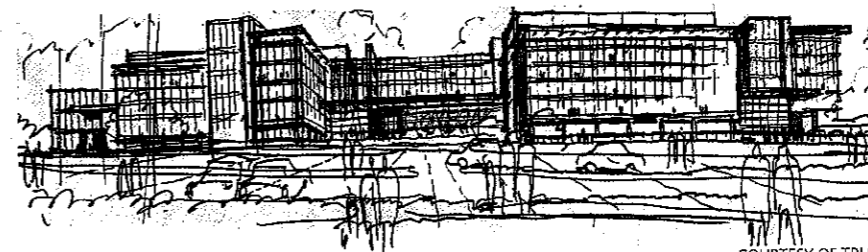


COURTESY OF BELMONT UNIVERSITY
 Belmont senior nursing student Tara Beth Simmons practices on a \$100,000 "Vital Sim" mannequin in the school's simulation lab.

Belmont recognized for educational excellence

Belmont University's School of Nursing has been named a Center of Educational Excellence by Laerdal Medical Corporation, a leading provider of health care solutions and products. The designation will apply for three years and is awarded to centers that consistently demonstrate excellence in educational philosophy and programs. In addition to Belmont's School of Nursing, other centers recognized by Laerdal this year include Simms Medical Center (Harvard) and the University of Miami Gordon Center for Simulation.



COURTESY OF TRI STAR

Spring Hill residents could get a new hospital by 2011.

Spring Hill Hospital gets green light

Spring Hill residents are closer to getting a hospital of their own after a state agency voted in late February to approve a 56-bed hospital that Nashville-based HCA Inc. plans to build by 2011.

Members of the state's Health Services and Development Agency, which reviews requests for new health-care projects, cited Spring Hill's fast population growth as a reason why the hospital makes sense.

Spring Hill straddles Williamson and Maury counties. HCA's hospital is planned for the intersection of Kedron Road and Saturn Parkway.

Baptist Hospital earns advanced diabetes care certification

Baptist Hospital is the fourth health care facility in the nation and first in Tennessee to earn a Certificate of Distinction for Advanced Inpatient Diabetes Care from The Joint Commission, the national organizational that accredits health care organizations across the United States.

Additionally, the American Diabetes Association recently presented its "Cure, Care, Commitment" award to Baptist Hospital for its efforts in serving the diabetes community.

In Tennessee, diabetes is a leading health problem affecting 542,000 adults 18 years and older.

Low morale an issue for a number of nurses

A recent study of more than 1,200 nurses by the University of Pennsylvania School of Nursing discovered that 25 percent of practicing nurses want to leave their current positions because of morale distress.

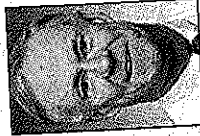
According to the study, which was published in *Social Science and Medicine*, 41 percent of nurses failed to say they would choose their profession again.

Connie Ulrich, RN, PhD, a Penn nursing assistant professor, says the study showed that RNs experiencing morale distress had feelings of powerlessness, frustration and fatigue. Nearly 53 percent of nurses surveyed said they felt frustrated, the highest of any category.

Lack of respect and trust were also shown to be a strong influence on nurses' decisions to leave the profession. Among the issues causing distress, according to the study, are protecting patients' rights, supporting them through difficult decisions at the end of life and fair distribution of resources.

DR. MARK JONES

What's the biggest difference between Nashville and Palm Springs? In Nashville, the people are extremely nice and friendly. The area is also very beautiful.



How does the business climate here compare? The business climate in Nashville is much better. All of the physicians I work with, including those at Nashville Medical Group and Baptist Hospital, are very collegial.

What brought you to Nashville? Professional opportunities and the closer proximity to our families in Indiana brought me to Nashville.

What had you known about the city before you moved here, and does it hold true? As I have often said before, if I could live anywhere in the world, I would live in Nashville.

Have you visited any Music City tourist attractions? We have driven down Music Row and celebrated our wedding anniversary at F. Scott's, which we enjoyed very much.

What has surprised you most about this area? I've been surprised

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Position: Neurologist
Phone: 615-284-1400
Web site: www.nashvillemedicalgroup.com
Age: 58
Time in Nashville: One and a half months
Moved from: Palm Springs, Calif.

most about the many things there are to do here.

What recommendation would you have for others who are new to town? I recommend driving around town to see what is out there. All you have to do is ask those you come across where the action is.

What's the best restaurant you've eaten at so far and what did you order? The best place we've eaten at is F. Scott's. The atmosphere was elegant and very entertaining.

What hobbies do you have and have you done them here? My hobbies include working on model cars and walking.

What's the most challenging aspect of your job? The most challenging aspect of my job so far has been finding my way around the hospital.



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