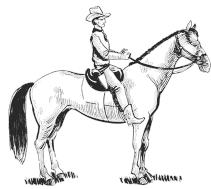




THE FROG

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



December 2025

A Remarkable Year for Rural Health:

As we approach the Holiday parades and community festivities across Northwest Oklahoma, I hope you are looking forward to the season as much as I am. This past year has been extraordinary for healthcare advancement throughout our region. We are beginning to see real, measurable improvements in access, and I am proud that Newman continues to lead the way, setting the standard for others to emulate across rural Oklahoma.

What is even more encouraging is watching other organizations step forward and join the effort to confront the challenges surrounding rural access to care. In just this year alone, Newman has more than doubled its patient volumes, introduced long needed services, and delivered the highest quality of care to communities across our contiguous counties. Looking ahead to 2026, Newman has charted an ambitious and inspired path focused on bold initiatives, innovative solutions, and strategic partnerships with distinguished organizations; all with the singular goal of keeping care local, particularly in specialty and surgical services.

We were recently recognized on a national stage by The Joint Commission on Rural Health Day as the leading example of rural healthcare excellence. This recognition represents far more than accreditation; it affirms the unparalleled level of care, dedication, and professionalism our team members bring to our communities every single day. While I am honored that Newman became the first organization in Oklahoma to achieve accreditation across its laboratory services, rural health clinics, and hospital, I am even more proud of the collective journey, defined by unwavering commitment, resilience, and a shared vision of excellence for the loved ones we serve.

Finally, I want to extend my deepest gratitude to our community members, local businesses, and healthcare partners for your ongoing support and partnership. Your trust, engagement, and utilization of Newman's services ensure that this historic, 105-year-old legacy not only endures but continues to thrive, expand, and create new opportunities for us all.

Wishing each of you a blessed, restorative, and joyful Holiday season.

-Tom Vasko, CEO



Family Holiday Traditions

"Jason and I take the boys to cut down our Christmas tree the day after Thanksgiving. Joshua (16) usually takes his shirt off to use the handsaw and it doesn't matter how cold it is."

-Wendy Crotts, APRN

"My favorite holiday tradition is going around town with my husband to select angels from the Angel Trees and then shopping for gifts for them together."

-Michelle Batman

"One of my favorite traditions started when my children were young: every Christmas Eve, we put on our pajamas and they get to open one present that I've chosen. They look forward to opening that special gift every year." - Charli Johnson

My favorite time of the holiday season will always be Christmas morning—waking up sleepy-eyed with a cup of coffee, watching the magic unfold as our kids peek into their stockings. The joy that fills me when they whisper, "Santa came!" is truly surreal. And in the middle of all the excitement, laughter, and wrapping paper everywhere, I try to keep close to my heart the real reason we get to celebrate Christmas.

-Jessica Jones, APRN

Newman earns Joint Commission Accreditation!

On November 20th, Newman received national accreditation for three essential programs: Critical Access Hospital, Rural Health Clinic, and Laboratory Services. This achievement makes Newman the first organization in Oklahoma to be recognized across all three areas. It is a remarkable milestone that exemplifies the Newman Standard and the extraordinary work of our entire team.



What is the Newman Difference?

Living in rural communities, we understand how essential accessible healthcare is, yet finding providers close to home has become increasingly difficult. Specialty care, in particular, can be even harder to access. These challenges often mean added burdens for patients, including long travel distances, extra expenses, missed time from work, and extended wait times for appointments that can stretch six months to a year. Too often, these barriers keep patients from receiving the care they truly need. Newman is working to change that. Through our expanding specialty services, we're committed to bringing high-quality, big-city care closer to home. Our goal is simple: make it easier for our community to access the expert care they deserve, without the obstacles.

Dr. Walia, DO

- Board-certified anesthesiologist
- Fellowship-trained interventional pain management specialist
- Doctor of Osteopathic Medicine, Oklahoma State University College of Osteopathic Medicine (2004)
- Residency completed at OU Medical Center
- Oklahoma native who returned to his hometown to practice
- Specializes in diagnosing and treating chronic pain using image-guided, patient-centered procedures
- Focus on improving mobility, function, and quality of life
- Clinic starts January 9, 2026:
- Referrals Required
- Contact: For more information, call 580-256-1236



Dr. Richard Orgill, MD-ENT

- Provides comprehensive medical and surgical ENT care for patients of all ages
- Medical degree from University of Oklahoma College of Medicine
- Languages: Fluent in English and Spanish
- Treats Allergies, Chronic sinusitis, Hearing loss, Throat and voice disorders, Tinnitus & more!
- One of the few ENT specialists in Oklahoma certified to implant the Inspire® Device for sleep apnea
- Known for compassionate, patient-centered care
- Now Accepting New Patients
- Call 580-938-5400 to make an appointment

Jeremy Cheatwood, PA

- Has worked alongside Dr. Zane Uhland since 2011
- Over a decade of orthopedic experience
- Began career as an orthopedic surgical assistant, spending five years in the operating room
- Played collegiate baseball at Carl Albert State College
- Practical, hands-on approach grounded in his athletic background
- Sees patients in Woodward and Shattuck Clinics

Dr. Mann, MD

- Graduate of the University of Oklahoma College of Medicine
- Comprehensive primary care
- Management of hypertension and high blood pressure, Sleep Apnea, Diabetes & more!
- Broad experience treating a wide range of additional health conditions
- Known for an approachable, patient-centered style
- Focuses on building strong, long-term patient relationships
- Start Date: Thursday, January 8th, 2026, Call 580-938-5400



Your NMH Surgery team!

Led by Surgery Director, Brandon Wheelock, our surgery team is top-tier!



Women in Healthcare

Jessica Jones, APRN, and Amy Vasko, APRN-CNM, celebrated the launch of their services at the Woodward Specialty & Walk-In Clinic!



Community Care!

With the help of the community, NMH was able to help fill the Ellis County Food Bank pantry this December!

Standout Employee!

Kaleb Maggard was nominated as the NMH Employee of the Quarter. Shane Clem, Director of Facilities, shared that Kaleb has consistently stepped up and gone above and beyond expectations. Kaleb is truly an invaluable asset to NMH!

Everleigh's Story



On November 20th, sweet Everleigh came to Newman Memorial Hospital for surgery with Dr. Orgill. Like any parent would, her mom, Bailey, arrived with a mix of nerves and hope, wanting her little girl to feel safe and cared for every step of the way.

From the moment they walked in, the Newman team made sure they never felt alone. Bailey shared how comforting it was to be kept updated, to have every question answered with patience, and to be surrounded by kindness- even from staff simply passing by the waiting room.

"If I had to choose any hospital for my family to have a procedure done at, I would always pick Newman... Everleigh is healing nicely and had no complaint after the surgery."

Today, Everleigh is back home, healing beautifully, and her bright smile says it all. We're so grateful to her family for trusting us, and we're honored to be part of her story.