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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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SHARON HOSPITAL CELEBRATES BIRTH OF FIRST BABY IN 2008 **Parents Receive Package: Getaway at Wake Robin Inn, Salisbury Bank & Trust Savings Certificate, Plant from Country Gardeners Florist and More**

Sharon, CT - Sharon Hospital welcomed its first baby of 2008 into the world Wednesday, January 2nd at 12:43pm. Ana Merro Rojas & husband Fabio Rojas of Rhinebeck, NY are the very proud parents of a baby girl. Maia Delfina weighed in at 8 lbs., 14 oz. and measured 21.5 inches long. Along with his parents, brother Baltazar was very excited about the arrival of his baby sister.

"We are very happy. Maia is so quiet and peaceful. Her birth was perfect. We chose to come back to Sharon Hospital to have our daughter in the new center. It is beautiful here. It was wonderful to all be together through the delivery in this birthing suite. The staff was attentive and caring" said baby Maia's mother Ana. Throughout the birthing experience Ana had a dedicated team to support her, including Carmy Guangalli, RN, Margaret Lovell, RN, Director of Women's Services, Roberta Kistler, RN and Dr. Robert Schnurr, Obstetrician/ Gynecologist.

"It was wonderful to have Ana deliver in our new birthing suites. I cared for her when she delivered her son a couple of years ago. At Sharon Hospital, each birthing experience is a family event. We focus on the individual needs of each mother and include siblings in the process, making them feel important" said Margaret Lovell, RN, Director of Women's Services. "We are privileged to be in our new unit practicing our family-centered model of care. The LDRP birthing suites allow our patients to be admitted to the room where they will remain for their length of stay at Sharon Hospital. This allows for enhanced quality of care and level of comfort for our mothers and babies."

Sharon Hospital's new maternity center features advanced technology with private birthing suites overlooking the beautiful surrounding hills. The family-focused center, caters to the individual needs of each mother and baby with spacious LDRP private suites that make families feel comfortable. The dedicated team at Sharon Hospital, consisting of highly skilled birth experts—obstetrician, pediatrician, midwife & nurse—has been

delivering unsurpassed maternity care for nearly a century. Sharon Hospital encourages mothers to work with their physician to plan the details of their baby's birth. We promote a positive birth experience and utilize a hydrotherapy room and a pain management program to comfort mothers in labor with an anesthesiologist available 24/7 to administer epidurals. In addition, Sharon Hospital offers a complete range of birthing classes. For more information about the new maternity center at Sharon Hospital, please call 860.364.4124. For childbirth education and related classes, please call 860.364.1637.

As part of the celebration, proud new parents are able to enjoy a "Stork Club Dinner" for two. A few of the menu choices include shrimp cocktail, chilled fresh fruit, filet mignon, baked stuffed shrimp, strawberries with cream and apple pie. The big sisters and brothers also receive congratulatory gifts before going home with their baby sibling. In addition, the proud new parents of the first baby born at Sharon Hospital, receive a 'Getaway Package for Two'—an annual gift presented by Wake Robin Inn, Lakeville, CT, a Savings Certificate from Salisbury Bank & Trust Co., a Salon Certificate from Shear Illusions, Sharon, CT & Balloons and a Plant from Country Gardeners Florist, Millerton, NY. In addition the family received a teddy bear, silver spoon & fleece jackets from Sharon Hospital.

The all-inclusive package from Wake Robin Inn, valid through December 2010, includes a two-night stay at the Inn, complimentary champagne and chocolates upon arrival, full breakfast daily & a complimentary dinner at Michael Bryan's pub on premises. "We are very pleased to offer this getaway package to the proud new parents of Sharon Hospital's First Baby 2008. It's a pleasure to partner with the hospital; as we share common interests within the community" said Michael Bryan Loftus, Owner-Innkeeper of Wake Robin Inn. "A new birth should be celebrated. The parents will need a little pampering. We hope our inn package will offer Ana and Fabio a little rest and relaxation."

"We were very excited about the arrival of Sharon Hospital's 2008 New Year Baby. Baby Maia is absolutely beautiful. Our team was very dedicated to Ana and Maia's needs. Ana and Fabio were so happy to deliver Maia in our new birthing suites." said Jill Groody Musselman, Director of Marketing & Public Relations at Sharon Hospital. "And, we truly appreciate our partnership with the Wake Robin Inn, Salisbury Bank & Trust Co., Country Gardeners Florist and Shear Illusions; it's a wonderful way to celebrate Sharon Hospital's first baby of the year while reinforcing our continued commitment to our communities."

"Being the parents of the New Year Baby was so exciting," said Ana. "We truly appreciate everything, especially the loving care, attention and the new birthing suites."

Wake Robin Inn is a 38 guest-room country inn atop 11 acres of rolling hills in Lakeville, CT, at the foothills of the Berkshires. Open year-round, the Inn features well-appointed rooms and function spaces ideal for weddings, retreats & parties. Michael Bryan's Irish Pub, a cozy tavern, serves full meals and premium beers open on premises.

Sharon Hospital (sharonhospital.com), a 78-bed acute care community hospital, located in the beautiful northwest corner of Connecticut; is dedicated to serving the healthcare needs of the community. Founded in 1909, they provide state-of-the-art technology & comprehensive services. Sharon Hospital and its dedicated staff is at the center of caring, serving 20 towns in three states (CT, NY & MA) with compassion. Sharon Hospital is licensed & accredited by many governmental & healthcare organizations, both regionally & nationally.

Photo Captions: Ana Merro Rojas cradles her newborn baby girl Maia. Maia is the 2008 New Year Baby at Sharon Hospital. Born January 2nd at 12:43pm. 8 lbs., 14 oz., 21.5".

First family photo: Proud father Fabio and big brother Baltazar together with mother Ana and baby Maia in Sharon Hospital's new birthing suites.

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