·BUSINESS SPOTLIGHT·

Patients are family to Clinton family physician

By Katherine R. Dougan

Dr. David Wheat is happiest when he is in his Morrison Drive office treating patients, as he has been doing for thirty-eight years. On his days off, however, you might find

him if you look up to the skies, be-

cause, when he isn't in his earth-

bound office, Wheat could be flying

said, adding that he has flown J-3 Cubs and T-38 Supersonics. He has

a photo of himself posed with the

T-38 Supersonic jet, which is a mili-

tary plane. He has also flown a heli-

In addition to his passion for prac-

ticing medicine and flying, Wheat

enjoys spending time in his wood-

"My passion is flying," Wheat

his Cessna 182 Skyline.

copter a couple of times.

working shop, turning intricate wood on his lathe to create beautiful handmade pens.

"This is made of clive wood that

"This is made of olive wood that came from Bethlehem," Wheat said, displaying a pen with an intricate

pattern in the wood. Another pen he pulled from a desk drawer was made of black and white ebony. Another pen he displayed was made of West Indian

Rosewood, and, on a bookshelf in his office, he displays a West Indian Rosewood box, which contained a vacuum tube inside of it. "I'm also a Ham radio operator," he explained, adding that he has made a few

Rosewood boxes with glass inserts and tubes in them as gifts for fellow Ham radio operators.

Wheat says he can't remember when he decided to be a doctor.

"My mother said I have always wanted to be a physician. We had family docs that were mentors to me. They delivered me, treated broken bones; did all the things that family docs do."

In addition to his years spent in medical school, Wheat attended three more years of residency to be qualified to practice as a family physician.

At his practice, Clinton Family Care at 309 Morrison Drive, his wife of forty-one years, Sherry, works with him. They met when he had a graduate assistantship to pursue his master's degree at Mississippi State and was teaching anatomy and physiology to State tudents. Sherry was a student in his class.

Their paths crossed again when thousands of students gathered at the University of Mississippi Medical Center to have their pictures made.

"They had you write your name on pieces of cardboard to hold up when they took your pictures," Wheat explained. When Sherry picked up a piece of cardboard on which to write her name, David Wheat's name was on the flipside of her cardboard.

They were reacquainted again after Sherry was going to school and living with several girls in a house. Wheat went over with one of his classmates to the house, and was reintroduced to Sherry. They started dating, and got married at the end of David's sophomore year at medical school. Sherry earned her nursing degree and started working at the VA in Jackson.

Born in Stuttgart, Arkansas, Wheat went to Arkansas Tech in Russell-ville, where he earned his Bachelor of Science degree and earned a Senior Biology Fellow Scholarship. He attended graduate school at Mississippi State University, where he earned his master in science in physiology. He attended medical school at the University of Mississippi Medical School in Jackson.

He served his internship and resi-

dency in Anniston, Alabama, at Anniston Family Practice, which was an affiliate of the University Alabama-Birmingham. He has worked for Laird Clinic in Family Medicine in Starkville; as a part time Mississippi Foundation for Medical Care Peer Review Physician; at East Alabama Medical Center as a staff physician in the emergency room; in Med Control in Opelika, Alabama; and Hinds General Hospital in the emergency room and as a staff physician. He also served seventeen years as the sports physician at Central Hinds Academy.

He was Medical Director and Staff Physician for Methodist Family Practice in Clinton, and was asked to open the MEA Center in Clinton, which he designed; the architect used his drawings to construct the building.

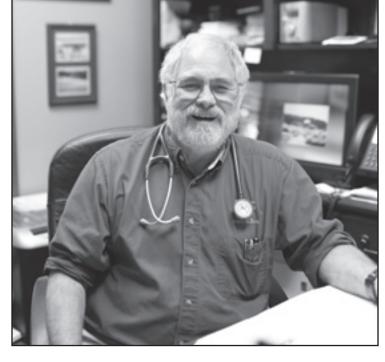
He opened Clinton Family Care as owner and physician in 2001, where he plans to keep working.

"My practice fits my personality. I enjoy the variety of everything that I see. The people are what I love," he said.

The Wheats have two adult children, Brett and Sarah. Sarah is a lawyer working for Mission First, the pro bono arm of MC Law School, where she is also on the faculty.

Their son, Brett, has his drone license and currently works in construction. Both Brett and Sarah had their first plane ride when they were six weeks old.

Their four-year-old grandson, David, who is Sarah's son, had his first plane ride at three months old. A framed photo sits on the corner of Dr. Wheat's desk of grandpa and grandson, poised to take to the skies together.



In one advertisement in this issue, we've placed the Clinton High School arrow. Find it, write the advertiser's name and the page number where you found it below, and mail this form to the indicated address. A drawing will be held to determine our winner from all cornect entries received by NOV 12, 2019. There will be one winner per sech issue in which this contest entry form appears. One entry per household per issue, peese.

Congratulations to Karen Rice, our latest contest winner!

Please contact The Clinton Couner to claim your prize.

Write the advertiser and the page number sellow. Mail entries to: AD CONTEST The Clinton Courier 402 Montroe Street Clinton, MS 30056

Name:

Address:

City:

State:

Zip:

Email:

Phone:

"Winner will receive a \$25 gift certificate from Froghead Grill or The Cupboard.

		ш.
lame		\overline{m}
Address		=
		Щ
City, State, Zip		C
mail		S
TT GAR		m
hone		5
Please check the type of subscription needed:	Mail to: SUBSCRIPTIONS The Clinton Courier	ನ
\$24.00 annually inside Hinds County	402 Monroe Street	CO