

Hospital again nonprofit

By Cynthia Hochswender

SHARON — Sharon Hospital announced in September that it would join HealthQuest, a nonprofit healthcare provider based in the mid-Hudson Valley, and return to not-for-profit status.

Peter Cordeau, who has been Sharon Hospital's CEO since last November, will remain, as will CFO Christian Bergeron. They had been employees of hospital owner RegionalCare and Capella Healthcare. Lori Puff, the hospital's chief nursing officer, will also remain at Sharon. After the state of Connecticut approves the proposed partnership, Cordeau, Bergeron and Puff will become employees of HealthQuest.

The hospital filed its certificate of need (CON) with the state on Nov. 3, and is

now waiting for the plan to be approved (which is likely to take as long as a year).

Until then, Sharon Hospital will remain a for-profit and part of Essent Healthcare of Connecticut, which is an affiliate of RCCH HealthCare Partners (which is the same as Regional-Care/Capella).

The largest member of the HealthQuest group is Vassar Brothers Medical Center in Poughkeepsie.

The group also includes Northern Dutchess Hospital in Rhinebeck, a 68-bed acute care community hospital. Sharon Hospital is a 78-bed acute care community hospital.