



OOLOGAH SWEEPS WARDOGS

SPORTS, PAGE A9



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Miami boy recovering from rifle shell to face

Mother shares story to warn others

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MIAMI — A Miami boy is recovering from an accidental 22 shell blast to the face. Four-year-old Kash Cummings miraculously survived and is now healing from the frightful ordeal.

His mother, Allison Cummings said, "It definitely makes you put life into perspective. The chaplain who saw him in the ER told him he had a guardian angel with him and I totally agree!"

The traumatic freak accident happened while Kash was helping his



Four-year-old Kash Cummings of Miami miraculously survived a blast to the face from a 22 shell casing he threw into a pile of burning leaves.

grandparents on Sunday while they were doing some yard work and burning leaves and brush.

"Kash found a spent 22 shell casing and threw it in the fire. Whenever it went off the casing of the

shell hit Kash in his cheek. It went through his cheek, jaw, and hit his tongue, and then it lodged itself in his throat a half centimeter from his carotid artery," Allison said. "I'm thankful I wasn't there because my father-in-law said it was a frightful sight to see and he said he honestly thought his face was gone."

Allison said her father-in-law heard the shell go off and Kash scream and immediately knew something was wrong.

"He turned around and looked at him and saw blood gushing out of his face," Allison said.

Kash's grandparents were frantic but kept as calm as they could calling 911 and rushing their grandson to Freeman Hospital in Joplin

SEE BOY, A3

Judge sends Jones for new psych eval

Melinda Stotts
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MIAMI — First-degree murder suspect, Andrew Douglas Jones, 41, of Jenks, is being sent for another psychiatric evaluation. Jones is accused of the Dec. 5, 2016 stabbing death of 35-year-old John Leslie Woods.

Ottawa County District Court Judge Bill Culver handed down the order on Mar. 27 during a court appearance which had been set for announcement in Jones' case.

"Judge Culver ordered a new evaluation because the defendant claimed he didn't understand the process the first time and refused to answer most of the evaluator's questions," Thirteenth Judicial District Attorney Kenny Wright said.

On Monday Jones was also assigned a capital offense attorney Greg Grace by the Oklahoma Indigent Defense System.

OIDS provides trial, appellate and post-conviction criminal defense services to persons who have been judicially determined to be entitled to legal counsel at State expense. The mission of the system is to provide indigents with legal representation comparable to that obtainable by those who can afford counsel and to do so in the most cost-effective manner possible.

"This is possibly a capital case. I have not made that decision yet," Wright



COURTESY PHOTO

said. "My understanding of OIDS policy is that, if the death penalty is a possibility, they prefer to have their death penalty attorneys handle the case."

Jones' case was continued until 9:30 a.m. on April 11 in Ottawa County Court. He remains in the Ottawa County Jail.

At the time of the murder both Woods and Jones were residents at 2802 P Street NW in Miami, a substance abuse halfway house. Jones had been placed in the house just one day before the crime.

According to the probable cause statement filed in the case, Miami Police officers responded to a 911 call at the residence and discovered Woods lying in a pool of blood. Two witnesses, Mateo Rocha and James Thompson, told officers that Jones had been drinking vodka and Jones and Woods argued. Woods told Jones to leave the residence and pushed him toward the door.

SEE JONES, A2

Community Health Center of Northeast Oklahoma welcomes new clinician

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NORTHEAST OKLAHOMA — Accessibility and prevention. Two words with great potential impact when it comes to meeting the healthcare needs of rural communities.

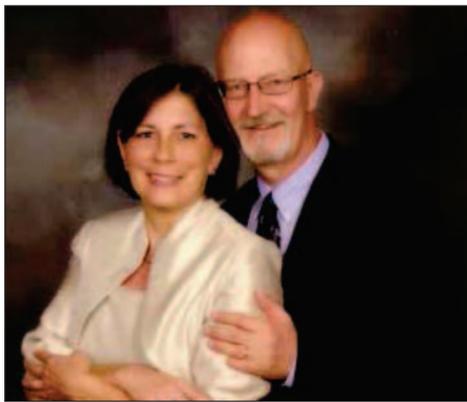
For the tri-county region including Ottawa, Craig and Delaware, counties the Community Health Center of Northeastern Oklahoma, Inc. (CHCNEO) has been serving the underserved since opening the doors of its first clinic in 2014.

CHCNEO now administers care to regional clients, regardless of insurance status,

through its original Route 66 Health Clinic in Afton and the Grove Community Health Center. Services are provided on a sliding payment scale for patients based on family size and income, with the clinics also accepting most insurance plans including Soonercare, Medicare and Medicaid.

As a federally qualified health center, CHCNEO clinics serve as primary care health providers offering a comprehensive list of health services that bring accessibility to wellness through preventative, general and

SEE HEALTH, A3



COURTESY PHOTO

Russell Peters, APRN-CNP, has relocated with his wife Deborah to serve as a primary care provider at Community Health Center of Northeast Oklahoma clinics in Afton and Grove.

MICKEY MANTLE EXHIBIT OPENS SATURDAY AT DOBSON MUSEUM



GARY CROW/MNR

Larry Roberts (left) president of the Ottawa County Historical Society and Jordan Boyd getting a display ready for the opening of the Mickey Mantle traveling display at the Dobson Memorial Center Museum and Home located at 110 A Street SW in Miami. The exhibit will be open from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. on Wednesday, Friday, Saturday, and Sunday between April 1 and May 26, excluding holidays. Groups and schools may schedule tours throughout the week as well. Contact: 918-542-5388 or jboyd@dobsonmuseum.com.

NEO Honors Creech Family at Founders' Day event

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MIAMI — Northeastern Oklahoma A&M College (NEO) honored the family of former NEO president Dr. D. D. Creech at a special ceremony on Founders' Day. First lady Dorothy Creech was joined by children and grandchildren as NEO officials unveiled volume three of "From Lead and Zinc to Blue and Gold: The Expansion of Northeastern Oklahoma A&M College." The book is the penultimate volume before the final volume to be released during the NEO centennial.

"Dr. Creech used to have a saying: 'Once a Norseman, Always a Norseman,'" said Dr. Jeff Hale, NEO president. "I



COURTESY PHOTO

(from left) Mike Shannon, Jay Creech, President Jeff Hale, First Lady Donna Hale, Guest Speaker John Lomax, Public Information Coordinator Jordan Adams. Bottom Row: Dan Creech, Jan Shannon, Dorothy Creech, Jim Creech, Pat Creech.

want to note that the same sentiment can be applied to First Lady Dorothy Creech, Once a first lady, always a first lady. Dorothy and her family have been

committed to the success of NEO and we are proud to honor her and Dr. Creech today."

SEE CREECH, A3

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WEATHER

AccuWeather.com FORECAST FOR MIAMI

TODAY HIGH: **55°** LOW: **42°**

Cloudy and cooler with a bit of rain
RealFeel: 51° / 42°

FRIDAY HIGH: **66°** LOW: **48°**

Warmer with times of clouds and sun
RealFeel: 72° / 44°

SATURDAY HIGH: **77°** LOW: **57°**

Increasing clouds and warmer; an afternoon shower
RealFeel: 78° / 54°

SUNDAY HIGH: **68°** LOW: **54°**

A couple of showers and a t-storm, mainly later
RealFeel: 68° / 48°

MONDAY HIGH: **68°** LOW: **52°**

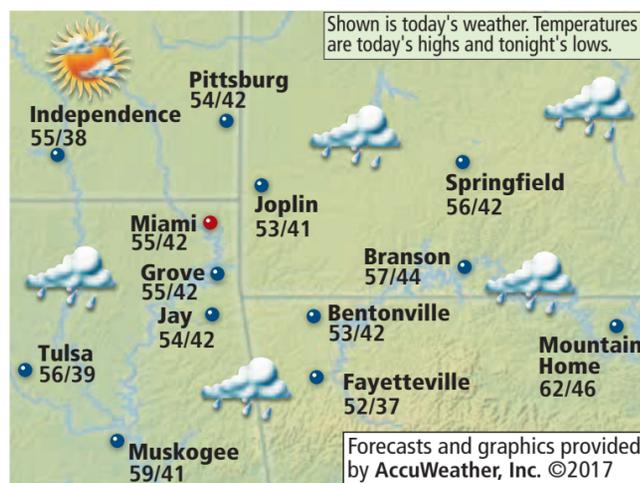
A morning shower; otherwise, mostly cloudy
RealFeel: 67° / 52°

The patented AccuWeather.com RealFeel Temperature® is an exclusive index of effective temperature based on eight weather factors.

LOCAL ALMANAC

Statistics through Tuesday

High / Low temperatures **68° / 50°**
Precipitation **0.01"**



SUN & MOON

	Today	Friday
Sunrise	7:08 am	7:07 am
Sunset	7:40 pm	7:41 pm
Moonrise	9:05 am	9:50 am
Moonset	10:51 pm	11:59 pm

MOON PHASES

First	Full	Last	New
Apr 3	Apr 11	Apr 19	Apr 26

BOY

CONTINUED FROM A1

where emergency room staff was ready and waiting.

"I was actually in Pittsburg helping my parents, and my husband Dalton works nights, so he had no idea either," Allison said. "They had my sister-in-law call me and tell me that a shell had went off and had hit him in the cheek and they were taking him to the emergency room."

Allison rushed to be with her son at the hospital.

"He had stopped bleeding, he was talking, and he was making jokes with the nurses," she said. "He had a suctioning tube, and he told them, 'I think I need one of these by my bed at night. This is pretty cool.' He was pretty brave and didn't cry until they told him he had to stay the night in the hospital."

The piece of the casing stuck in Kash's throat was almost the size of a penny, but doctors didn't discover

how close the shrapnel had come to his carotid artery until later. Kash had his first overnight stay in the hospital to have surgery the next morning to remove the lodged casing.

"The doctor said he couldn't see the piece when he examined him but could see it in the CAT scan. The doctor said he could usually pinpoint exactly where it's located with a scan, but with this, he said, whenever Kash's mouth was shut it was in a totally different spot than when his mouth was open," Allison said. "They did the surgery, and that's when they found out how close it was to his carotid artery."

That news from doctors shocked everyone and gave Kash's parents one of the worst scares of their lives.

"My father-in-law is still sick over it. My mother-in-law said she had never seen him cry and had seen him cry for the first time in 25 years," Allison said. "It most definitely made my heart stop and I gained a few gray

hairs!"

After post-op recovery, Kash was released the same day of surgery and soon after was up and playing with his cousins. He still has some pain, but should make a full recovery and is in the process of healing both physically and emotionally.

His mother said Kash received excellent medical care at Freeman and she is grateful to the staff and doctors.

"They said basically the pain is like he got his tonsils taken out. He's sore, and his cheek's still pretty swollen, and he may have a scar," Allison said.

Turning what could have been a devastating situation into a tale of caution, Allison wants to share the story of what happened to her son in hopes to warn others and spare them the distress and suffering.

Allison said Kash kept apologizing later telling her he was sorry he didn't know the shell would explode, something she says others also may not know.

"Even the nurse that was watching him in recovery said, 'My son does that all the time, actually a couple of weeks ago he threw some casings in a fire whenever he was cleaning out his truck,'" Allison said.

Kash is a preschooler at Wyandotte Nation Turtle Tots, has a one-year-old baby brother, Kase, and is one tough guy with a heck of a story to tell one day.

"It definitely scared him. He doesn't really talk much about it," his mother said. "I feel like he's still kind of in shock honestly... It's kind of funny because every Sunday I say, 'You need to go get some Jesus in your life Kash' before we go to church. When the chaplain at the hospital got ready to walk out he said, 'Kash, buddy, can I pray with you?' and Kash said, 'I think I need some Jesus in my life right now.'"

Melinda Stotts is the associate editor of the Miami News-Record. She can be emailed at mstotts@miami-news-record.com or followed on Twitter @MelindaStotts1

CREECH

CONTINUED FROM A1

The third volume of "From Lead and Zinc to Blue and Gold" covers a quarter century from 1970 to 1994. This time included the tenure of Dr. Creech, Dr. Bobby Wright, and

Dr. Jerry Carroll. During the period, NEO endured tremendous hardship in the form of natural disasters and financial strain, but during his tenure, Dr. Creech ushered in an era of record-breaking growth in student enrollment, program offerings, and campus facilities.

"It always seemed like NEO was in the midst of its brightest days when dad worked here," said Jim Creech. "Programs were growing, students were engaged, and athletic teams were nationally competitive. But really, that is what's happening at NEO now too. Under the leadership of

Dr. Hale, NEO's best days are still ahead of us and that is something that makes us proud."

For more information about volume three of "From Lead and Zinc to Blue and Gold," contact NEO Library/Archive Director Sloane Arana at scbrown@neo.edu.

HEALTH

CONTINUED FROM A1

geriatric care, as well as specialty referrals and on-call RN services.

Most recently, CHCNEO welcomed Rusell Peters, APRN-CNP, Family Practice Nurse Practitioner to its clinical team. Peters will provide primary care services to patients of all ages at both the Afton and Grove facilities.

CHCNEO CEO, Patrick Peer explained that with the departure of a family physician, he approached the CHCNEO Board of Directors and requested authorization to recruit another nurse practitioner to support the new Grove Community Health Center and augment the site in Afton (soon to be designated as the Afton Community Health Center).

The Board approved the request and Peers began the recruiting process. After receiving no candidates from the local area, the recruitment process moved out-of-state, and it was during this process that Peters was discovered and subsequently contacted by Peers and hired.

"We are excited to have Russ and his wife Deborah, join the CHCNEO family, and know that his patients are in very capable hands,

especially with the additional formal training he received in acute care and senior health care management," said Peers.

Peters' career as a health professional began in 1995 after graduating from Chattanooga State Community College. He received his Bachelor's degree from Chamberlain College of Nursing in 2011 and his Masters in Nursing from Southern Adventist University in 2015.

As a healthcare professional for over 20 years, Peters brings with him years of experience and advanced nursing skills in areas such as gerontology, cardiology, intensive care and I.V. therapy.

"I'm excited about the opportunity to help folks in Northeast Oklahoma to receive the very best in health care services," said Peters. "Working in Grove and Afton will give me a chance to meet people from a variety of communities

and learn more about them."

Peters and his wife Deborah relocated to Northeast Oklahoma from the Chattanooga, Tennessee area. A change he framed as a comfortable one because of coming from a more rural region of Tennessee.

"We enjoy the more rural environment, little less traveled areas. We were looking for a place that wasn't too big. I didn't want to be in a big city or anything like that," said Peters. "So when I had an opportunity to interview out here in a rural area, the folks I met were very nice and I felt we had a real connection and we could get along real good."

Peters said his intention is to finish out his career in Northeast Oklahoma, having settled in Grove with his wife and their three dogs where they are currently building a home.

Currently, Peters is set to be at the Grove clinic

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THE BOSS BABY (PG)
7:30

POWER RANGERS (PG-13)
3:40, 6:40

BEAUTY AND THE BEAST (PG)
2D: 3:00
3D: 4:00

KONG: SKULL ISLAND (PG-13)
4:45

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TIDBITS OF MIAMI HISTORY

March 30 1944 – Dr. Bruce Carter, guest speaker for the B.P.W. Club's meeting in Miami

1958 – Carol Hilliard, Gary Lemaster, and Harold Schaefer place



in Ottawa County Rural School Spelling Bee

COFFEE TALK

Wyandotte Pre-K/K Enrollment

Wyandotte prekindergarten and kindergarten enrollment for the 2017/2018 school year will be available at Wyandotte Elementary March 27 through April 27 by appointment. The following is required for enrollment: Birth certificate, immunization record and proof of residence. Plan on staying for a short screening.

Bluejacket Pre-K Enrollment

Preschool enrollment for Bluejacket Elementary will be March 30 from 3:30-4:30 pm in the new gymnasium. Anyone interested in enrolling their child in preschool for the 2017-2018 school year will need to bring their child, their social security card, birth certificate, and CDIB card (if you have one). Your child must be four years old on or before September 1, 2017, to enroll in the preschool program. We also need any child not currently enrolled that will be starting Kindergarten in the fall, to come and enroll at this time.

Cardin Baptist 100th Anniversary

Cardin Baptist Church of Miami will be celebrating their 100th anniversary, April 1 and 2. Ms. Elizabeth Montgomery, a recording artist from Grove, will be presenting a concert Saturday, April 1 at 6 p.m. Come celebrate with us at 9525 S. Highway 137. Geoff Buffalo is pastor.

Free Breakfast

Free breakfast Saturday, April 1 from 8 a.m. to 11 a.m. at Faith Pentecostal Church located at 9901 S 590 Road just North of Glen Abbey Cemetery. Go east out of Miami on Hwy. 10 and watch for the sign. If you have nay questions, contact Pastor Mike at 918-919-2043.

Pam's Place: Finley River Boys

The Finley River Boys, a traditional bluegrass and gospel band out of Springfield, Mo., will be performing Saturday, April 1 at Pam's Place in Seneca. Doors open at 6 p.m. and music starts at 7 p.m. Pam's Place is a family-oriented venue located at 2407 Marla Lane, Seneca. Admission is free, but donations to Pam's Place will be accepted. Concessions are available.

Alexander Pre-K/K Enrollment

Monday, April 3 through Friday, April 7 Alexander

Elementary in Commerce is accepting enrollment for any new Pre-Kindergarten and Kindergarten students planning to attend school during the upcoming 2017-2018 School Year. During the week, parents are encouraged to come to the elementary to enroll their child anytime between 8:15 a.m. and 10:45 a.m. or between 1 p.m. and 3 p.m. Students being enrolled do not have to be present during this enrollment process. All new students (PK and K) will be "screened" once school begins. Enrollment should take approximately 15 minutes.

Persons enrolling children are asked to bring their child's shot records, a copy of the child's birth certificate, social security card and CDIB if applicable. Parents having questions are encouraged to call the school at 918-675-4336.

ATEC Wild Onion & Eggs Dinner

Wild Onion & Eggs Dinner April 12 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Ottawa/Peoria Building in Miami. \$7 a plate, menu includes wild onion & eggs, beans, fried potatoes, grape dumplings, fry bread, drink & dessert. All proceeds go to the All Tribes Education Consortium (ATEC) Scholarship Program. For more information contact Rhonda Hayworth at 918-540-1536 or Debbie Wray at 918-238-3150 or 918-533-7775.

Veterans Services & Benefits Fair

The Northeastern Tribal Health System Education Center will host a Veterans Services & Benefits Fair April 21 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. The center is located at 7600 South Highway 69 A, Miami.

Bring a copy of your DD21/Separation papers and 2016 family income information to apply for medical & compensation/pension benefits. Assistance will be available to complete VA required forms. For more information call Kathy Bennett at 918-577-4261 or Jennifer Wofford 918-332-4360.

Branson Trip

Come join us on a trip to Branson to see Dublin's Irish Tenors and Celtic Ladies. Monday, April 24 we will leave from the Miami Senior Center at 8:30 a.m., eat lunch at Cracker Barrel (price not included) then head on to the Kings Castle Theatre for the 2 p.m. show. Cost is \$67. Bring a friend! For more information call 918-540-0533.

To have items included, drop information off at the News-Record office, 14 1st NW; email it to news@miami-news-record.com or fax it to 918-542-1903.