

Central Kansas **BUSINESS JOURNAL**

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VOL. 3 No.5

The Voice of Business in Central Kansas

www.gbtribune.com/businessjournal

May 2006

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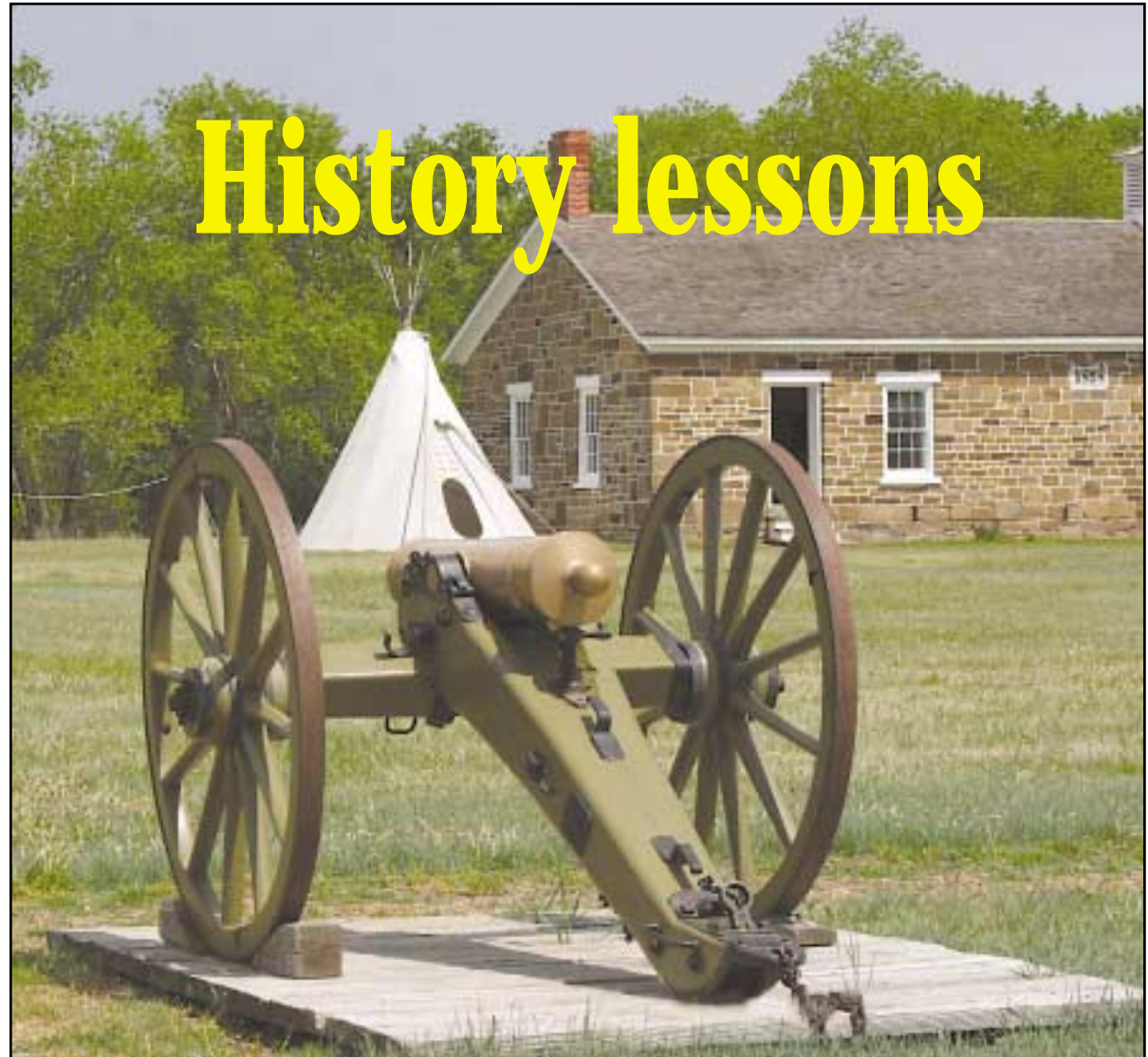
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Q & A

Something to smile about

Dr. Morrison still practicing after 46 years

By DALE HOGG

dhogg@gbtribune.com

Dr. Robert Morrison has been a practicing orthodontist 46 years, dividing his time between his offices in Great Bend and Hutchinson.

The Missouri native started in Hutchinson in 1959, lured from a teaching position at the University of Missouri at Kansas City by his wife Wanda and a colleague to relocate in central Kansas. One year later, he established his office in Great Bend.

His first office was located at 1105 Williams. He is now located at 2340 Washington. The office is open Tuesday through Friday with Morrison or partner Dr. Jeff Gust seeing patients on Thursday and Friday.

"It's been a great experience," he said.

Morrison recently took time to reflect on his years in practice.

1. Tell us a little about yourself and history in Great Bend and Hutchinson, and background in the medical field.

I was very fortunate to have been awarded an orthodontic residency as a scholarship beginning in the middle of my junior year of Dental School at the University of Kansas City (at that time) which was completed a year and a half after dental school graduation. I served as a clinical instructor on the orthodontic faculty for one and a half more years before coming to Hutchinson in 1959. In 1960, I established new practices in both Hutchinson and Great Bend.

2. You've been in practice for a long time. Give a brief history of your practice and the key to your



DALE HOGG/ Great Bend Tribune

Dr. Robert Morrison works on an orthodontic piece while being observed by a Great Bend High School student. Morrison has been practicing in Great Bend and Hutchinson for 46 years.

success.

Any successes that I've enjoyed have resulted from my being trained in a time of great professional ethics and getting to practice in areas where there was a deep need for good orthodontic service. The medical and dental communities of the two areas I serve have been tremendously responsive to their patient's needs and the parents of the patients I serve (the

majority of which are young people) are devoted to seeking the best care for their families.

3. Why did you opt to practice in Great Bend?

The dentists of the Great Bend area asked me to establish what was called

MORRISON
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MORRISON
continued from page 2

a branch or satellite office by renting a dental office and coming here a day a week to supplement my Hutchinson practice. They were very supportive when I offered instead to establish a Great Bend office as a nearly separate practice.

4. You have offices in two communities. How does that work for you?

Practicing in two communities has been very interesting and rewarding. Clinical staff that come to Great Bend with me enjoy and appreciate the superior cooperation of Great Bend patients and parents. This probably is partly because it is a smaller town and partly because Great Bend is just a great community. One of the main reasons it has worked so well for me is that over the 46 years I've been blessed with having wonderful local office managers. I've had only seven and they have played a key role in my practice's extraordinary community relation-

ships. My present office manager, Terri Schneider, has the longest tenure – she started in 1993. Terri would probably say it took me a long time to find the right one.

5. What is your philosophy on dealing with your patients?

I found out a long time ago one has to work only a little harder to obtain the best result you can get for each patient. Since it is very difficult for patients and parents to assess results – and since it's not just how straight the front teeth are – then it's necessary that the orthodontist apprise the patient of his goals so that patients and doctor can strive together to attain them. Orthodontists are very fortunate to get to provide a service that can be so beneficial to one's appearance, health and self-esteem.

6. What is the biggest challenge facing a practice like yours in a smaller community? Is this problem new?

Economics has always been a double threat – helping needy patients get the

treatment and getting high quality treatment to them. Small communities do not favorably attract the most highly trained specialists.

7. What is the future for small-town health care?

First District Congressman Jerry Moran feels that good health care is one of the highest priority issues in less-populated areas and this has been well substantiated.

8. How many people do you employ?

My present staff is five.

9. In addition to being a doctor, you are active in the community. What all do you do and how important is this to you?

Through the years my wife and I have been most active in church, education and politics. She has carried the major load. My cousin was married to U.S. Senator James Pearson who initiated her interest in politics and my wife's activities included serving on the Hutchinson Community College Board of Trustees, the Kansas State

Board of Education and as a long time church lay leader. My activities have been more limited to orthodontics and dentistry. I've served as president of the Central District Dental Society, the Kansas Association of Orthodontists and the Southwestern Society of Orthodontists. I am presently chairman of the Regents Round Table of the American Association of Orthodontists Foundation, a 424-member organization that funds orthodontic education and research.

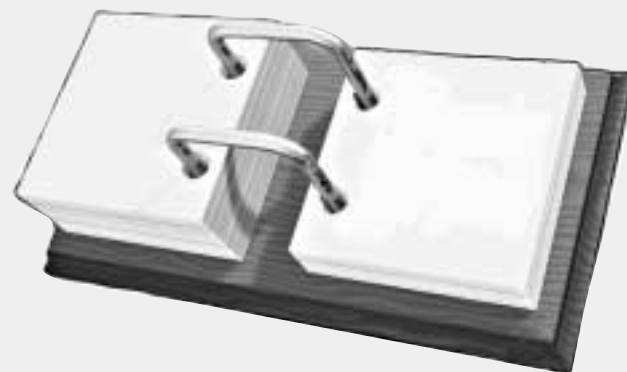
10. Are there any other comments you'd like to make?

My paramount objective presently is in providing for the continuity of my practice. I have been fortunate to draw to Central Kansas Dr. Jeffrey E. Gust who has just completed his orthodontic residency at the Center for Advanced Dental Education at St. Louis University. He is certified by the American Board of Orthodontics and is the most highly credentialed new orthodontist to ever come to Kansas. My practice and patients are in good hands.

On the Calendar

Great Bend Chamber of Commerce

1307 Williams, Great Bend, KS 67530 620-792-2401



May 7 — Back Room Concert, Claude Bourbon, Barton County Arts Council, 7:30 p.m.

May 10 — Beautification committee meeting, Great Bend chamber conference room, 1:30 p.m.

BCCC Dance Theatre Concert, BCCC Fine Arts Auditorium, 7:30 p.m.

May 11-13 — 3i Show

May 11 — No Chamber Coffee
BCCC Graduation, Barton gymnasium, 7 p.m.

May 12-14 — Variety Show, GBHS auditorium, 7:30 p.m. Fri. & Sat., 2

p.m. Sunday

May 16 — BCCC Board of Trustees meeting, student union building, 4 p.m.

May 18 — Chamber coffee: Marmie collision center, 9:30 a.m.

United Way board meeting, Great Bend chamber conference room, noon

May 19-20 — SRCA drag strip races

May 20-21 — 33rd Annual Rock Swap, NW corner of Ellinwood City Park

May 21 — GBHS graduation, 5 p.m.

May 25 — Chamber coffee: Shelter

Insurance, 9:30 a.m.
Golden Belt SCORE meeting, noon, The Club at StoneRidge.

May 26 — Gary Gore memorial golf tournament, 1 p.m.

May 29 — Memorial Day Veterans Salute

May 30 — BCCC Summer classes begin

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Cover Story

There's gold in that thar history



TERRY SPRADLEY/Great Bend Tribune

Above: Kevin McMurray, left and Felix Revello strike a pose at the counter of the park's gift shop. Special events held at the Fort by organizations like the Old Guard and others bring tourist and participants to the gift shop. Below: A tour group of Dodge City students gather at the flagstaff in center of Fort Larned's parade ground. School groups like this do not generally spend the night in town, but they do spend money on meals, and often a youngster's account of the tour will initiate a return trip for the entire family.



By TERRY SPRADLEY
tspradley@gbtribune.com

In the early 1800s, Spain was unable to supply the people of New Mexico with essential manufactured goods. Once Americans learned of the valuable commodities of gold, silver, furs, donkeys and mules that were available for trading the Santa Fe Trail was born.

Soon, the military began establishing encampments along the route to protect this economic boon to the American trader and traveler.

In 1859, Fort Larned, known initially as the Camp on Pawnee Fork, was established to protect this new trade route. Now almost 150 years later, the national historic site of Fort Larned is still serving travelers passing through Kansas and contributing to the economic base of the area it serves.

"We operate on about a million dollars a year for operation and maintenance cost that we inject into the local economy through local contractors in supplies and materials and salaries," said Park Superintendent Kevin McMurray. "Since the park site was established in 1964, with the annual expenditures for operations, contracted maintenance, and reconstructive

costs, we've totaled approximately fifty million dollars in the last 40 years."

The work in reconstruction and maintenance is ongoing, according to McMurray. The Fort buildings are scheduled for another 1.2 million in reconstruction work that will be going to contract this September. Much of the work being done at the park is done by local contractors, and materials for the work is being purchased locally, as much as is possible. McMurray said contractors working at the fort that are not local contribute to the local economy as well by staying in Larned motels, and buying groceries and supplies from local stores.

According to a study done by the Michigan State University in 2003, national parks contribute approximately \$11 billion annually to the economy and create nearly 226,000 jobs across the country. That same study shows the economic impact of visitors to Fort Larned adds about \$1.1 million to the local economy and provides 13 part-time jobs. McMurray said that the fort also maintains 11 permanent positions.

Fort Larned attracts a wide range of visitors to Pawnee County and the surrounding area. McMurray said the park gets visitors from bus tours, schools, bicyclists and oth-

ers that enjoy history by traveling the approximate path of the Santa Fe Trail.

Fort Larned supports and is supported by several entities in Pawnee County and many outside of the immediate area.

"A huge, huge partner is the Santa Fe Trail Center. We also get a lot of support from the Fort Larned Old Guard, and the Wet/Dry Chapter of the Santa Fe Trail Association," McMurray said.

Each of these groups contributes to the local economy by attracting visitors to the area. They also benefit from travelers visiting the national historic site that in turn visit the other historic locations while in the area. Each of these groups contributes to the economy with their own reconstructive and development of historic sites with materials and labor from the local economy.

"Our accomplishments are possible only with the commitment of effective partners," McMurray said. Other partners include the Larned and Great Bend chambers of commerce, Pawnee and Barton tourism and economic development committees and the Kansas State Department of Travel and Tourism.

"We have great people in the community," Chief Ranger Felix Revello said.

"They're wonderfully hospitable to the people that come through."

Revello and McMurray both agreed tourism is a largely untapped resource for much of Kansas, but the state is making great strides in attracting more visitors to the state.

"The Kansas State Department of Travel and Tourism is actually getting pretty aggressive about promoting the sites in Kansas," McMurray said. "We need to work collectively to better promote Kansas. There's a lot to offer."

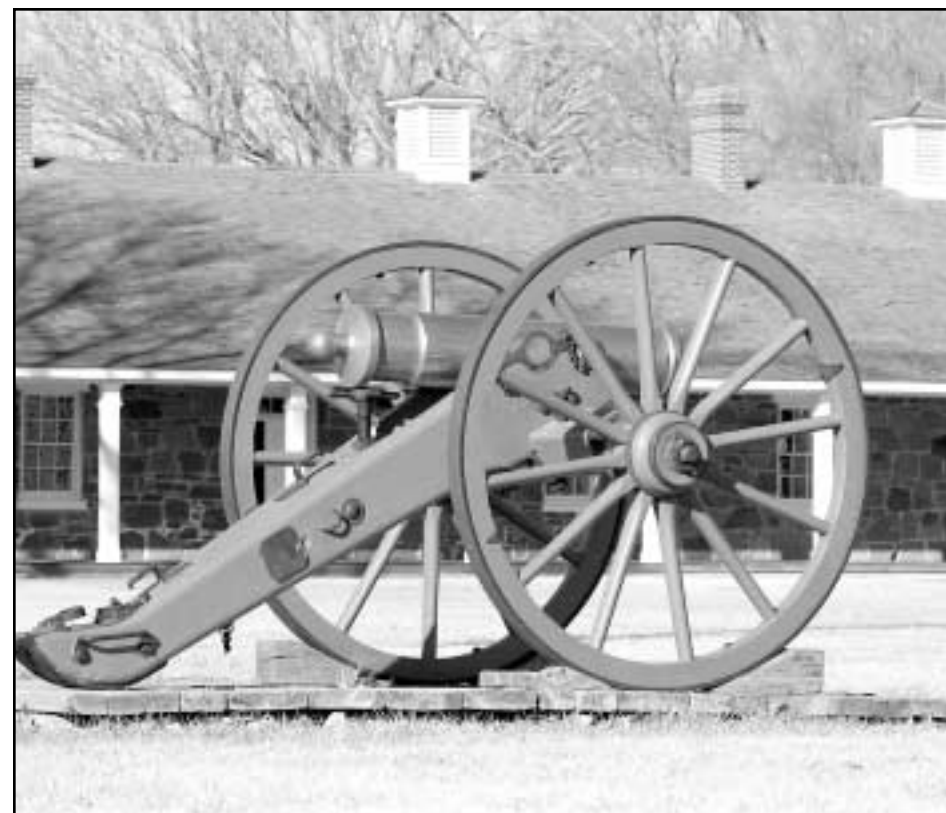
With gas nearing \$3 a gallon, tour bus operators in western Kansas have shown interest in providing more local tours with shorter driving distances. McMurray is hoping the fort and the rest of the historic attractions in Larned will make it a destination point for many of these tours.

In the late 1800s, Fort Larned was a welcome site to weary travelers, where they could rest, resupply, and spend a few bartered goods with the local traders. In 2006, rangers of the modern day Fort Larned hope that travelers see it as a welcome site to stop, rest, relive history and spend a few bartered dollars with the current traders.



TERRY SPRADLEY/Great Bend Tribune

Above: Once a welcome site for weary travelers, today's fort is a welcome site for the historic traveler. Below: A 20- by 38-foot Garrison size American flag towers over the prairie from the top of Fort Larned's flagstaff.



TERRY SPRADLEY/Great Bend Tribune

A 12-pounder Mountain Howitzer stands guard at the base of the Fort's 100-ft flagstaff.



TERRY SPRADLEY/Great Bend Tribune

Reinactors add realism and education to school visits to the park. Here a private explains to visitors how bandages in the Army hospital were used, removed once the patient recovered, and then cleaned and wrapped on a spool to be used again.



Area business resource list

Linda McCowan
Prairie Enterprise-
Enterprise Project
1300 Kansas
Great Bend, KS 67530
866-617-1555

entfac@earthlink.net
Assists people with business start-ups and assistance for entrepreneurs.

Larry Meschke
Kansas Department of
Commerce
1115 E. Kansas Plaza,
Suite C
Garden City, KS 67846
620-275-7643
lmeschke@kansascor-
merce.com
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FHSU Small Business
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Hays, KS 67601
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Brock McPherson
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mcpmclaw@
carrollswab.com
Retired executives that give business counseling for business owners and managers.

Golden Belt One Stop
1025 Main Street
Great Bend, KS 67530
620-793-8825

Richard Sidles
Western Kansas
Technology Corporation
1910 18th

Great Bend, KS 67530
620-793-7964
dsidles@wktc.kscoxmail.com
Technical and professional assistance for manufacturers.

Julie Kramp
Barton County
Community College
245 NE 30 Road
Great Bend, KS 67530
620-792-9278
krampj@bartoncc.edu
Customized training for local industry.

Patty Richardson
Great Plains
Development
PO Box 1116
100 Military Plaza, Suite
128
Dodge City, KS 67801
Administers grants and loans for local governments and business.

Economic Development Directors

Jan Peters
Great Bend Economic
Development
Great Bend Chamber of
Commerce
1307 Williams
Great Bend, KS. 67530
620-792-2401
jpeters@greatbend.org

Gordon Pfannenstiel
Economic Development
610 Main
Russell, KS 67665
800-658-4686
rced@russellks.org

Linda Henderson
Pawnee County
Economic Development
PO Box 240
Larned, KS 67550
620-285-6916

Hoisington Chamber of Commerce

123 N. Main, Hoisington, KS. 67544 620-653-4311

May 11 — Koffee Klatsch, Schlegel Real Estate at the Chamber Office, 9:30 a.m.

May 18 — Cheyenne Meadows Living Center, 9:30 a.m.

May 20 — Cheyenne Bottoms

Wetlanders Festival, beginning at 6 a.m. & ending with After Dark Main Street Movie

May 25 — Koffee Klatsch, Hoisington Dispatch at the chamber office, 9:30 a.m.

Ellinwood Chamber of Commerce

118 N. Main, Ellinwood, KS 67526 620-564-3300

May 12 — Ellinwood chamber coffee, Ellinwood District Hospital, 10 a.m.

May 19-20 — Rock Swap Gem, Mineral, and Art Show, Ellinwood City Park

Larned Chamber of Commerce

502 Broadway, Larned, KS. 67550 620-285-6916

May 7 - Larned High School Band Concert, Larned Community Center 3 p.m.

May 8 - Pawnee County commissioners meeting

Rozel city council meeting, 7 p.m.
Larned High School Spring Sports Banquet, Larned Community Center, 6:30 p.m.

May 9 - Larned Area Chamber of Commerce board of directors meeting, Jordaen community room, 11:45 a.m.

Burdett city council meeting, 8 p.m.

Larned High School JV Boys Baseball vs. Nickerson at home 4 p.m.

May 11 - Chamber coffee hour hosted by the Larned Garden Club at Schnack Park, 9:30 to 10:30 a.m.

Pawnee County Economic Development commission meeting, Jordaen community room, noon

Larned High School Girls Softball vs. Medicine Lodge at home 4 p.m.

May 12 - Larned High School talent show, Larned Community Center 7 p.m.

Larned elementary school field day on LHS Track - all day

May 14 - Larned High School Baccalaureate, Larned Community Center, 3 p.m.

May 16 - Larned Middle School 7th & 8th Grade Band Concert, Larned Community Center, 7:30 p.m.

May 17 - Motor coach association meeting, 9:30 - 1:30 a.m.

Larned High School carpentry house sale, 6:30 p.m.

May 18 - Larned Chamber coffee hour hosted by Larned Community Mental Health Facility, 9:30 to 10:30 a.m.

May 18 - Larned High School awards assembly at LMS, 10 a.m.

STUCO End of the year BBQ, 7:30 p.m.

May 20 - Larned High School graduation, Larned Middle School, 2 p.m.

May 22 - Larned High School academic banquet, Larned Community Center, 6:30 p.m.

May 23 - 8th grade awards 2:30 p.m., 8th grade promotion - 7 p.m. all at Larned Middle School

May 24 - Last day of school for USD #495

May 25 - Larned chamber coffee Hour hosted by AT&T (formerly SBC), Jordaen Community Room, 9:30 to 10:30 a.m.

May 26 - 29 - Santa Fe Trail Days Events

May 29 - Memorial Day - chamber office closed

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Business Profile

Service with a smile

By PAM MARTIN

pmartin@gbtribune.com

ELLINWOOD — For 43 years, Home Lumber and Supply Company has offered friendly service at their location on U.S. Highway 56.

“We compete with the bigger places with friendly service,” said Ron Rapp, Home Lumber and Supply Company Ellinwood manager.

The lumber and supply company has been located at 116 E. Santa Fe Blvd. since 1963, when Home Lumber purchased the business from a private business owner. Rapp, who has worked at the store for 20 years, said the friendly employees keeps customers coming back.

“We help people who come in and need this “little thingy,” said Andy Gatton, Ellinwood Home Lumber employee, referring to customers who need assistance with determining what type of part they need.

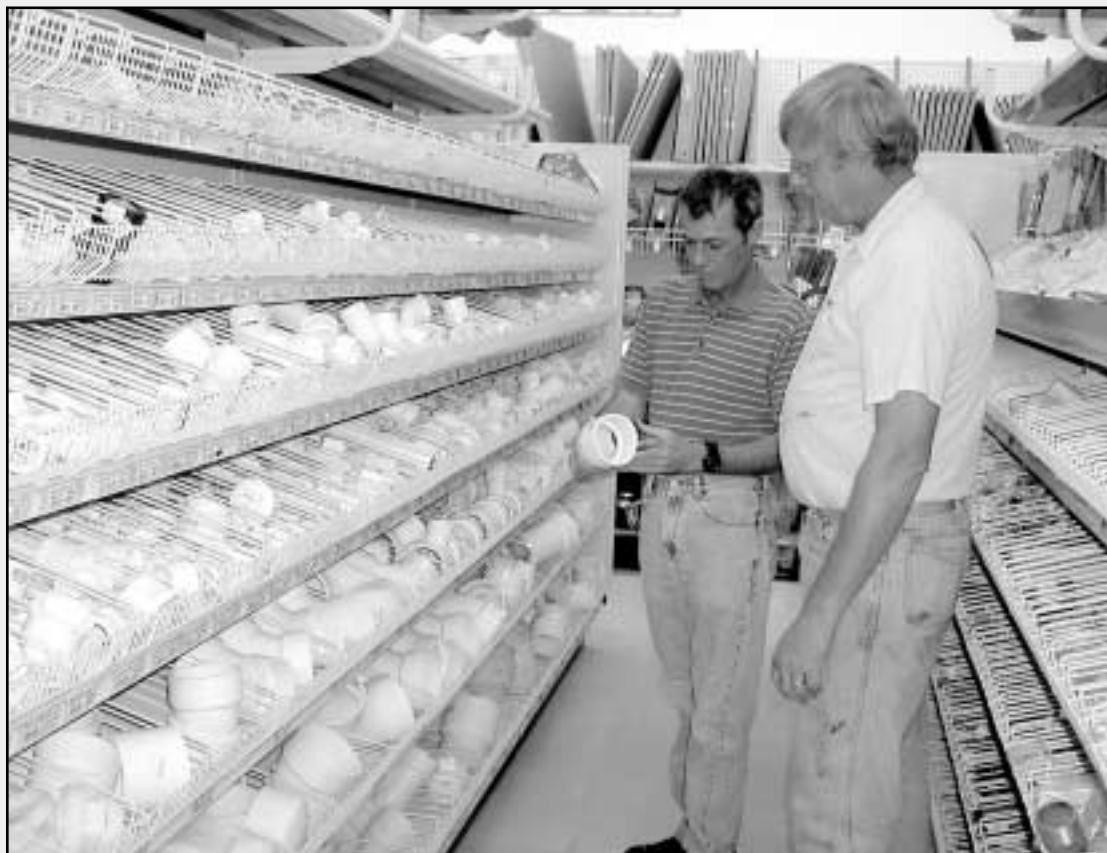
Ellinwood Home Lumber caters mostly to local residents but also serves customers from surrounding towns.

“We appreciate all the local customers who come in every day,” Rapp said.

They deliver within a 25-mile radius, charging \$1 per mile for orders under \$1,000. The store had to begin charging a mileage fee when fuel prices increased, Rapp said.

Ellinwood Home Lumber carries a complete inventory of building materials, a full-line of paint, hardware, plumbing and electrical supplies and a wide assortment of remodeling supplies. Counter top laminates and flooring are available

Ellinwood Home Lumber & Supply Company



Location :
116 E Santa Fe Blvd.,
Ellinwood

Phone:
(620) 564-3241

Opened in
1963

Two full-time and three part-time employees

Hours: 7:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m., Monday through Friday 8 a.m. to noon on Saturday

by order.

The close proximity of four other stores gives Rapp the advantage of finding inventory at the other locations, providing an additional tool to compete with larger stores.

“We’ve gone as far as Pratt before for customers,” he said.

Ellinwood Lumber offers screen

and window repairs and key replication. The staff can cut glass, plywood and lumber to length for customers.

The 3,000 square-foot store contains a large display area and a small storage area at the back of the store. Included in the display area is a lawn and garden supply area,

remodeling supplies, telephone and cable television supplies and conventional items such as furnace filters.

Three storage buildings contain lumber, cement and drywall, and doors and windows. The building facade is scheduled for a renovation sometime in the future.

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FDIC



Professional Profile

Breast cancer specialist crusades for women's health

By **CHUCK SMITH**

csmith@gtribune.com

Dr. Fadi Estephan is ready to talk to people about his single-minded battle against an ancient foe of mankind and he's traveled a long way to carry on his crusade.

Estephan, who travels to the Central Kansas Medical Center Heartland Cancer Center from the Hutchinson Clinic, continues to educate health providers and the public about advances in the treatment of breast cancer.

The doctor is a board certified oncologist and came to this region after working for six years at adjunct professor at MD Anderson Cancer Center in Houston, Texas.

While the oncology expert treats a variety of cancers, Estephan acknowledged his specialty is breast cancer and he continues to work on education efforts with both health providers and the public with the goal of increasing the number of cases that can be caught early to improve treatment possibilities.

"Early detection is key to the work," he said about the effort to

control breast cancer.

And to improve those chances, Estephan not only keeps busy with his own clinical practice, but also with speaking engagements for the University of Kansas School of Medicine and others.

Estephan's arrival in central Kansas was by a circuitous route to say the least.

More than a century ago, his grandfather, a native of Lebanon, came to New York and made a life there.

The doctor's father was born there, but the family moved back to Lebanon.

Growing up in a multilingual family, Estephan learned to speak French because he was educated in Catholic school by French instructors.

Since his father was born in the United States, when Estephan came here, he arrived as a U.S. citizen. He just couldn't speak the language. English wasn't one of the languages used commonly at home.

But learning a new language was a minor hurdle compared to attending college and medical school in the midst of civil war.

Estephan graduated from the Jesuit School of Medicine at Saint Joseph University in Beirut, Lebanon, and he did his residency at Hotel-Dieu de France Hospital, Saint-Joseph University, Beirut, Lebanon.

Upon coming to America, he also did a residency in internal medicine at Saint Luke's Roosevelt Hospital Center, Columbia University College of Physicians and Surgeons in New York.

Throughout the journeying that brought the doctor to central Kansas has been the desire to help improve the treatment of breast cancer, of changing its treatment from a mutilating surgery to the treatment of a disease. By attacking the cancer first and doing surgery later, Estephan said, the amount of surgery needed can be drastically reduced.

He acknowledges, it is difficult to tell a woman who has been diagnosed with breast surgery that she needs to wait for six months for surgery. "She has to trust me."

But by treating the disease first, it is often possible for much less surgery to be necessary. "That's my crusade," he said.

Dr. Fadi Estephan



Board Certified Oncologist

Practices at Central Kansas Medical Center Heartland Cancer Center from the Hutchinson Clinic



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