



**Cecil Martin recently found out during a routine eye examination that he had a blocked carotid artery, which could have been life-threatening.**

SHERRY BROWN/Tulsa World

# Eye exam proves to be a lifesaver

■ His optometrist saw an irregularity that turned out to be a sign of a blocked artery.

BY KIM ARCHER  
World Staff Writer

Cecil Martin went to his eye doctor for a routine examination. He didn't know that the visit would save his life.

"It's kind of a miracle, I guess," the Tulsan said. Dr. Brian Williams, an op-

tometrist at EyeCare Associates, found tiny hemorrhages around the periphery of Martin's right eye. That signaled a blockage of the carotid artery, which feeds the eye as it brings blood to the brain, he said.

"When the carotid artery is blocked, the eye starts starving for oxygen," Williams said. If Martin's eye hadn't been dilated for the exam, he said, "We would never have caught that with him."

Williams told Martin to see a physician immediately to get a Doppler ultrasound

scan of his head. The Doppler uses sound waves to evaluate blood flow through vessels.

Martin said, "He told me I wasn't getting enough oxygen to my brain."

The physician performed the Doppler test and then requested a magnetic resonance imaging scan, which uses radio waves and magnets to look inside a person's head.

"My right artery was 97 percent blocked," Martin recalled.

"The heart doctor said if I didn't get that fixed, I could

have extensive brain damage and probably would not have lived."

Right away, he underwent surgery April 30 to clear out his blocked artery.

"I'm doing fine. I'm still a little numb and the swelling's going down. The doctors told me it could be six to nine months before I'm back to normal," Martin said.

Williams said Martin's case shows how critical it is to have regular eye exams, and to have the eyes dilated for the exam.

"We look at it as more of a

health issue," he said. "Your eye is the only organ you can look into and see how it's functioning. We can find a host of things in the back of the eye, like diabetes, hypertension and other conditions."

In Martin's case, a complete eye examination saved his life.

"I didn't have any idea when I went to get my eye exam this would happen," he said. "I'm glad it got caught."

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## Prior offender jailed in recent sex abuse case

■ The girl, who is 12, says he began molesting her just months after his release from prison.

BY BILL BRAUN  
World Staff Writer

A sex offender previously convicted of abusing a girl who has cerebral palsy is back behind bars on a new sex charge involving another girl.

Mark Daniel Rushing is in the Tulsa Jail on a charge of sexually abusing a family member, now 12, between Oct. 1, 2007, and April 1, 2008.

The girl said Rushing "started sexually abusing her within the first two months he was home from prison," a Tulsa police detective's affidavit says.

Rushing, 41, is accused of sexually touching the girl at homes in Tulsa and Broken Arrow, records show.

A Tulsa County judge increased his bond Wednesday to \$500,000 from \$100,000.

Assistant District Attorney Steve Kunzweiler applied to revoke or strengthen the bond, asserting that Rushing "currently poses a great risk to the public."

The defense attorney, John Tanner, filed a motion Tuesday to reduce the bond amount, asserting that the case against Rushing "lacks sufficient evidence to warrant the charges presently

before this court."

Rushing had been sentenced Jan. 2, 2003, to 10 years in prison on a charge of sexually abusing a relative who was 15 at the time of sentencing.

He pleaded no contest, and was found guilty, in that case.

That offense was alleged to have occurred in 1998 or 1999, when the girl would have been 10 or 11.

Police reported that the girl and Rushing were watching television in a bedroom at his home when she asked him "to assist her to get from her wheelchair into the bed."

At a court hearing, she indicated that he pulled her shorts down and touched her in a sexual manner.

The current requirement that a person convicted of sexually abusing a child must serve at least 85 percent of a prison sentence did not apply in that case.

Rushing was discharged from the Department of Corrections in August 2007, records show.

In addition to the 11 months he spent in jail before he was sentenced, he served four years and seven months in prison.

Kunzweiler said, "Common sense would say you don't release a child molester back into the community" that soon on a 10-year prison sentence.

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This is an outside view of Sperry's new Judy Z. Kishner Library, which was dedicated Wednesday. Photos by RHETT MORGAN/Tulsa World

## Branch on the ranch

### Western living inspires Sperry's new Kishner Library

BY RHETT MORGAN  
World Staff Writer

SPERRY — With the simultaneous clang of cowbells, well-wishers on Wednesday dedicated the new ranch-style Judy Z. Kishner Library.

Funded entirely by private donors, the \$925,000 facility was largely made possible by Tulsa philanthropist Henry Zarrow, who contributed \$600,000 to the project after Kishner, his daughter, made good on a promise.

"Dad came up and said, 'I'll make a big donation but you have to name it after you,'" said Kishner, a Tulsa Library Trust Board member who preferred the building carry the name of Claud Miller, a former 30-year member of the Tulsa City-County Library Commission.

"In order to get this wonderful library for Sperry, I put my name on it. I'm very, very proud."

A standing-room-only crowd welcomed the new 5,000-square-foot facility, which, in keeping with the down-home theme, features visible rafters, a gas-log fireplace and a long (Claud Miller Memorial) porch.

Fiddle and guitar musicians played before and after Wednesday's news conference. Sperry Mayor Michael Hilton presented library caretakers with two baskets full of barnyard-animal puppets. As a salute to Kishner, an



Judy Kishner poses with her father, Henry Zarrow, in the Judy Z. Kishner Library, dedicated Wednesday in Sperry.

interlocking JK "brand," or insignia, is prevalent at the library.

"I'm thrilled with the whole place," said Kishner, who served more than 20 years on the City-County Library Commission. "Simple, ranch-style and it's classy at the same time."

Miller was instrumental in getting a library built in Sperry in 1976, said

Linda Saferite, chief executive officer of the Tulsa City-County Library. That library, which is at another location, was recently purchased by the city of Sperry for municipal use, she said.

The Sperry Library last year recorded more than 25,000 visitors who checked out at least 35,719 items. In 2007, nearly 500 children signed up for summer reading programs, a library record.

The new library has a community meeting room that seats 45, with shelf space for 21,000 items and parking for 32 cars. It also features a reading lounge, increased room for children and teens, 10 computers and wireless Internet access for laptop computer owners.

Local artist Ben Hamm created a library mural that features a girl sharing stories with her farmyard friends.

"I have a passion for the West," Saferite said. "I'm a Westerner. When I come out here, I see people in boots. They have ranches.

"They move here because they love the more rural lifestyle. So I wanted this building to reflect the community. It was important because there aren't a lot of big buildings here to keep it scaled to like a home, rather than an institution."

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## Truck driver surrenders \$280,000, drives away

CROSSVILLE, Tenn. (AP) — A truck driver from Oklahoma surrendered more than \$280,000 to law enforcement after officers found the money hidden in his tractor-trailer.

Chief Investigator Gary Howard told The Knoxville News Sentinel that a drug sniffing dog smelled something on the truck during a traffic stop near Crossville last week.

A search of the vehicle found no drugs but did find the cash in a hidden compartment.

The rig's driver, Jimmy

Clinton Smith of Ochelata, Okla., didn't fight the seizure and headed home. No charges are expected.

Ochelata is about 35 miles north of Tulsa in Washington County.

Smith told officers he didn't know the money was there. Of that claim, Howard said, he was not going to comment on whether officers believe it.

Multiple agencies were involved in the stop and search. Howard said the money will likely be awarded by a court to those agencies.

## OHP bomb squad destroys military-like ordnance at farm

GARBER, Okla. (AP) — The Oklahoma Highway Patrol's bomb squad destroyed some unexploded ordnance found by a farmer while he was cleaning out a shed.

Dave VonDielingen discovered the military devices Tuesday morning and called

the Garfield County Sheriff's Department.

"It looked to me (like) it might be something military," VonDielingen said. His wife, Joyce, said her late father, Ira Simmering, served in the Army during World War II and the Korean War.

"Mom said Dad brought it home in his luggage," she said. "Mom thought it was from World War II."

The VonDielingens live on the farm that belonged to her parents.

The OHP was notified after a deputy came out to

investigate. The squad detonated the items in a field near VonDielingen's home.

Undersheriff Jerry Niles said it wasn't known if the ordnance were live. He said based on some writing on the items, they appeared to be Japanese.

## AREA

### New ramps in BA

BROKEN ARROW — New entrance and exit ramps proposed for the Creek Turnpike at Aspen Avenue (145th East Avenue) should aid area development, officials said.

The city council approved a resolution Tuesday to work with the Oklahoma Turnpike Authority on the project. The city would pay half the project's estimated \$3.5 million cost.

Engineering, land acquisition and environmental impact studies will follow, officials said.

Officials hope to complete the project by 2010.

### BA water rates rise

BROKEN ARROW — The city council approved a 15-cent increase to city water rates Tuesday, which will take effect Oct. 1.

The new rates are \$2.51 per 1,000 gallons inside city limits and \$3.76 per 1,000 outside.

Officials said the increase is necessary to cover a 15-cent rate hike by the Oklahoma Ordinance Works Authority.

### Pageants slated

The United Keetoowah Band of Cherokee Indians in Oklahoma is now accepting applications for the Miss and Junior Miss Keetoowah Cherokee.

The pageant is scheduled for 7 p.m. Sept. 12 at the Tahlequah Armory Municipal Center, 100 N. Water St., in Tahlequah.

The deadline to enter is Aug. 29.

The theme for the 58th annual United Keetoowah Band Celebration will be "Rich in Tradition, Strength for the Future."

Participants must be between 13 and 17 years old or between 18 and 21 before Sept. 12 for the respective pageants, must be an exclusive UKB tribal member and present a copy of tribal enrollment, show proof of school enrollment, must not have been married or co-habitated, have no children and never been convicted of a felony.

Applicants may download an application from tulsaworld.com/ukb, or for more information call Gwen Goingsnake or Georgia Dick at (918) 456-5869, or (800) 794-6514

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