

FIRST & LAST

Hamiltonian delivers Mercer's final baby, Trenton mom-to-be 1st Hopewell transfer

By **JOAN GALLER**

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Hamilton resident Elizabeth Fields delivered her son Thomas about 1:30 yesterday morning — the last baby born at Capital Health's Mercer hospital in Trenton.

By 8 a.m., Fields and her new son, Thomas, were riding in an ambulance en route to the newly opened 223-bed state-of-the-art Capital Health Medical Center-Hopewell, which officially opened yesterday.

The Fieldses were among 67 patients transferred from Trenton to

Hopewell in 24 ambulances, the last arriving around 12:30 p.m.

The first patient to make the move from Mercer was expectant mother Dava Rogers, a Trenton resident, who was transferred to the Josephine Plumeri Birthing Center at Capital Health Medical Center-Hopewell. Rogers was expecting her third child and first girl.

"Today marks an important milestone for Capital Health," said Al Maghazehe, president and CEO. "From two hospitals that merged to stay



Dava Rogers of Trenton was the first CHS-Mercer patient transferred to the new campus in Hopewell. She's awaiting her newborn.

viable, a new Capital Health has emerged and with it the finest medical facility available."

He congratulated the entire team that "coordinated and participated in today's move and opening day. Everything went smoothly and as planned."

Now, Capital Health will use the Mercer cam-

pus for emergency room, and primary care services will be offered by Capital Health Family Medicine-Trenton at 433 Bellevue Ave. across the street from Mercer.

Free shuttle service will be provided for employees, mobile patients and visitors who do not have their own transportation to the Hopewell campus. Shuttles will depart from 433 Bellevue Ave. to the main entrance at Hopewell every hour between 8 a.m. and 8 p.m. seven days per week.

The new hospital sits on 165 acres of property in Hopewell Township directly off Interstate 95 at the Scotch Road exit.

Capital Health Regional Medical Center, also located in Trenton, remains open, featuring \$100 million in renovations being completed this year.

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