

# Health NEWS

SHARON REGIONAL  HEALTH SYSTEM

News For You and Your Family From Sharon Regional



## IN THIS ISSUE:

- Sharon Regional notes growth in 2010 board report
- Cleveland Clinic/Sharon Regional agreement to enhance stroke care
- New pulmonologist joins SRHS staff
- Youngstown man chooses Sharon Regional for heart surgery
- Highmark recognizes SRHS for low infection rates
- New partnership signed with Central Blood Bank for blood products

## Review of 2010 shows growth and expansion, quality awards and recognition, new services, and much more

A summary of the growth and accomplishments of 2010 presented to the SRHS Board of Directors noted growth in major clinical programs, service area expansion, additional quality awards and recognitions, new physicians and specialists, and much more. See page two for more details.

JANUARY/FEBRUARY 2011

[www.sharonregional.com](http://www.sharonregional.com)

# Sharon Regional notes growth in major clinical programs, service area expansion, and more in board report

James Feeney, chairman of the board of directors, recently presented a summary of the growth and accomplishments of Sharon Regional in fiscal year 2010 to board members.

Sharon Regional experienced a 6.3 percent increase in outpatient revenues over the prior year as well as a 1.3 percent increase in net patient revenue. Standard and Poor's reaffirmed its BBB+ rating, which was a significant accomplishment given the current economic environment.

## GROWTH AND EXPANSION:

Sharon Regional expanded its service area into eastern Ohio with the opening of the Hubbard Diagnostic & Specialty Center, a \$1.7 million, 11,500 square foot satellite medical center that includes physician specialists in the areas of cardiology, orthopedics/sports medicine, general surgery, and gastroenterology, along with walk-in lab, x-ray, and numerous medical tests for those specialties. The Health System also established the Liberty Family Medicine Center, 1488 West Liberty St., which serves as the office for family medicine physician Daniel Brown, D.O.

The Cancer Care Center broke ground for a \$4.6 million expansion/renovation project that involved the addition of a second linear accelerator for radiation therapy (a Siemens ARTISTE that provides Image Guided Radiation Therapy) and an additional 4,000 square feet of new space for patient changing areas, physician and staff offices, and other support services.

The Health System announced plans to construct a 5,000 square foot Technology Center at the LindenPointe Innovative Business Campus in Hermitage. The center will house all of the Health System's information technology components for the Health System and is expected to add 8-10 new jobs over the next five years.

## QUALITY AWARDS AND RECOGNITION:

The Emergency Medical Management Cooperative (EMMCO) West recognized Sharon Regional by designating the Health System as the only STEMI hospital in Mercer, Lawrence, and Crawford counties based on its advanced technology, emergency response capabilities, and physician expertise in emergency heart attack treatment. This followed a program that placed 12-lead EKG units into local ambulances for the direct transmission of EKGs of heart attack patients to our Emergency Care Center to expedite patient treatment.

From a quality perspective, Sharon Regional was the only hospital in Mercer, Lawrence, Butler, and Crawford counties to receive two Gold Star Quality Achievement Awards from Unison Health Plan in recognition of reductions in hospital-acquired infection rates and the performance of its Level II nursery. Sharon Regional was also recognized by Highmark Blue Cross/Blue Shield for achieving the maximum score in its QualityBLUE program for four quality indicators and received the Breast Care Center of Excellence designation from the American College of Radiology for its Breast Care Center.

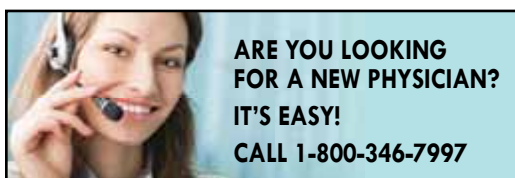
## NEW SERVICES:

Sharon Regional developed three new programs: bariatric surgery under the direction of Ravi Alapati, M.D.; a Center for Digestive Diseases through new

gastroenterologist Raja Chadalavada, M.D.; and a GI Lab that offers pH Monitoring and Esophageal Motility Testing. In conjunction with these efforts, new high definition scopes and monitors were added to the endoscopy suites. Sharon Regional also welcomed Harvard-trained interventional pain management specialist Eli Cianciolo, M.D., to the Interventional Pain Management Center.

## OTHER ACCOMPLISHMENTS:

- Welcomed new physicians and specialists Suzan Aufiero, M.D., cardiothoracic surgery; Brandon Mikolich, M.D., cardiology; Michael Panariello, D.O., pulmonology; Steven Frank, M.D., emergency medicine; and Sonia Mokgethi, M.D., anesthesiology
- Introduced balloon sinuplasty as an innovative treatment technique for treating chronic sinus inflammation under the direction of Valeri Roth, D.O., FAOCO, at the Ear, Nose, Throat, and Hearing Center.
- Developed a new adolescent wellness program for overweight teens between the ages of 14-17 through Behavioral Health Services
- Added Tilt Table testing to the electrophysiology program
- Received recognition from the American Diabetes Association for a "high quality diabetes self-management education program."



**ARE YOU LOOKING  
FOR A NEW PHYSICIAN?  
IT'S EASY!  
CALL 1-800-346-7997**

# Sharon Regional works with Cleveland Clinic to enhance care of stroke patients

## SRHS and Cleveland Clinic Cerebrovascular Center Telestroke Network develop a unique clinical collaboration

Sharon Regional is pleased to announce a new agreement with Cleveland Clinic's Telestroke Network that will significantly enhance the level of emergency stroke care for patients in the region. The Telestroke Network is a part of Cleveland Clinic's Cerebrovascular Center, which has one of the highest stroke-related patient volumes in the United States. The Cerebrovascular Center is a division of Cleveland Clinic's Neurological Institute, which is ranked by U.S. News & World Report among the top neurology and neurosurgery programs nationwide, and is also ranked the best in Ohio.

The Cleveland Clinic Telestroke Network will provide an advanced level of expert stroke care by providing immediate, round-the-clock access to patient consultation services from Cleveland Clinic's team of neurological specialists. This immediate access is based on a mobile, two-way videoconferencing system located in Sharon Regional's Emergency Care Center that provides a dedicated link for the sharing of brain images and other vital patient information between specialists at Sharon Regional and Cleveland Clinic.

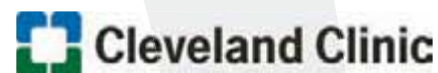
Specifically, the way this collaboration operates includes: 1) A patient with stroke symptoms presents to Sharon Regional's Emergency Care Center; 2) The emergency physician and/or consulting physicians contact Cleveland Clinic Cerebrovascular Center to present the patient's vital

information; 3) Within minutes the Sharon Regional team is communicating through videoconferencing with a Cleveland Clinic stroke specialist who will remotely evaluate the patient's symptoms; and 4) The specialists at Cleveland Clinic discuss recommended treatment strategies with the Sharon Regional medical team.

Robert Morgenstern, M.D., medical director of Sharon Regional's stroke program and an internal medicine specialist, emphasized the positive benefit the new clinical collaboration offers to area residents. "I am absolutely thrilled that we are able to quickly and easily access the expertise of the stroke specialists at Cleveland Clinic through this new relationship," Dr. Morgenstern stated. "Given the reputation of Cleveland Clinic's Neurological Institute and the distinctions they've earned in advanced stroke care, this is a real win for patients choosing Sharon Regional for their care."

"I am very pleased that Sharon Regional Health System has taken the initiative to collaborate with us to deliver superior stroke care to their patients," said Peter Rasmussen, M.D., Director of the Cerebrovascular Center at Cleveland Clinic. "This will enhance Sharon Regional's ability to provide its patients with the very best stroke treatment available and offer them the best possible outcome."

**For more information, visit [www.sharonregional.com](http://www.sharonregional.com) or call 724-983-5518 or 800-346-7997.**



**According to the American Stroke Association, stroke is the number three cause of death (behind heart disease and cancer), and the leading cause of adult disability in the United States. Both the American Heart Association and American Stroke Association have recommended telemedicine initiatives to enhance the use of cost-effective interventions that can reduce complications and stroke recurrence rates.**

**The warning signs of a stroke include: 1) Sudden numbness or weakness of the face, arm, or leg, especially on one side of the body; 2) Sudden confusion, trouble speaking, or understanding; 3) Sudden trouble seeing in one or both eyes; 4) Sudden trouble walking, dizziness, loss of balance or coordination; and 5) Sudden, severe headache with no known cause.**

**The greatest opportunity to survive a stroke and limit long-term disability is to call 911 and seek emergency treatment at the first sign of any stroke symptoms.**



## AWARD WINNING PATIENT CARE

Sharon Regional has received the Joint Commission's Gold Seal of Approval™. The Seal recognizes a commitment to patient safety and quality care, and is another step toward achieving clinical excellence.

SHARON REGIONAL  HEALTH SYSTEM

740 East State Street • Sharon, PA 16146 • 724-983-3911 • [www.sharonregional.com](http://www.sharonregional.com)

# Community Education Programs • January 2011

**ALL PROGRAMS AT THE HERMITAGE DIAGNOSTIC & IMAGING CENTER UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED. PLEASE CALL 724-983-5518 OR 1-800-346-7997 TO REGISTER FOR ALL PROGRAMS**

monday	tuesday	wednesday	thursday	friday
<p><b>Overeaters Anonymous</b> Mondays   1-2 p.m.</p> <p><b>ESCAPE: Talk About Drugs &amp; Alcohol</b> 1st &amp; 3rd Tuesdays   5:30 p.m. Minority Health Center   724-981-3856</p>	<p><b>The American Lung Association</b> <b>Freedom From Smoking: Smoking Cessation Class</b> Tuesdays   8 sessions   6 p.m.   Fee \$50 Please call 724-983-5518 to register</p> <p><b>TOPS Take Off Pounds Sensibly</b> Every Tuesday   Meeting at 9:30 a.m. There is a fee   Weight in from 8:30-9:30 a.m.   First class is free Please call 724-983-5518 or 1-800-346-7997 to register</p>	<p><b>Sharon Regional Health System Life Line Screening</b> Stroke/Carotid Artery Screening   Abdominal Aortic Aneurysm Screening Heart Rhythm Screening (Atrial Fibrillation)   Peripheral Arterial Disease Screening <b>Friday, January 7</b>   Hickory United Methodist Church, Hermitage <b>Thursday, January 13</b>   Old Salem United Methodist Church, Greenville Please call 1-800-395-1801 for more information or to make an appointment.</p> <p><b>Caregivers Support Group</b> 1 p.m.   Diagnostic &amp; Imaging Center</p> <p><b>Cardiac Support Group</b> 7 p.m.   Diagnostic &amp; Imaging Center</p> <p><b>Health America Advantra Town Meeting</b>   11 a.m.</p> <p><b>Diabetes Support Group</b> <b>Thursday, January 13</b>   9 a.m. Senior Center   Buhl Farm Drive For more information, call 724-981-6551</p> <p><b>Highmark Senior Products</b> 10 a.m. - 12 p.m.   Freedom Blue 12:30 - 2:30 p.m.   Freedom Blue</p> <p><b>Alzheimer's Support Group</b>   6 p.m. Diabetes Center   724-981-6551</p> <p><b>Preventing Diabetes Program</b>   6 p.m. Diabetes Center   724-981-6551</p> <p><b>Save the Date for a Special Event Regarding Women and Heart Disease</b> Sponsored by Heart &amp; Vascular Institute of SRHS <b>Thursday, February 3</b>   5 - 7 p.m. Buhl Mansion   For more information, please call 1-800-346-7997</p> <p><b>Are you using an insulin pump to control your diabetes? If you are, contact the Diabetes Center for information on our Advance Pump Training Classes.</b> 724-981-6551</p>	<p><b>Stroke/Carotid Artery Screening   Abdominal Aortic Aneurysm Screening   Heart Rhythm Screening (Atrial Fibrillation)   Peripheral Arterial Disease Screening</b> <b>Friday, January 7</b>   Hickory United Methodist Church, Hermitage <b>Thursday, January 13</b>   Old Salem United Methodist Church, Greenville Please call 1-800-395-1801 for more information or to make an appointment.</p> <p><b>What Is Diabetes?</b> <b>Thursday, January 13</b>   6 p.m. <b>Saturday, January 15</b>   9 a.m. <b>Thursday, January 27</b>   1 p.m. Diabetes Center   724-981-6551</p> <p><b>Celiac Disease Support Group</b>   6:30 p.m.</p> <p><b>Glaucoma Screen Sponsored by Keystone Blind Association</b> 9 - 11 a.m.   Please call 724-983-5518 for an appointment</p> <p><b>Bariatric Support Group</b> 6 p.m.   724-983-5518</p> <p><b>CHECK OUT OUR WEBSITE!!</b> <a href="http://www.sharonregional.com">www.sharonregional.com</a></p>	<p><b>January: Cervical Cancer Month &amp; Glaucoma Awareness Month</b> <b>Stop by the Diagnostic &amp; Imaging Center for more information and schedule an appointment for the free Glaucoma screen</b></p> <p><b>NEW! Health Care Provider CPR</b> 9 a.m.   Fee \$40 School of Nursing   724-983-CPR1</p> <p><b>Health Care Provider CPR Recertification</b> 1:30 p.m.   Fee \$20 School of Nursing   724-983-CPR1</p> <p><b>Meal Planning Classes for those with Diabetes</b> <b>Saturday, January 15</b>   10:30 a.m. <b>Thursday, January 20</b>   6 p.m. Diabetes Center   724-981-6551</p> <p><b>Fall Risk Screening... FRIENDS (Fall Reduction Initiative: Establishing New Direction for Safety)</b> The PA Department of Aging 10 a.m. - 12 p.m.   Please call 724-983-5518 for an appointment</p> <p><b>Seniors for Safe Driving Class</b> 9 a.m. - 1 p.m.   Richard D'Arcangelo \$15 fee   Please call 800-559-4880 to register</p> <p><b>PLEASE CALL 724-983-5518 TO REGISTER FOR ALL EVENTS.</b></p>
<p><b>Online registration now available for most classes at our Calendar of Events Page</b> <a href="http://www.sharonregional.com">www.sharonregional.com</a></p> <p><b>Free Hearing Screen</b> 10 a.m. - 12 p.m.   Please call 724-983-5518 for an appointment</p> <p><b>Highmark Health on the Menu: Everyday Weight Management</b> 12 p.m.   Bring a sack lunch Gayle Linden, L.P.N.</p>	<p><b>Free Hearing Screen</b> 10 a.m. - 12 p.m.   Please call 724-983-5518 for an appointment</p> <p><b>Bereavement Support Group</b> 6 p.m.   Behavioral Health Services</p>	<p><b>NEW! Health Care Provider CPR</b> 4 p.m.   Fee \$40 School of Nursing   724-983-CPR1</p> <p><b>Bereavement Support Group</b> 6 p.m.   Behavioral Health Services</p>	<p><b>NEW! Health Care Provider CPR</b> 9 a.m.   Fee \$40 School of Nursing   724-983-CPR1</p> <p><b>Health Care Provider CPR Recertification</b> 1:30 p.m.   Fee \$20 School of Nursing   724-983-CPR1</p> <p><b>Meal Planning Classes for those with Diabetes</b> <b>Saturday, January 15</b>   10:30 a.m. <b>Thursday, January 20</b>   6 p.m. Diabetes Center   724-981-6551</p> <p><b>Fall Risk Screening... FRIENDS (Fall Reduction Initiative: Establishing New Direction for Safety)</b> The PA Department of Aging 10 a.m. - 12 p.m.   Please call 724-983-5518 for an appointment</p> <p><b>Seniors for Safe Driving Class</b> 9 a.m. - 1 p.m.   Richard D'Arcangelo \$15 fee   Please call 800-559-4880 to register</p>	<p><b>January: Cervical Cancer Month &amp; Glaucoma Awareness Month</b> <b>Stop by the Diagnostic &amp; Imaging Center for more information and schedule an appointment for the free Glaucoma screen</b></p> <p><b>NEW! Health Care Provider CPR</b> 9 a.m.   Fee \$40 School of Nursing   724-983-CPR1</p> <p><b>Health Care Provider CPR Recertification</b> 1:30 p.m.   Fee \$20 School of Nursing   724-983-CPR1</p> <p><b>Meal Planning Classes for those with Diabetes</b> <b>Saturday, January 15</b>   10:30 a.m. <b>Thursday, January 20</b>   6 p.m. Diabetes Center   724-981-6551</p> <p><b>Fall Risk Screening... FRIENDS (Fall Reduction Initiative: Establishing New Direction for Safety)</b> The PA Department of Aging 10 a.m. - 12 p.m.   Please call 724-983-5518 for an appointment</p> <p><b>Seniors for Safe Driving Class</b> 9 a.m. - 1 p.m.   Richard D'Arcangelo \$15 fee   Please call 800-559-4880 to register</p> <p><b>PLEASE CALL 724-983-5518 TO REGISTER FOR ALL EVENTS.</b></p>
<p><b>Compassionate Friends</b>   7 p.m.</p> <p><b>T.R.I.O. Transplant Support Group</b>   7 p.m.</p>	<p><b>Behavioral Health Services</b> Hermitage: 724-983-5454 Mercer: 724-662-3831</p> <p><b>Brookfield Family Medicine Center</b> 7264 Warren-Sharon Road Brookfield 330-448-0500</p> <p><b>Cancer Care Center</b> 2320 Highland Road Hermitage 724-983-5900</p> <p><b>Diabetes Center</b> 2395 Garden Way Hermitage 724-981-6551</p> <p><b>Diagnostic &amp; Imaging Center</b> 2435 Garden Way Hermitage 724-983-3931</p> <p><b>Mercer Family Medicine Center</b> 551 Greenville Road Mercer 724-662-4155</p>	<p><b>Behavioral Health Services</b> Hermitage: 724-983-5454 Mercer: 724-662-3831</p> <p><b>Brookfield Family Medicine Center</b> 7264 Warren-Sharon Road Brookfield 330-448-0500</p> <p><b>Cancer Care Center</b> 2320 Highland Road Hermitage 724-983-5900</p> <p><b>Diabetes Center</b> 2395 Garden Way Hermitage 724-981-6551</p> <p><b>Diagnostic &amp; Imaging Center</b> 2435 Garden Way Hermitage 724-983-3931</p> <p><b>Mercer Family Medicine Center</b> 551 Greenville Road Mercer 724-662-4155</p>	<p><b>Behavioral Health Services</b> Hermitage: 724-983-5454 Mercer: 724-662-3831</p> <p><b>Brookfield Family Medicine Center</b> 7264 Warren-Sharon Road Brookfield 330-448-0500</p> <p><b>Cancer Care Center</b> 2320 Highland Road Hermitage 724-983-5900</p> <p><b>Diabetes Center</b> 2395 Garden Way Hermitage 724-981-6551</p> <p><b>Diagnostic &amp; Imaging Center</b> 2435 Garden Way Hermitage 724-983-3931</p> <p><b>Mercer Family Medicine Center</b> 551 Greenville Road Mercer 724-662-4155</p>	<p><b>Behavioral Health Services</b> Hermitage: 724-983-5454 Mercer: 724-662-3831</p> <p><b>Brookfield Family Medicine Center</b> 7264 Warren-Sharon Road Brookfield 330-448-0500</p> <p><b>Cancer Care Center</b> 2320 Highland Road Hermitage 724-983-5900</p> <p><b>Diabetes Center</b> 2395 Garden Way Hermitage 724-981-6551</p> <p><b>Diagnostic &amp; Imaging Center</b> 2435 Garden Way Hermitage 724-983-3931</p> <p><b>Mercer Family Medicine Center</b> 551 Greenville Road Mercer 724-662-4155</p>

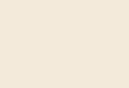
**Doctor's corner & special events**



**FREE HAND, ELBOW OR SHOULDER SCREEN**  
TUESDAY, JANUARY 11 | 10 A.M. - 12 P.M.  
Maureen Riggie, MEd, OTR, L, CHT  
Please call 724-983-5518 for an appointment



**BIARIATRIC SURGERY INFORMATIONAL MEETING**  
WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 12 | 6 - 8 P.M.  
Ravi Alapati, M.D.  
Laparoscopic Surgeon & Director of Bariatric Surgery Program  
Please call 724-983-5518 to register



**FREE HEARING SCREEN**  
MONDAY, JANUARY 17 | 10 A.M. - 12 P.M.  
Thomas Baranek, MA, CCC/A  
Audiologist  
Please call 724-983-5518 for an appointment



**FREE FOOT AND ANKLE SCREEN**  
WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 26 | 2 - 4 P.M.  
Allan Evangelista, D.P.M.  
Foot and Ankle Surgeon  
Please call 724-983-5518 for an appointment

**ALL PROGRAMS AT THE DIAGNOSTIC & IMAGING CENTER UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED.**

**Hubbard Diagnostic & Specialty Center**  
880 W. Liberty Street, Suite A  
Hubbard  
330-534-5400

# Community Education Programs • February 2011

**ALL PROGRAMS AT THE HERMITAGE DIAGNOSTIC & IMAGING CENTER UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED. PLEASE CALL 724-983-5518 OR 1-800-346-7997 TO REGISTER FOR ALL PROGRAMS**

monday	tuesday	wednesday	thursday	friday
<p><b>Overeaters Anonymous</b> Mondays   1-2 p.m.</p>	<p><b>ESCAPE: Talk About Drugs &amp; Alcohol</b> 1st &amp; 3rd Tuesdays   5:30 p.m. Minority Health Center   724-981-3856</p>	<p><b>February: American Heart Month &amp; National Cancer Prevention Month: Stop by the Diagnostic &amp; Imaging Center for more information</b></p>	<p><b>What Is Diabetes?</b> Saturday, February 5   9 a.m. Thursday, February 24   6 p.m. Diabetes Center   724-981-6551</p>	<p><b>Meal Planning Classes for those with Diabetes</b> Saturday, February 5   10:30 a.m. Diabetes Center   724-981-6551</p>
<p>Free e-newsletters on Health, Parenting, and Pregnancy are at <a href="http://www.sharonregional.com">www.sharonregional.com</a></p>	<p><b>Amputee Support Group</b> 6 p.m.   Please call 724-983-5518 or 1-800-346-7997 to register</p>	<p><b>Caregivers Support Group</b> 1 p.m.   Diagnostic &amp; Imaging Center</p> <p><b>Cardiac Support Group</b> 7 p.m.   Diagnostic &amp; Imaging Center</p>	<p><b>Playtime Stimulation for Newborns</b>   10 a.m.</p> <p><b>Highmark Senior Products</b> 10 a.m. - 12 p.m.   Freedom Blue 12:30 - 2:30 p.m.   Freedom Blue</p>	<p><b>NEW! Health Care Provider CPR</b> 9 a.m.   Fee \$40 School of Nursing   724-983-CPR1</p> <p><b>Health Care Provider CPR Recertification</b> 1:30 p.m.   Fee \$20 School of Nursing   724-983-CPR1</p>
<p><b>Sharon Regional Speakers Bureau: Please call 724-983-5518 to schedule</b></p>	<p><b>TOPS Take Off Pounds Sensibly</b> Every Tuesday   Meeting at 9:30 a.m. There is a fee   Weigh in from 8:30-9:30 a.m.   First class is free Please call 724-983-5518 or 1-800-346-7997 to register</p>	<p><b>Health America Advantra Town Meeting</b>   11 a.m.</p>	<p><b>Diabetes Support Group</b> 9 a.m.   Senior Center   Buhl Farm Drive For more information, call 724-981-6551</p> <p><b>Celiac Disease Support Group</b> 6:30 p.m.</p>	<p><b>Every Friday - Free Blood Pressure Screening</b> 8 a.m. - 1 p.m.</p>
<p><b>Breastfeeding Class</b> 6:30 p.m.   Please call 724-983-5560 to register</p> <p><b>Alzheimer's Support Group</b> Wednesday, February 16   6 p.m.</p>	<p><b>NEW! Health Care Provider CPR</b> 4 p.m.   Fee \$40 School of Nursing   724-983-CPR1</p> <p><b>Bereavement Support Group</b> 6 p.m.   Behavioral Health Services</p>	<p><b>Cholesterol Screening</b> 7-8 a.m.   Fee \$25   Total Cholesterol HDL, Blood Sugar, 12 hour fast required Free Blood Pressure Screen   BMI Cholesterol free and low sodium diet information available   Please call 724-983-5518 to register</p>	<p><b>Shenango Valley Immunization Clinic</b> Pennsylvania Department of Health 9 a.m. - 2 p.m.   You must call 724-662-4000 for an appointment Fee \$5 or free depending on your income</p>	<p><b>Story Hour</b> 10 a.m.   Know A Place Read by Miss Gayle</p>
<p><b>Highmark Health on the Menu: Heart Health &amp; Cholesterol</b> 12 p.m.   Bring a sack lunch Gayle Linden, L.P.N.</p>	<p><b>Please call 724-983-5518 to register for all events.</b></p>	<p><b>Preventing Diabetes Program</b>   1 p.m. Diabetes Center   724-981-6551</p>	<p><b>Bariatric Support Group</b> 6 p.m.   724-983-5518</p>	<p><b>Medic Alert information available at the Diagnostic &amp; Imaging Center</b></p>
<p><b>Compassionate Friends</b>   7 p.m.</p> <p><b>T.R.I.O. Transplant Support Group</b>   7 p.m.</p>	<p><b>Live in Mercer/Grove City/Stoneboro area? We now provide Diabetes and Nutrition Education at the Mercer Family Medicine Center. Call for more information or to schedule in Mercer 724-981-6551.</b></p>	<p>Visit our online Health Library at <a href="http://www.sharonregional.com">www.sharonregional.com</a> for health and medical information from A to Z.</p>	<p><b>Sharon Regional Health System Life Line Screening</b> Stroke/Carotid Artery Screening   Abdominal Aortic Aneurysm Screening Heart Rhythm Screening (Atrial Fibrillation)   Peripheral Arterial Disease Screening Wednesday, February 16   Immaculate Heart of Mary Church, Mercer Friday, February 18   Oak Tree Country Club, West Middlesex Please call 1-800-395-1801 for more information or to make an appointment.</p>	<p><b>Hubbard Diagnostic &amp; Specialty Center</b> 880 W. Liberty Street, Suite A Hubbard 330-534-5400</p>

## Doctor's corner & special events



**BARIATRIC SURGERY INFORMATIONAL MEETING**  
WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 9 | 6 - 8 P.M.  
Ravi Alapati, M.D.  
Laparoscopic Surgeon & Director of Bariatric Surgery Program  
Please call 724-983-5518 to register

OR, WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 23 | 6 - 8 P.M.  
Niles Avalon Ilin

Please call 1-800-346-7997 to register



**FREE HAND, ELBOW OR SHOULDER SCREEN - Hubbard Diagnostic & Specialty Center**  
THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 17 | 1 - 3 P.M.  
Dave Oravec, OTR/L  
Please call 1-800-346-7997 for an appointment



**FREE WOUND SCREEN**  
Wounds complicated by peripheral vascular disorders and other barriers to the normal healing process. Any visible wound.



Bob Hoagland, RN, CWS  
Joyce Amos, RN, BSN, CWON  
Advanced Wound Recovery Center  
2425 Garden Way, Hermitage  
Please call 724-981-5518 for an appointment



**A LOOK INSIDE YOUR HEART: UNDERSTAND CARDIAC CATHETERIZATION**  
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 22 | 5:30 P.M.  
Michael W. Burley, M.D., F.A.C.C.  
Board Certified Interventional Cardiologist  
Please call 724-983-5518 to register



**UNDERSTANDING SPINAL STENOSIS AND TREATMENT - Hubbard Diagnostic And Specialty Center**  
WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 23 | 5:30 P.M.  
Brian D. Shannon, M.D.  
Spinal Surgeon  
Please call 1-800-346-7997 to register

**Hubbard Diagnostic & Specialty Center**  
880 W. Liberty Street, Suite A  
Hubbard  
330-534-5400

**Mercer Family Medicine Center**  
551 Greenville Road  
Mercer  
724-662-4155

**Diagnostic & Imaging Center**  
2435 Garden Way  
Hermitage  
724-983-3931

**Diabetes Center**  
2395 Garden Way  
Hermitage  
724-981-6551

**Cancer Care Center**  
2320 Highland Road  
Hermitage  
724-983-5900

**Brookfield Family Medicine Center**  
7264 Warren-Sharon Road  
Brookfield  
330-448-0500

**Behavioral Health Services**  
Hermitage: 724-983-5454  
Mercer: 724-662-3831

# Sharon Regional is health system of choice for Youngstown man after heart surgery



**Sidney Rusnack, left, discusses his recent heart surgery with Daniel Brown, D.O., family medicine, in Dr. Brown's Liberty, Ohio office**

Sidney Rusnack's successful open heart surgery last April at Sharon Regional Health System along with his associated diagnostic tests at Sharon Regional's Hubbard Diagnostic and Specialty Center has made Sidney a believer in Sharon Regional.

"That was my first experience with Sharon Regional and now my whole family uses their services," says Sidney, 76 years-old, of Youngstown's north side. "I've been to several Youngstown hospitals over the years and never, ever got the quality care or attention I got in Hubbard and Sharon.

Sidney visited Daniel Brown, D.O., his family physician, in his Liberty office late last winter with some chest pain and breathing problems. Dr. Brown referred Sidney to Sharon Regional's Hubbard Diagnostic & Specialty Center where Sidney saw Michael Burley, M.D., FACC, interventional cardiologist. (Dr. Burley is a member of Sharon Cardiology Specialists and the group sees patients in both Hermitage and Hubbard).

Several diagnostic tests led Dr. Burley to refer Sidney to Sharon Regional's Heart & Vascular Institute (on the second floor of Sharon Regional's hospital) where Sidney soon had double bypass heart surgery from

Suzan Aufiero, M.D., cardiothoracic surgeon.

"I can't say enough about all my doctors," Sidney recalls. "I'm grateful for Dr. Brown for connecting me to Sharon. Dr. Burley and Dr. Aufiero explained everything to me and my family.

After my surgery, Dr. Aufiero checked on me at least two or three times every day in the hospital and she even called me at home."

Sidney returned to work as a security guard after almost two weeks in the hospital and six weeks recovering at home.

Sidney also remembers Christola Jordan, a greeter at Sharon Regional's Emergency/Outpatient entrance.

"She is a piece of gold," Sidney says. "Chris asks questions when anyone comes in the door and makes sure everyone gets where they need to be. You couldn't find a better person."

**"That was my first experience with Sharon Regional and now my whole family uses their services,"**

*— Sidney Rusnack*

**Daniel Brown, D.O., Family Medicine  
Liberty Family Medicine Center  
1488 W. Liberty St. • Liberty, OH  
330-759-3777**

**Hubbard Diagnostic & Specialty Center  
880 W. Liberty St. • Hubbard, OH  
330-534-5400**

## Sharon Regional welcomes pulmonology specialist



location of Jeffrey Lazar, M.D. Dr. Kusic will provide treatment for COPD (chronic

Sharon Regional is pleased to welcome pulmonologist Neven Kusic, M.D., at his office within the second-floor of the hospital in the former

obstructive pulmonary disease), asthma, lung cancer, shortness of breath, and cough.

Dr. Kusic completed a pulmonology fellowship at West Penn Hospital in Pittsburgh, where he also completed an internal medicine internship and fellowship. He is board certified in internal medicine and a member of the American College of Physicians.

**For more information or to schedule an appointment, please call 724-983-1980.**

# Sharon Regional recognized for low infection rates at Highmark best practices forum

Sharon Regional was recently recognized at a Highmark QualityBLUE Best Practices Forum held in Pittsburgh for low infection rates related to Methicillin Resistant Staphylococcus aureus (MRSA) infections.

The award was based on outcomes achieved with processes to identify patients with MRSA through active surveillance testing on admission and discharge. The Health System also implemented processes to prevent patient to patient spread of the organism. In addition, clinical cultures were monitored for MRSA and as appropriate, control measures such as isolation were

implemented. In evaluating positive MRSA cultures, Sharon Regional uses the Centers of Disease Control and Prevention definitions of healthcare associated infection.

Robert Morgenstern, M.D., Medical Director of Clinical Effectiveness, praised Sharon Regional's physicians and staff for their comprehensive approach to further reducing hospital infection rates. "It's always satisfying for all of us to see reductions in our already low rates of hospital-acquired infections, and is especially rewarding after the hard work and aggressive tactics our staff has taken," stated Dr. Morgenstern.

"While our focus continues to be providing the best care for our patients, it's nice to see that our quality efforts have been noticed and recognized by major quality review organizations."

Highmark also recognized Sharon Regional during the summer for earning the maximum achievement level for fiscal year 2010 in its QualityBLUE Hospital Pay for Performance Program based on four quality indicators, including reductions in healthcare associated infections.



## READY TO LOSE THE WEIGHT AND CHANGE YOUR LIFE?

Sharon Regional's Bariatric Surgery Program offers a multi-disciplinary, customized surgical approach to your weight loss plan. Want to learn more? Attend a free information session on Wednesday, Jan. 12 or Wednesday, Feb. 9 at 6 p.m. at the Diagnostic & Imaging Center in Hermitage.

**To register please call 724-983-5518 or 800-346-7997.**

SHARON REGIONAL  HEALTH SYSTEM

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# Sharon Regional and Central Blood Bank announce new partnership to meet area need for blood products

Central Blood Bank, a regional blood collection center based in Pittsburgh, recently became the sole provider of blood and blood products to Sharon Regional Health System. Central Blood Bank is the region's largest blood collection center, supplying blood products to more than 40 area hospitals in western Pennsylvania and northern West Virginia.

Central Blood Bank President and Chief Executive Officer Kent Oestreich welcomed the new partnership with Sharon Regional. "We are excited and proud to have Sharon Regional come on board. We have been an

integral part of this region for more than 55 years and look forward to applying our experience and expertise in transfusion medicine to the patients at Sharon Regional Health System," Oestreich stated.

In preparation for Sharon Regional's transition to a new blood supplier, the Health System and Central Blood Bank will begin enlisting local, Mercer County-based organizations to sponsor blood drives in 2011 says Jack Janoso, chief operating officer and president of Sharon Regional. Central Blood Bank will soon announce the schedules for these drives.

"The vast majority of the blood we collect stays in the region," Oestreich added. "Since Central Blood Bank is the sole provider of blood products to all Mercer County hospitals, the individuals, schools, businesses, and community organizations who donate with Central Blood Bank are helping their neighbors, colleagues, friends, and family."

**Eligible donors wanting to donate at Central Blood Bank drives can call 1-866-DONORS-1 for upcoming drives in their area.**

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www.sharonregional.com

## SRHS earns two Gold Star Quality Achievement awards

Unison Health Plan has presented Sharon Regional with two Gold Star Quality Achievement awards along with a \$70,000 cash award as part of Unison's Gold Star pay for performance quality program. The two awards recognized Sharon Regional's achievement in reducing hospital-acquired infection rates and the performance of its Level II Nursery. According to Unison, Sharon Regional is the only hospital in Mercer, Lawrence, Butler, and Crawford counties to earn the dual Gold Star status.

Unison recognizes effective hospital infection prevention management as measured by the percentage decrease in the number of hospital-acquired infections documented annually by the Pennsylvania Health Care Cost Containment Council. Sharon Regional, while consistently reporting rates lower than the state average, has improved the quality of patient care by continuing to reduce the Health System's overall hospital-acquired infection rate.

Sharon Regional's Level II Nursery earned Unison Gold Star status as a result of meeting specific quality indicators including no readmissions to the Level II Nursery within two weeks of discharge for unplanned reasons.

## Life Line Screening/Sharon Regional offering January 7 screenings

Sharon Regional has begun working with Life Line Screening, a nationwide provider of community-based screenings designed for the early identification of risk for stroke and cardiovascular disease. The first screening is scheduled for Friday, January 7 at the Hickory United Methodist Church in Hermitage and will include a stroke/carotid artery screening, heart rhythm screening (atrial fibrillation), abdominal aortic aneurysm screening, and peripheral arterial disease screening. An optional osteoporosis risk assessment is also available. Staff from Sharon Regional will be present to answer any questions about the screenings or assist with follow-up care should abnormal results be identified.

Life Line Screening uses painless, state-of-the-art Doppler colorflow ultrasound technology and is staffed with highly-trained healthcare professionals. The screenings are painless, non-invasive, and take a little more than an hour to complete. **See page 3 to identify a number of stroke risk factors.**

**Advance registration is required to attend the screening. For more information or to register, please call 1-800-395-1801 or visit online [www.lifelinescreening.com](http://www.lifelinescreening.com)**



[www.svymca.com](http://www.svymca.com)

724-981-6950



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