



WHILE SERVING IN KOREA in April 1958, Maj. Delbert Townsend (second from right) sat with the general staff of the 7th Infantry Division.

*Man serves over 30 years in the Army

(Continued from Page 1A)
to school in Danbury for the first 10 grades, he graduated from Decatur Community High School. He attended Kansas State University and then joined the Army in 1943.
In May of that year he was commissioned as a 2nd Lieutenant and joined the Company A, 194th Glider Infantry, 17th Airborne Division at Camp Mackall, North Carolina.
After finishing glider training and parachute school, he was shipped to England with the 17th Airborne Division.
According to Col. Townsend's autobiography, on Jan. 7 1945, he

was wounded during the Battle of the Bulge and spent almost two months in the hospital.
He said he returned to Company A, 194th Glider Infantry and stayed with them until the end of the war.
With the war over, he transferred to the 82nd Airborne Division in June 1945 for a short tour in Berlin.
Col. Townsend's military career included 13 months in Korea, three years at the University of Kansas, 12 years at the Pentagon in three tours and two tours in Vietnam to name a few.
In 1973 Col. Townsend retired with almost 31 years of military

service behind him.
Over the years Col. Townsend received the Glider and Parachute Wings, Senior Pilot Wings, Combat Infantry Badge and three battle stars for service in Europe. His decorations included the Silver Star, the Distinguished Flying Cross, the Purple Heart, four wards for Legion of Merit, two Bronze Stars, two Army Commendation Medals, several air medals and three Vietnamese Army decorations.
He also finished 68 parachute jumps and logged over 2,500 hours of flight time as a pilot.
"The Colonel was so very intelligent," said Mrs. Breth, "and never forgot anything. He and I

started writing a book together a few years back. I wanted to capture some of his memories and stories so that his scholarship recipients would know him even after he was long gone. His military career is pretty well documented, but he could remember so many things from when he was a young boy that he was literally a walking history book.
He remembered the Dirty 30s, outdoor plumbing, a tornado that ripped through his home, elementary school, high school, everything. I want his scholarship recipients years from now to know who Colonel Townsend was."

*Doctor retires, clinic sold to native son

(Continued from Page 1A)
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 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 Darci 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.

There will be an open house from 3 to 6 p.m. on Thursday, Feb. 11 at the clinic.

City streets rates from good to bad

The Oberlin City Council looked over a listing of the streets in the city and their condition from bad to fair to good.

The council didn't make any decisions about which of the streets should be fixed first during the meeting on Thursday, Jan. 21, but did talk about getting an engineering firm here to work on a capital improvement plan for the city.

Councilman Bill Riedel said he thought that sounded like a great investment and Councilwoman Rhonda May agreed.

City Administrator Austin Gilley said the street ratings were assigned to the streets after the crew took a look at them. There's 17 miles of city streets, including cement, brick, gravel and asphalt. Most are asphalt, said Mr. Gilley. That doesn't include alleys.

One-quarter of the asphalt streets are rated bad and need replaced. There are a number of cracks that need sealed, said Mr. Gilley.

The city has a crack sealer, he

said, but there needs to be six people to run the machine effectively. It's hard to get six crew members available at the same time to run it, said Mr. Gilley.

It would cost \$6.65 million to replace all the bad asphalt streets in the city.

The city's maintenance schedule, said Mr. Gilley, is to do crack sealing every year and chip seal the streets every five years.

There's going to have to be some consideration about where the money is going to come from for those roads, said Mr. Gilley.

He said he talked with an engineer who stopped by his office. The two talked about having a capital improvement plan for the city. Mr. Gilley said he was going to suggest that an engineering firm come in and help get a plan set up. The streets are kind of a forgotten infrastructure, and so is the electric department. It would be good to have an overall plan, he said.

Members discuss Ladies Shopping Night

Members of the Oberlin Business Alliance discussed the success of the first Ladies Shopping Night held in December and how to improve it for next year at their January meeting.

Gary Anderson, owner of the LandMark and Oberlin Mercantile, said at the meeting Jan. 3 that the evening had been good for him. Quite a few people stayed after the movie let out, he said, and several thanked him for being open late. The coolest part, said Mr. Anderson, was seeing people carrying bags from the different stores.

Laurie Wasson, owner of Prairie Petals, said she thought maybe they shouldn't make it quite so late. (Shopping hours were 9:30 to 11:30 p.m.)

Mr. Anderson said he knows there was some talk about also doing a Men's Shopping Night next year, maybe a few days before Christmas.

This would be a good opportunity to get the owners of other retail businesses in town involved in the alliance and get their input on the evenings, said Mr. Anderson.

The group talked a little about Santa Bucks, but deciding to table the discussion until July and make some decisions then. Store owners said they had a few people again this year buy something small with a \$20 Santa Buck and then want cash in return.

Suggestions have been made to keep smaller Santa Bucks in \$5 and \$10 increments to give as change, to print only \$10 and \$5 bucks or and to make customers forfeit the refund.

The group hasn't made any decision. The Santa Bucks, used as prizes and Christmas bonuses, aren't supposed to be redeemable for cash. They are good only at participating Oberlin stores because their purpose is to keep the money

in town.
City Administrator Austin Gilley said the City Council talked about communications at the fall retreat. To help improve that, he said, he wants to start attending more meetings.

The city is working on an electrical infrastructure study, he said, noting that the older mercury vapor lights are now banned. That will mean replacing many street lights. It's only a study at this point, said Mr. Gilley, not something for immediate action.

He said the city has had lots of questions on snow removal. Mr. Gilley said they do the best they can and try to keep the streets clean, especially downtown.

Mr. Anderson said he thought the

city has been doing a great job this winter with the snow downtown. People can walk across the street, he said.

It really has been right on, added Mrs. Wasson.

Mrs. Wasson asked about the newsletter the city was putting out at one time. The mayor did that in April, said Mr. Gilley. It was time consuming and costly.

The Oberlin Convention and Visitors Bureau and Sappa Park Committee are working on plans for bathrooms at Sappa Park.

The Last Indian Raid Museum is closed for the winter, but will reopen on Thursday, April 1. Director Sharleen Wurm said they want to hold coffee hour that day from 10 a.m. to noon.

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