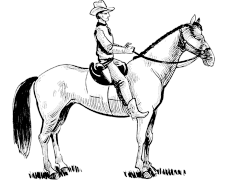




THE FROG



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

A Note From Your CEO

Happy February!

It has been a busy start to the year, and we are storming at increasing and restoring specialty services to our area to support our local physicians in the Northwest. It's imperative we stand firmly within the healthcare community that it is unacceptable for us and our families to travel an hour and a half to Elk City or Enid. Like you, I don't want to drive to Elk City for a specialty procedure. This was the determining factor in reinstating ENT services in our area. It is too often, we as community members may get an initial appointment but are expected to drive to Elk City or Enid and/or to OKC to get a basic procedure done. As a supporting example, I recently had a conversation with a hospital leader who is an hour and a half away who offered to place an OBGYN in our area where there would be shared costs. The offer was for all OBGYN surgeries/procedures to be sent an hour and a half away but Newman would deliver the babies. My response was, "No." It's absolutely the easy way out but not the right answer for our community. We deserve both. It's our human right.

It was obvious that this particular leader was zeroing in on profitability versus access and care for us. I live here. I know better. I expect better. As I know you do as well. We will reinstate OBGYN care in the Northwest and eliminate the long travel times for our community members. Whether it's a procedure, delivery, or prenatal visit, our community moms should not have to drive to Elk City or Enid to accomplish that. Therefore, I've taken the fight to the State Capitol and, in May, to Washington, D.C. It's my greatest initiative and push right now. The result, **Senate Bill 222 (SB-222)**. This Oklahoma Bill would fund the launch of full service OBGYN care to Newman, reinstate OBGYN clinical care in Woodward and Shattuck; eliminating long drive times. Please reach out to your legislators after you've read SB-222 to voice your support. They are aware, and many are very supportive of the Bill.

We lost ENT services in the densely populated area of Woodward, which affected those of us living on the outskirts or contiguous counties as well. We have now successfully reinstated ENT services with Dr. Orgill. It's important to note that Dr. Orgill will hold clinic hours in Woodward and at Newman. I want to ensure our neighbors in Woodward understand your access is a priority of mine. I'm committed to your local community as well. Our family spends an immense amount of our time in Woodward, our local grocery stores, restaurants, nearly half of our employees live in Woodward, it's critical to support the community.

Lastly, let my candor and actions speak for the authenticity of what I just said. I live here. I expect quality healthcare driven by community access versus financial gain. Together, we will get this done. I've lived in Northwest Oklahoma long enough to understand our strength, tenacity and resilience. I will do my part, but I need your help in supporting Newman and continuance of messaging on how we can better serve you. There are times when I'm on my tractor and see the helicopter flying toward the city on a Saturday, or I hear someone who doesn't have transportation to get to a clinic or hospital. There are times I see a scared mom who has no choice but to gamble her delivery time frame when it should be the most exciting time of her life.

There are times I sit and watch our children's sports teams, recitals, and activities and see the need for their healthcare access to improve, such as with ENT. It only lets me know I have work to do. It fuels my passion and commitment. It's my responsibility, and I own it, but I need our northwest communities support to be successful. Remember, access to healthcare is a human right not an entitlement. Therefore, we will demand better and we will do better through our actions and support.

~ Tom Vasko, CEO



Newman Memorial Hospital
905 S Main St., Shattuck, OK
(580) 938-2551

Employee Anniversaries

Jordan Ashcraft - Business Office - Shattuck, OK - 2/2/2022

Sheri Blau - Respiratory Therapy - Follett, TX - 2/15/2022

Julienne Dacudao - Laboratory - Shattuck, OK - 2/9/2023

Oritza Delgado - Nursing 2W - Woodward, OK - 2/9/2023

Alyssa Frame - Emergency Room - Follett, TX - 2/13/2024

Heather Longhofer - Radiology Manager - Shattuck, OK - 2/8/2005

Edgar Morales - Swing Bed - Laverne, OK - 2/3/2024

Tom Vasko - Chief Executive Officer - Gage, OK - 2/9/2023

Thank you all for your dedication and hard work at Newman over the years!

ENT Services Launching at Newman in February!

Richard Orgill, MD is a board certified ear, nose, and throat (ENT) physician from Oklahoma City, OK. He provides medical and surgical care for children and adults of all ages.

We are now accepting new patient referrals!

Call (580) 938-5400 for more information.



HEALTHY HEART MONTH SPECIAL!

A CT Calcium Score (Heart Scan) at Newman Memorial Hospital is only \$40 during Healthy Heart Month!

 **FEBRUARY 2025**
ALL MONTH LONG!

 **NEWMAN MEMORIAL**
905 SOUTH MAIN STREET
SHATTUCK, OK



Meet Our Newest Employee

Newman Memorial Hospital would like to welcome our newest hire!

Stacy Corbin - Higgins, TX - Business Office

Employee Spotlight

A special shout-out to **Heather Longhofer**, Radiology Manager, for 20 years of service at Newman Memorial Hospital! Your hard work and dedication have made a lasting impact on our patients and community. Thank you for all that you do!

Employee Birthdays



Happy Birthday to the following NMH employees!

Sheri Blau - Follett, TX - Feb. 28

Stacey Crissup - Laverne, OK - Feb. 21

Julienne Dacudao - Shattuck, OK - Feb. 9

Heather Jennings - Vici, OK - Feb. 15

Cheyenne Pilger - Shattuck, OK - Feb. 22

Cynthia Turner - Shattuck, OK - Feb. 26