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For Details, Contact:
Josh Krysak
Coordinator
Community Relations

Uniontown Hospital
500 West Berkeley Street
Uniontown, PA 15401
Phone 724-430-8634
Fax 724-430-5646

Uniontown Hospital Media

Release

Physicians honored on National Doctors' Day



“Making a healthy difference in the lives we touch” is the cornerstone of Uniontown Hospital’s mission statement and is most certainly the driving motivation of every physician working to provide hospital patients with the best care available. And that core value, shared by doctors and hospital support staff alike, is just one reason Uniontown Hospital is proud to acknowledge the excellent service and care provided by the more than 200 physicians working in and with the hospital on this National Doctors’ Day, 2014.

“When you think of physicians and the hospital, you think of captains of a ship,” Steve Handy, Uniontown Hospital CEO, said Monday. “They navigate our patients through care and really steer our services. This is our opportunity to acknowledge and celebrate them.”

National Doctors’ Day is held each year at the end of March to recognize and observe the contributions of physicians to the health and betterment of the nation. While the practice of observing Doctors’ Day dates back to the Great Depression, it was first officially recognized by U.S. Congress in 1958. In 1990, with approval from both houses of Congress, President George H.W. Bush signed legislation officially recognizing National Doctors’ Day. From patients taking advantage of the local emergency care to others utilizing the hospital’s comprehensive cancer care or the Wound Care Center – physicians are at the forefront of the hospital’s efforts to ensure the health of Fayette County and beyond.

Executive Director of Medical Services, Dr. Linda Burstynowicz, said that with so many physicians doing so much for the hospital, the annual

**For Immediate
Release
March 31, 2014**

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Doctors' Day was extended to a week of recognition to ensure all doctors know how valued they are.

"With the varied schedules of surgeons and other doctors we wanted to make it a week of recognition for our physicians," Burstynowicz said. Handy said that as part of the hospital's thanks, a reception is being held Wednesday evening at Duck Hollow for physicians, and added that the event is also a way for doctors to better interact with one another. Burstynowicz said that in the past, when care was often more focused on inpatient services, doctors got to know one another as they worked hand-in-hand.

"With so much outpatient care, it can be difficult for doctors to maintain those connections," Burstynowicz said. "It is a challenge," Handy agreed, adding that the reception and events like it provide ways for physicians to interact and learn more about one another.