



# Bulletin

of the Mahoning County Medical Society  
Fourth Quarter 2011



The Mahoning County Medical Society and Alliance  
invite you to join us!

Friday, April 27, 2012  
Los Gallos Banquet Center

685 Boardman Canfield Road  
Boardman, OH 44512

7:00 P.M. until ??

Presentation of Alliance "Gem of the Year" ~ Mexican Buffet

Music by

*Cherry Wine*



Invitations will be mailed

# Bulletin

*Editor* Michael T. Engle, MD  
*Managing Editor* Karyn Frederick  
*Editorial Board*

Thomas E. Albani, MD    Dean R. Ball, DO

The Bulletin is published bimonthly by the Mahoning County Medical Society, 565 E. Main Street, Suite 220, Canfield, Ohio 44406.  
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The Bulletin reserves the right to edit all contributions for clarity and length, as well as to reject any material submitted, including advertisements.

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## 2012 Council

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## CALENDAR

<b>March 23 - 25, 2012</b>	<b>OSMA Annual Meeting, Columbus</b>
<b>April 6, 2012</b>	<b>Sugarland, Covelli Centre</b>
<b>April 26, 2012</b>	<b>TransSiberian Orchestra, Covelli Centre</b>
<b>April 27, 2012</b>	<b>International "Fiesta", Los Gallos</b>
<b>May 8, 2012</b>	<b>Annual Meeting, The Lake Club</b>
<b>May 12, 2012</b>	<b>Eric Church, Covelli Centre</b>
<b>May 15, 2012</b>	<b>Riverdance, Covelli Centre</b>
<b>June 14, 2012</b>	<b>Annual OSHA Update, Hampton Inn &amp; Suites, Canfield</b>
<b>June 21, 2012</b>	<b>Canfield Fair Exhibitors Breakfast, Colonial Inn</b>

## Classifieds

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for event info and updates

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### Physicians Need To Get Out the Blow Up Rat

If you have lived in the Mahoning Valley for any length of time you certainly have seen the giant inflatable rat. This has become the universal sign of local union organizers for businesses that employ non-union labor. In recent months we have seen the blow up rat in front of grocery stores, construction sites, and other various businesses. It is the union's way of letting the public know that these businesses "are against us". It has proven to be a fairly effective tool our local unions have used to demonstrate their power.

In November the Ohio voters overwhelmingly voted in favor of maintaining union powers. Senate Bill 5, as we all know, was an attempt by state lawmakers to reign in union power and put more control into the hands of government agencies with respect to contract negotiations. Whether you were a supporter of Senate Bill 5 or not, the message the voters sent in November was clear: We are not going to let government wrestle power away from unions.

I believe it is time for physicians to form a true union. Not some gentle professional organization, but a good old knuckle busting union. I have explained in the past in this column how physicians currently don't have anybody that represents THEIR best interest. The AMA clearly falls short of this, and other than some small specialty societies, we really don't have anyone that is negotiating on our behalf. As a matter of fact, I think the general public would be surprised to find out that when it comes to negotiating for our "wages" from the Federal Government (Medicare), physicians have no negotiation rights whatsoever. Further, there are laws on the books that make it incredibly difficult for physicians to band together in group negotiations with even private insurers. As physicians we are left to accept what Medicare is willing to pay, and negotiate on our own with private insurers hoping that we will ultimately get a good deal.

There is no larger single group of "employees" of the Federal Government than physicians. Medicare represents roughly 21% of the entire federal budget. Why is it then that we physicians as "employees" of the government have not been able to form a union and effectively negotiate wages. The voting public seems to think that it is completely acceptable for this to happen, so I believe it is time for us to organize. I am not sure what the best way is to do this. Perhaps the easiest way would be to contact one of the multiple national unions and simply ask them to create a branch for physicians. Instead of the "UAW" we could be the "UMW: United Medical Workers."

I would volunteer to be on the first picket line in front of our local hospital and holler at local union employees as they try to enter the emergency room in acute chest pain. Maybe the blow up rat will make them turn around and choose another hospital? Perhaps not, but maybe it would force some people to rethink their stance on the "rights" of unions.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "M. Engle". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal line extending to the right.



## From the President by Thomas E. Albani, MD

### ***THE TEACHINGS OF SITTING BULL***

My family and I were recently in the Strip District in Pittsburgh. While there we came across a tee shirt that I absolutely fell in love with. It showed a famous picture of Sitting Bull on the front of the shirt. The caption above the picture read "SURE, YOU CAN TRUST THE GOVERNMENT".

When I first returned to the Youngstown area in 1990, I recall being amazed that our federal government would have the audacity to send letters to Medicare patients receiving influenza vaccines. The purpose of these letters was to notify the Medicare subscriber (OUR patients) that their physician would be liable for financial penalties and possible jail time if the patient was being charged without being told that Medicare would not be paying for flu shots. The patient was encouraged to contact the government and turn in all of those "criminal" physicians. Over the next few years, the Medicare program discovered that patients receiving the flu vaccine actually did better (ergo costing the Medicare program LESS money!), and miracle of miracles, it was suddenly OK for physicians to administer (and charge) for flu shots. (As an aside, I do not know if any influenza-incarcerated physicians were released from jail as a result of this new federal enlightenment.) This experience taught me firsthand that the federal government may be something we all relied on, but it wasn't always right.

More recently, we have seen our legislators (via the Medicare vehicle), propose such helpful recommendations as cutting back on mammogram frequency and even going so far as recommending against self breast exams (as this practice would result in finding possible lesions that would result in further testing – hence costing more health care dollars). Fortunately, this discontinuation of the breast self exam has been abandoned after much physician rebuttal. The latest in this disturbing trend of "cost-saving non-service" now seems to be focused on the annual PSA test for men over 50 years of age.

In a significant number of my male patients the PSA alone was instrumental in the early detection of their carcinoma. Yes, the DRE was done, but in a number of these patients, there simply was no palpable mass noted (by myself or the urologist to whom I referred them). I believe (without any specific research data to back me up) that by finding these potentially lethal tumors earlier than would have occurred otherwise, lives have been saved, and maybe, just maybe, some health care dollars have been saved as well (our ultimate lofty goal, after all, eh?)

I'm not suggesting for a second that we physicians should ignore legitimate scientific research and evidence-based recommendations. We all have an obligation to monitor the current medical literature and care for our patients accordingly. I believe, however, that in the name of cost containment, our government (and many working under it's guidance) has become VERY misguided. It seems to me that some are willing to sacrifice the health of all Americans (or at least the health of those receiving any tests that cost money) for the sake of saving money for the federal budget. I'm all for helping to cut costs, but I truly do feel that the health of our citizens need not suffer as a result. I have come to question (now more than ever) why any guidelines have come about. Who is truly behind the proposed changes? Do the recommended guidelines make sense? And the ultimate litmus test ... who benefits most from these recommendations?

In these very difficult economic and political times, I encourage each of us to maintain our sense of independent thinking, our sense of right and wrong, and our sense of dedication to our patients. I guess in the long run, I just don't want to see the picture of ANY physician replacing that of Sitting Bull on any tee shirt.

*Thomas E. Albani, Jr. MD*

## Bits 'n' Pieces

### THE FOLLOWING PHYSICIAN HAS RETIRED FROM PRACTICE:

Escarlito Sevilla, MD

### CHANGE OF ADDRESS -CORRECTION

Dr. Francis Turocy has NOT moved his practice. He remains at 755 Boardman Canfield Rd., F-5 Youngstown, OH 44512  
Phone: 330-726-3806  
FAX: 330-726-9450

Dr. Roberto Bacani and Dr. Daniel Barton have moved to: 970 Windham Court Suite 6A Boardman, OH 44512  
Phone: 330-259-0440  
FAX: 330-259-0441

### MEMBERSHIP CHANGES

Russell Morrison, III, DO has been reinstated to membership  
P.Y. Solanki, MD has transferred membership from Trumbull County

### THIS MAY BE YOUR LAST BULLETIN!

If you have not yet paid your 2012 membership dues, this is your last issue of the *Bulletin*. Membership dues were payable by December 31, 2011. If we do not receive your dues by March 31, 2012, all membership services and communications will be suspended. This includes your participation in AccuMedical Waste Service, DRS, DocBookMD, and Shred-it, as well as access to tickets for events at the Covelli Centre. If you are not sure if you have paid your dues, call the Society office at 330-533-4880.

### NOT TOO LATE TO (RE)JOIN MCMS

If you made the decision to join the OSMA only when you paid your 2012 membership dues, it is not too late to rejoin your Mahoning County Medical Society. If you find yourself missing out on some of the county-only benefits like DocBookMD, DRS computer back-up, Shred-it or Meridian Profit Advisors (see page 9), just call the Society office at 330-533-4880, or send your county dues check in the amount of \$316 to MCMS, 565 E. Main St., Suite 220, Canfield, OH 44406. Coming soon for MCMS members, a great new program to save on professional liability insurance! You won't want to miss this.

*Did you know....?* The Mahoning County Medical Society Foundation grants loans to medical students who are permanent residents of Mahoning County? The interest on the loans is forgiven if they return to Mahoning County to practice and become members of MCMS.

40th Anniversary 1972—2012



**Celebrating**  
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**MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR THE FOLLOWING  
OPEN HOUSE CELEBRATIONS  
SCHEDULED FOR THIS SUMMER.**

**Shepherd of the Valley-Niles:** Sunday, May 20\*

**Shepherd of the Valley-Boardman:** Sunday, June 24\*

**Shepherd of the Valley-Poland:** Sunday, July 15\*

**Shepherd of the Valley-Howland:** Sunday, August 19\*

**Community-wide Celebration:** Sunday, September 16  
(Time TBA)

\* 1pm—4pm at all locations.

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# NEW MEMBERS

## Ray D. Crouch, MD

Thoracic Surgery

St. Elizabeth Heart & Vascular Center  
540 Parmalee Ave., Suite 510  
Youngstown, OH 44510

Medical Education: Hahnemann University School  
of Medicine, Philadelphia, PA  
Internship: Cleveland Clinic Foundation  
Residency: Cleveland Clinic Foundation  
Fellowship: Medical College of Virginia

## Shannon M. McNally, MD

Internal Medicine

1039 Boardman Canfield Road  
Boardman, OH 44512

Medical Education: NEOUCOM, Rootstown, OH  
Internship: Forum Health, Youngstown, OH  
Residency: Forum Health, Youngstown, OH

## David M. Nash, MD

Reproductive Endocrinology & Infertility

Reproductive Gynecology, Inc.  
6674 Tippecanoe Rd., Suite 3  
Canfield, OH 44406

Medical Education: NEOUCOM, Rootstown, OH  
Internship: Akron General Medical Center, Akron  
Residency: Akron General Medical Center, Akron  
Fellowship: University of Connecticut, Farmington, CT

## Rekhi P. Varghese, MD

Cardiovascular Disease

Advanced Cardiology, Inc.  
905 Sahara Trail  
Poland, OH 44514

Medical Education: Sri Devraj Urs Medical College,  
Bangalore University, India  
Internship: St. Johns Medical College Hospital,  
Bangalore, India  
Residency: University of Pittsburgh, Pittsburgh, PA  
Residency: University of Pittsburgh, Pittsburgh, PA  
Fellowship: Allegheny General Hospital, Pittsburgh

## Gregory S. Huang, MD

Trauma/Critical Care

St. Elizabeth Health Center  
1044 Belmont Avenue  
Youngstown, OH 44501

Medical Education: University of Cincinnati College of Medicine  
Internship: Western Pennsylvania Hospital, Pittsburgh  
Residency: Allegheny General Hospital, Pittsburgh  
Fellowship: University of Louisville, Louisville, KY

## Richard W. Moretuzzo, MD

Reproductive Endocrinology & Infertility

Reproductive Gynecology, Inc.  
6674 Tippecanoe Rd., Suite 3  
Canfield, OH 44406

Medical Education: SUNY at Buffalo School of Medicine  
Internship: Akron General Medical Center, Akron  
Residency: Akron General Medical Center, Akron  
Fellowship: Medical College of Georgia

## Michael R. Pascolini, DO

Otolaryngology, Head & Neck Surgery

Fifth Avenue Otolaryngologists, Inc.  
7227 Glenwood Avenue  
Boardman, OH 44512

Medical Education: Lake Erie College of Osteopathic Medicine  
Internship: Lake Erie College of Osteopathic Medicine  
Residency: Millcreek Community Hospital, Erie, PA

## Sharon s. Wagamon, MD

Oncology/Hematology

Mahoning Valley Hematology Oncology Assoc., Inc.  
835 Southwestern Run  
Youngstown, OH 44514

Medical Education: Case Western Reserve University  
Internship: University of Arizona, Tucson, Arizona  
Residency: University of Arizona, Tucson, Arizona  
Fellowship: University Hospitals of Cleveland

### The following physicians' membership dues have been paid by Humility of Mary Health Partners:

Dr. Hiba Abdel-Aziz	Dr. Theodore Alexander	Dr. Timothy Barreiro	Dr. Ray Crouch	Dr. Penny D'Souza
Dr. Jason Delatore	Dr. Heath Dorian	Dr. Carl Dunham	Dr. Rashad El-Dabh	Dr. Dinah Fedyna
Dr. Nancy Gantt	Dr. Brian Gruber	Dr. Antonius Hadi	Dr. Jessica Handel	Dr. Robert Hunt
Dr. Karim Hussein	Dr. Allan Katz	Dr. Oscar Khawli	Dr. Jung Kim	Dr. Rudolph Krafft
Dr. Cynthia Kravec	Dr. James Kravec	Dr. Prabhudas Lakhani	Dr. Kenneth Lane	Dr. Thomas Macabobby
Dr. Beth Magnifico	Dr. Thomas Marnejon	Dr. Robert McClusky	Dr. Lynn Mikolich	Dr. Kwon Miller
Dr. Roy Morcos	Dr. Michael Obeng	Dr. Brendan Patterson	Dr. Felix Pesa	Dr. Kenneth Ransom
Dr. David Regule	Dr. Ronald Rhodes	Dr. Steven Robbins	Dr. Angelina Rodriguez	Dr. Ronald Scott
Dr. Brian Selius	Dr. James Shaer	Dr. Jyotindra Shah	Dr. Kruti Shah	Dr. John Sontich
Dr. Jacques St. Julien	Dr. Walter Sweeney	Dr. Huy Tran	Dr. Kene Ugokwe	Dr. Vincent Vanek
Dr. Charles Wilkins	Dr. Gary Young	Dr. Thomas Zarlingo <sup>6</sup>	Dr. Venkata Kollipara	

## ***CME EVENT FREE TO COUNTY SOCIETY MEMBERS***

The Mahoning County Medical Society, in collaboration with the Stark County Medical Society, the Summit County Medical Society and the Trumbull County Medical Society and the Northeast Ohio Medical University, is presenting a CME event, The Medical Society Conference on Current Concepts in Healthcare. The conference will be held on Saturday, April 28, 2012, at NEOMED in Rootstown beginning at 7:30 A.M. and concluding at 3:00 P.M.

Primary Care physicians and specialists in private practice, or those employed by a health system, are invited to join us for this informative conference exploring a variety of topics applicable to your practice. Speakers and topics include:

*What Access Health Can Mean to You and Your Community* - Barb Blevins, Director, Access Health Stark County and Amanda Mesmer, Executive Director, Access Health Mahoning Valley

*Introduction to Palliative Care* - Beth Magnifico, DO, Director of Palliative Medicine, Humility of Mary Health Partners

*Acupuncture: Can it Benefit Your Patients?* - Darlene Mager, DO, New Directions Pain & Medical Practice

*Update on Breast Reconstruction* - Peter L. Sarkos, MD

*Suicide: Understanding the Pain, Easing the Grief* - Humphrey D. Germaniuk, MD, Forensic Pathologist, Trumbull County Coroner

NEOMED has designated this live activity for a maximum of 5.0 AMA PRA Category 1 Credits.™

You may register in the following ways: Download the registration form from the MCMS website at [www.mahoningmed.org](http://www.mahoningmed.org) and mail or fax it directly to NEOMED, Office of CPE, P.O. Box 95, Rootstown, OH 44272-0095, FAX 330-325-5929, or visit [www.neomed.edu/ce](http://www.neomed.edu/ce) to download a registration form and pay by credit card as indicated on the form.

If you are a member of one of the sponsoring county medical societies, you may attend at no charge. If you are not a member of a county society, the cost is \$149 which includes breakfast, lunch, parking and course materials.

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## ***INTRODUCING A NEW MEMBER BENEFIT !*** **MERIDIAN PROFIT ADVISORS**

Mahoning County Medical Society has recently partnered with an established cost consulting firm, Meridian Profit Advisors.

Meridian Profit Advisors (MPA) is a company that offers expense reduction strategies on a contingency fee basis for healthcare organizations (i.e. Surgery Centers, Hospitals, Specialty Clinics, and all Mahoning County Medical Society members). MPA's compensation is based on the savings they deliver to you. If they can't help you reduce your operating expenses, there is no fee. They assume 100% of the risk for identifying expense reduction opportunities, and there is no obligation to implement any of their recommendations. They offer this arrangement because their typical cost consulting engagement delivers 15-40% savings to the client practice.

MPA has over nine years of experience working with healthcare organizations and they consistently identify and deliver cost savings within 20 different expense categories. As a Mahoning County Medical Society member you save seven percent off their contingency-based fee, which means your practice keeps fifty seven cents of every dollar MPA saves you. We, at Mahoning County Medical Society, endorse this service.

Please contact Karyn Frederick at the Society office at (330) 533-4880 if your group is interested in learning more about Meridian Profit Advisors, or contact their principal, Brian Young, at (317) 769-4005 to get more information.

*Did you know....?* The Mahoning County Medical Society is the oldest professional association in the Mahoning Valley, founded on November 13, 1872, by thirteen local physicians.



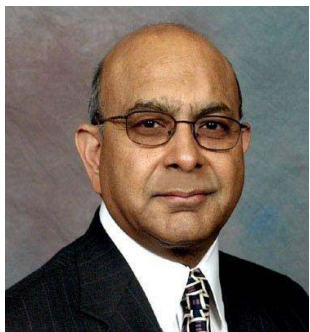
The Mahoning County Medical Society is pleased to announce that we've agreed to an exclusive relationship with Huntington Insurance, Inc. to develop a beneficial professional liability program effort for our membership.

Huntington has been active in this area for many decades and brings a wide breadth of experience and carrier relationships to us in addition to a host of other related services as well. Professional liability continues to be one of the biggest expense factors a practice has to contend with and Huntington is already working on cost saving measures for our members.

Contact Karyn Frederick at the Society for additional information or contact Edward Hassay, Huntington Insurance, our exclusive agent for this program at 330-742- 5307. [ed.hassay@huntington.com](mailto:ed.hassay@huntington.com)

## Dr. Chander Kohli to be honored by American Cancer Society

American Cancer Society presents the 6<sup>th</sup> Annual Tri-County Cattle Baron's Ball



Saturday, March 24, 2012 at Antone's Banquet Centre

The American Cancer Society is pleased to announce the 6<sup>th</sup> Annual Cattle Baron's Ball. Honored for his medical contributions to our community is neurosurgeon Dr. Chander Kohli. Also honored this year are cancer survivors Glenn Stevens, well-known local WFMJ newscaster, and Donna Detwiler, active community volunteer.

This unique western-themed event, *Denim and Diamonds*, will be held on Saturday, March 24<sup>th</sup> from 7-11 PM at Antone's Banquet Centre. The evening will include gourmet dining, live and silent auctions, music by Joey K, and fun-filled activities.

A VIP celebration for honorees and sponsors will take place from 6-7 PM.

Ticket prices for the event are \$100 per person, or \$150 per person to include the VIP cocktail hour. There are also opportunities to be a sponsor of the event, beginning at \$500.

This event is made possible through the generous support of Mr. Michael Bruno and Primus Medical, Schwinn Fitness, StairMaster, and Star Trac, and the generosity of Something New Florist.

For tickets or more information, contact Pam Marshall Wilson at the American Cancer Society at 1-888-227-6466, Ext. 2207 or email [Pamela.marshall@cancer.org](mailto:Pamela.marshall@cancer.org).

### **Access Health Mahoning Valley Needs Your Help!**

Access Health Mahoning Valley has close to 150 people enrolled, with another 150 with appointments to become enrolled, and many more waiting. The number of members is far outweighing the number of doctors who have volunteered to help. These uninsured individuals could become paying patients in the future but temporarily need to bridge the gap when they are between insurance, off Medicaid, etc. They may be out of work at this time or not be eligible for Medicaid but their status could change at any time and they could become a paying patient. Please consider helping Access Health Mahoning Valley by volunteering to take one (or more) patients each month. To volunteer, or to get more information, call Amanda Mesmer at 330-373-0703 TODAY!

### *In Memoriam*

**George L. Altman, MD**  
*July 9, 1919 ~ November 29, 2011*

**B. Patrick Brucoli, MD**  
*April 24, 1933 ~ February 6, 2012*

## HHS Announces Two Potential Rules for Stage 2 Meaningful Use

The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) has announced two notices of proposed rulemaking (NPRMs) for Stage 2 Meaningful Use – the Medicare and Medicaid Electronic Health Record (EHR) Incentive Program and the Standards & Certification Criteria (S&CC). These rules specify the criteria that physicians must meet as well as specifications for electronic health record (EHR) technology in order to receive incentive payments for adopting EHR outlined in the Health Information Technology for Economic and Clinical Health (HITECH) Act.

Stage 1 Meaningful Use is currently in effect and consists of transferring data to EHRs so that information is sharable between physicians in patient care sites. For Stage 2, which begins in 2014, the new rules propose that Meaningful Use be defined by “standards such as online access for patients to their health information and electronic health information exchange between providers,” according to a release from the Office of the National Coordinator (ONC).

Below is a table of criteria for each stage of Meaningful Use.

<b>Stage 1 - 2011</b>	<b>Stage 2 - 2014</b>	<b>Stage 3 - 2015</b>
Electronically capturing health information in a standardized format	More rigorous health information exchange (HIE)	Improving quality, safety and efficiency, leading to improved health outcomes
Using that information to track key clinical conditions	Increased requirements for e-prescribing and incorporating lab results	Decision support for national high-priority conditions
Communicating that information for care coordination processes	Electronic transmission of patient care summaries across multiple settings	Patient access to self-management tools
Initiating the reporting of clinical quality measures and public health information	More patient-controlled data	Access to comprehensive patient data through patient-centered HIE
Using information to engage patients and their families in their care		Improving population health

Physicians are eligible for incentive payments for attesting to Meaningful Use of certified EHR technology. Physicians who fail to demonstrate meaningful use will be subject to a one percent reduction in Medicare pay in 2015, increasing to two percent in 2016 and three percent in 2017 and beyond.

If you would like assistance in preparing your practice for an EHR, the Ohio Health Information Partnership is working with Regional Extension Centers (REC) across Ohio to help you in that process. You can contact the Northeast Ohio HealthConnect REC at 330-599-4595 or [info@neohc.org](mailto:info@neohc.org).

**Mahoning County Medical Society**

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