Issue Number Two • March 2024



# THE FROG



A dedication to O.C. Newman's sprightly bronco (so named for his wild leaps).

# Congratulations Dalinda Hix!

Dalinda has been awarded PMC's
"Therapist of the Year" for her
outstanding performance and
dedication to patient care. She was
selected out of more than 120 other
therapists for this honor.



Newman would like to wish the following employee's Happy Birthday!

Shandy Baggs - March 4
Shannon Thompson - March 6
Tiffany Fluitt - March 6
Robert Bunch - March 7
Hether Roberts - March 8
Edgar Morales - March 14
Brandon Wheelock - March 14
Jennifer Hix - March 15
Jerson Penaflor - March 15
Delaniey Millikan - March 28
Amy Vasko - March 28
Gloria Sawyer - March 30

### Congratulations to Newman's Lab Staff!

Newman's Laboratory staff have earned The Joint Commission's Gold Seal of Approval for their exceptional Laboratory program. This accreditation was given by demonstrating continuous compliance with its performance standards. The Gold Seal is a symbol of quality that reflects a health care organization's commitment to providing safe and quality patient care.

## Congratulations Senior Life Solutions!

Honored in Becker Healthcare's list for 2023 as one of "36 hospitals and health systems with great psychiatry and mental health programs."



Newman Memorial Hospital 905 Main St, Ok 73858 *580-938-2551* 

#### **Employee Anniversaries**

Michelle Batman Registration 3-20-2023 **Matt Budig Director of Operations** 3-24-2022 Joey Burgtorf **Chief Operating Officer** 3-28-2021 **Danelle Devore** LPN 3-15-2015 Niki Foster RN 3-13-2023 Registration 3-03-2022 Adora Hall LPN 3-20-2022 **Christel Hansen** Revenue Cycle 3-10-2023 Ryan Havel 3-03-2022 Jennifer Hix CNA 3-28-2022 **Beatriz Moreno** Clinic Registration **Medical Records** 3-26-2013 **Donna Poppe** CNA 3-03-2022 **Anthony Salgado** 3-19-2022 **Mary Schultz** LPN 3-21-2022 **Gina Smith Phlebotomist** Lois Starbuck RN 3-16-2009 **Brandon Wheelock Director of Surgery** 3-14-2023

#### Newman Memorial Hospital to Partner with Oklahoma State Department of Health

Newman will host
Community Health
Worker, Karla Ortiz,
twice monthly to assist
any community
member in accessing
state and local
resources such as
Sooner Care, WIC,
medication assistance,
food insecurity and/or
housing assistance.



Community Health Worker
Resource & Service
Assistance Event

District 1
Northwest Oklahoma
County Health Departmen

1st & 3rd Wednesday Each Month

11 am to 3 pm Newman Memorial Hospital 905 S. Main St. Shattuck, OK 73858

For more information: 572-568-1880

## Job Opportunities with Newman

Newman Memorial is hiring the the following positions:
-Clinic LPN

-LPNs

-RNs

-Surgery Scrub Tech
-Surgery LPN or RN
-PRN Radiology / CT Tech
-Swing Bed Coordinator
-Accountant

Please contact HR Robyn Monday by phone 580-938-5527

#### Meet Our Newest Employee's

Newman Memorial Hospital would like to welcome our newest hires.

Edgar Morales - Nurse Tech Cheryl Simco - RN Alyssa Frame - RN

## A Note From Your CEO

#### **Newman History**

The Open House of the Newman Memorial Hospital and the Newman Clinic was the fulfillment of a dream that began in 1907 when the late Dr. O.C. Newman opened his first institution for the care of the sick "The Shattuck Sanitorium" shortly after he arrived in Shattuck.

The Shattuck Sanitorium existed until 1909 when it was reorganized and continued in operation until 1917 when it was closed for the duration of World War I while Dr. O.C. Newman was serving in the Army. Upon his return it was re-established in 1918 and existed until 1927. In 1927 Newman Memorial Hospital was established with 24 beds. In 1929 sixteen beds were added and the Medical Staff was increased by the addition of specialists.

On September 9, 1963 a devastating fire destroyed the Clinic building and one wing of the hospital, reducing the patient beds to 41 and 5 bassinets.

With the opening of the new hospital and clinic facilities, there were 74 patient beds and 5 bassinets. In the Clinic, there were 10 four room doctors' suites and two laboratories. In the Hospital, there was a surgery suite which included three operating rooms, a cast room, a sigmoid and cystoscopy room as well as a recovery room. The X-ray department had the most modern equipment for diagnostic and therapeutic treatments including isotopes and cobalt. A blood bank was added to the modern laboratory facility and an inhalation department to the physical therapy department.

The new facilities were a living memorial to the principles for which Dr. O.C. Newman and Dr. Floyd S. Newman lived and worked.

Happy March! We are entering my favorite time of the year as we get back to baseball. Watching our kids around the county and contiguous states compete and learn how to become contributing athletes and prospering young adults is one of my favorite experiences in Northwest Oklahoma.

The hospital had a very impressive January with record setting revenues and doubling our cash collection from last January. However, we are getting ready to battle legislative changes that will impact rural health in a negative manner, so we are preparing to counter with growth, revenue optimization and lobbying to our state representatives.

Medicare and Medicaid Managed Care is one of those challenges. Privatization of our tax dollars in government programs such as Medicaid is most likely going to present the same results of other states who elected previously to give this a try with catastrophic results. While these programs work to cover more ground with respect to head count, they decrease reimbursement to hospitals, decrease patient services and increase administrative costs which currently average less than 5%. When our state shifts Medicaid administration to for-profit insurance companies in April, the administration cost will escalate to as much as 15%. Meaning 15% of our Medicaid tax dollars will flow outside Oklahoma and compensate billion-dollar insurance companies. It's important as a rural community we let our political leaders know our stance and lobby hard against these types of legislative changes. Currently, over 50% of U.S. rural hospitals are operating with negative margins and Oklahoma is number four in the nation for highest rate of hospital closures. We are grateful and blessed Newman is not one of them, but that is because we are choosing to utilize our local hospital and Providers who understand the importance and existence of an independent rural hospital such as Newman. Thank you for those who choose Newman and Newman Healthcare Associates for your care provider. It truly matters to the health of our community.

Lastly, congratulations to our FFA on your achievements during the Ellis County Livestock Show. It is always a reminder of how important these events are to recognize the hard work and commitment of our youth. I'm always amazed at the level of stewardship these students bring to something we all love dearly.

- Tom Vasko