alto, CA. He is now Chair of the project’s Implementation Steering Committee.

Mr. Bunchholder says, “A file reviewing a number of supply chain system solutions, the Omnicell system clearly provided the best value for our needs.”

He adds, “When completed, the system and the electronic supply catalog will bring all information that a department requisitioner needs to his or her desktop. That capability is currently lacking.”

How it Will Work

A seamless through the web browser of any personal computer, OmniBuyer® will provide the hospital with electronic product selection, requisition approval and purchase order transmittal to the vendor.

Standard ordering templates and purchasing rules are being configured to meet specific hospital requirements. Authorized users will have online access to the status of their order as it moves through the unique automated approval and workflow steps within the system.

The global supply catalog will consist only of products under contract and approved for use at the hospital. Requests for contract products will flow through the OmniBuyer® system directly to the vendor, while non-contracted products will be electronically routed for review and approval. The global supply catalog and OmniBuyer® will provide needed control over spending.” Mr. Reader says, “The product information in the catalog, combined with the transaction history in OmniBuyer®, will provide valuable purchase order transmittal to the vendor.

Implemation teams and a steering committee will meet weekly to complete the project in an estimated six months. The target date for the system to go live is May 6, 2003.
JeffT. Barry, MD

From the House House to the Bedside,” noon, 111 B. Cohn.

Wednesday, February 12

Health Policy Arthur Feferman, MD, Wagner Professor of Molecular Medicine, Jefferson Institute for Molecular Medicine, “The Future of Electronic Health Records,” 8 to 9 a.m., 101 BLSB.

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