

Oberlin doctor retiring next week

By Kimberly Davis
k.davis@nwkans.com

After 46 years in chiropractic care, Dr. Douglas Fair plans to retire next week, selling his clinic to a former patient and fellow doctor, Dr. Ryan Unger, who owns Unger Chiropractic in St. Francis.

Dr. Fair said he will miss treating the patients the most when he retires, although he looks forward to spending time relaxing, playing golf and spending time with family.

He and his wife Sandy, who has worked along side her husband at Fair Chiropractic, have been spending some time in Texas. He said they found an RV park that they enjoy visiting and will probably spend a little time there in the winter. Dr. Fair said they want to spend more time seeing the family and grandkids, which now total 16, and are all over the country.

He said they still love Oberlin and have no plans of moving.

Dr. Fair said he decided to study chiropractic care after it helped his mother and himself. He said his mother was paralyzed on the left side of her body after having a stroke after giving birth to his twin sisters. Dr. Fair said they didn't think his mother would live.

With the help of chiropractic care though, she managed to finally start to walk with a cane. Chiropractic care, said Dr. Fair, really helped her gain her mobility.

Then, he said, he was injured playing football his senior year of high school. The local chiropractor helped him out and he decided he wanted to help people too.

After high school, he went to Kansas Wesleyan in Salina for two years and then to the National College of Chiropractic in Chicago. Dr. Fair also has a bachelor's degree in nutrition from Columbia College in Missouri and a master's degree in nutrition from Bridgeport University in Connecticut.

Dr. Fair opened a clinic in St. Francis in 1964, then in 1986 he opened one in Oberlin.

The building on Main Street, which houses Fair Chiropractic Clinic, was formerly a medical clinic. Then when one was built by the hospital, he said, the doctors moved there.

Dr. Fair said his son was working in the St. Francis office and the couple started looking at areas for another clinic, wanting a new challenge. He said they looked all over, but really like Oberlin.

The building was purchased and used as a chiropractic clinic. Shortly after, he said, they were swamped with patients in Oberlin.

In 1986 the Fairs decided to move to Oberlin. When his son moved from St. Francis, he started to commute from Oberlin to St. Francis.

It was a good reason to keep flying, said Dr. Fair.

When Dr. Unger arrived on the scene, he took over the St. Francis office and Dr. Fair stayed in Oberlin.

Dr. Unger was a patient of Dr. Fair's while he was in high school in Oberlin.

Mrs. Fair said when Dr. Unger was in high school, Dr. Fair encouraged him to go into chiropractic care.

"I can still recall a day before he graduated as valedictorian of his class (he was a classmate of our daughter Jenna) that the day would come when Dr. Fair would want to retire and it



Dr. Douglas Fair

would be great if he would be here when it happened," said Mrs. Fair. "That was in 1994. The rest is history."

Dr. Unger and his wife Darcy will own both clinics in St. Francis and Oberlin.

Dr. Unger has been in the practice now for 10 years and Dr. Shannon Addleman since 2007. They will continue to provide really good quality care, said Dr. Fair. He added that if he wasn't totally confident in their ability, he wouldn't be retiring. Dr. Fair said that's always been his major concern, before Dr. Unger and Dr. Addleman were here, because he was very rarely out of the office for more than a day or two.

The Unger Clinic will keep the same staff with chiropractic assistants Kelly Wasson, Sarah Orr, Britta Noren and Shelby Hackney. All of the patient files will remain with the Unger Clinic.

Senior center's kitchen important

By Karen Krien
karen.k@nwkans.com

At the Friday Cheyenne County Commissioners' meeting, a St. Francis senior citizen met with them to thank them for the money allotted to the center which not only allows seniors to have three good meals a week at a reasonable price but gives them a place to meet with friends.

Art Krueger said the center is open three days a week (Tuesday, Thursdays and Fridays). Last year, the center served approximately 8,000 meals and delivered an additional 2,900 to those who are unable to come to the center. The center on a daily basis, serves 45 to 50 people and delivers about 20 meals.

Volunteers deliver meals. Some days, Mr. Krueger said, there is a need for volunteers.

It is rewarding, he said, as these volunteers are sometimes the only person a homebound person sees that day. And, to top it off, they are bringing them a good, hot meal.

The price of a meal is voluntarily contribution. The suggested price is \$2.75 per meal which is sent to the Homestead Nutrition in Hays. This money helps pay for the food and the head cook's salary. The head cook is Janice Krien.

A number of people give a dollar above the suggested meal price which helps provide the boxes for delivering food and other expenses.

There are two other cooks which the center board is responsible for paying along with utilities, supplies, repairs and insurance. In all, the center's expenses last year totaled \$26,895.

Also last year, they had to replace some doors, one which would accommodate handicapped people and some other repairs.



FOURTH GRADERS Matthisen Witze and Reagan Beims, third grader Teagan Landenberger, first graders Emma Johnson and Kattie Wurm and third grader Emmanuel Fierro are all getting the valentines ready to send to Afganistan through the Adopt a Platoon program that Mrs. Beikman has helped to organize.

Herald staff photo by JoEllen Frewen

Hard decisions have to be made

The Kansas Legislature is in session through May, and deciding whether to raise taxes or cut spending to resolve the budget shortfall is their top priority.

You may have read articles published by the Kansas Policy Institute, saying public schools are holding large cash reserves that should be spent on educating students. The funds the Kansas Policy Institute refers to are bond and interest, capital outlay, and contingency reserve funds. Yes, we do maintain cash reserves to operate our school. Considering the state has not made a school payment on time since October 2009, thank goodness USD 103 had the cash reserves necessary to

make payroll and pay bills.

Currently the Kansas Legislature has three options: no tax increase by cutting budgets, raising taxes, or a combination of both options to solve the \$483 million budget shortfall. Some representatives are promoting taxing locally over the state raising taxes.

I want to explain the reality of what no tax increase will do to our schools if this option is chosen by the legislature. I am assuming the state education budget will take 52 percent of the funding cut since education spending represents 52 percent of the general fund budget.

Dale Dennis, deputy commissioner of education, states this would result in a funding decrease of approximately \$286 in base state aid per pupil (BSAPP). USD 103 receives approximately 2.66 base state aid per pupil for every student on the Sept. 20 count day. The 2.66 factor represents all school weightings that our district receives in funding. To compute the cut, take \$286 x (2.66) x 137 student head count = \$104,224 reduction in the general fund budget.

If staff reductions are enacted to cover this type of funding loss, our schools will face the closing of elective programs like music, vocational programs, drivers education, possibly reduce athletic offerings, reduce coaching positions, and reduce classified staff (para-educators, custodial, food service, transportation, and secretarial) and/or certified staff.

I am estimating that a minimum of three jobs will have to be cut from USD 103 along with possible assistant coaching positions. These cuts are going to hurt our students,

the quality of our school, and the opportunities for students. These decisions will also hurt our community's economic development, local retail businesses as well as our community's quality of life.

Across the state, Mr. Dennis stated Kansas will lose an estimated 5,095 educational jobs based upon superintendent surveys.

The USD 103 Board of Education will have similar decisions as the Kansas Legislature. They can cut programs, raise local taxes or a combination of both options. Currently the USD 103 Local Option Budget is at 30 percent, which is the legal maximum limit. Your board over the years has been conservative in using their supplemental general fund money only when necessary. The USD 103 Board of Education needs your input as to how best resolve our local funding issues.

Likewise, our state legislators need your input to solve the current budget crisis. If taxes are going to be raised, why not look to solve the problem at the state level and not to all the local taxing entities in our community.

Some state legislators are advocating putting the taxing decision back on local communities in lieu of raising state taxes. This is going to create general inequality in all local Kansas schools and communities.

Raising the cap on Local Option Budgets is being proposed by urban legislators where small mill levy increases generate considerable tax dollars. We are concerned that we are faced with creating "have and have not" schools and communities throughout our state.

If just 10 people a week over the

course of the legislative session mid-January through May express their concerns and solutions for the budget crisis to Representative John Faber and Senator Ralph Ostmeyer we can preserve our community and our schools.

No one enjoys raising revenues but when sustaining our communities, schools, and essential services are in the balance, we will need to encourage our state representatives to make difficult decisions that are in our best interest.

Hand written letters from local tax paying voters stating your views carries the highest impact of any lobbying effort. Take a moment and write your state legislators and make your thoughts heard in Topeka.

I strongly encourage you to attend the Town Hall meeting this Saturday at 8 a.m. in the Bird City American Legion Hall with Senator Ostmeyer and Representative Faber. We need to fill the hall; the future of our school and community is at stake!

Their contact information is as follows:

Kansas State Senate
Ralph Ostmeyer - R-Grinnell
ralph.ostmeyer@senate.ks.gov
785-296-7399

Kansas House of Representatives
John Faber - R-Brewster - john.faber@house.ks.gov - 785-296-7500 - represents Rawlins, Cheyenne, Decatur, Norton and Phillips counties

Bruce Bolen
Superintendent, Cheylin Schools
Notice: Much of the information for this article was taken from an article written by Mark Bejot, superintendent of WaKeeney Schools.

Transactions need to be filed

Angie Berens, County Executive Director of the Cheyenne County Farm Service Agency, is reminding foreign investors who buy, sell or hold a direct or indirect interest in agricultural lands in the United States that they are required under the Agricultural Foreign Investment Disclosure Act to report their holdings and transactions to the U. S. Secretary of Agriculture.

The secretary has delegated the responsibility for collecting this information to the Farm Service Agency.

According to Mrs. Berens, foreign investors buying or selling land must report such transaction within 90 days of the date of the sale.

Failure to file an accurate or timely report can result in a penalty with fines up to 25 percent of the fair market value of the

agricultural land.

She said the act requires reports to be filed by:

- Individuals who are not U.S. citizens or citizens of the Northern Mariana Islands or the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands;
- Individuals who are not lawfully admitted to the United States for permanent residence or who are not paroled into the United States under the Immigration and Nationality Act;
- Any organization created under the laws of a foreign government or which has located its

principal place of business outside the United States;

•Any U.S. organization in which a significant interest or substantial control is directly or indirectly held by foreign individuals, organizations, or government; and

•Any foreign governments.

Farm Service Agency for FSA-153 is used to report land holdings and transactions. The completed form must be returned to the Farm Service Agency county office where the land is located.

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Bird City 125th Celebration Fund Raiser
Old Fashion Box Supper
Saturday, Feb. 13th • 6:30 p.m.
American Legion Hall, Bird City
Bring a meal in your choice of container (enough to feed yourself and at least 2 others), be creative! Boxes will be judged before the auction, prizes will be awarded. All boxes will be auctioned off and you will have the opportunity to eat with your buyer.
Entertainment by the Cheylin Music Department.
Many thanks to Rambat Auction for auctioning off the boxes.

In Loving Memory of
Alan Clapper
4-9-1932 to 2-16-2000
Those we love don't go away,
they walk beside us everyday, unseen, unheard,
but always near, still loved, still missed and very dear.
Vickie Clapper,
Jackie & LaVerne Ritchey
Mike Hanson

Hey Indian Basketball Fans
Buffalo Booster Club
invites you to our
Lasagna Supper
Friday, Feb. 12, 5-7 p.m.
RCHS Cafeteria
\$5 meal includes lasagna
salad, garlic bread & dessert

Join us for a
Come and Go Baby Shower
Erika & Alexis Zimbelman
Saturday, Feb. 27
2-4 p.m.
Cheyenne County Clinic Basement
St. Francis

Book Your Overnight Getaway at the Winemaker's Loft!
Sage Hill
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