



Leslie Mitts photos

Austin Rauschenburg, Rosebud Whipple, Annalise Whipple, and Malia Collins (top, left to right) participated in a recent activity night at Jefferson County Middle School hosted by the SMILE program.

Tyrone Ray (at left) also joined in and said he had fun looking at slides of blood through a microscope. SMILE stands for Science & Math Investigative Learning Experiences.

The SMILE Program is a partnership between Oregon State University and 14 Oregon school districts to provide science and math enrichment for underrepresented and other educationally underserved students in grades 4-12.

Rosebud Whipple, a SMILE program participant, said, "It makes math fun and it's really interesting." According to their website, SMILE began in 1988, serving 80 students in four middle schools. Currently the program serves more than 700 elementary, middle, and high school students in 35 schools.



Births

Warren Wallulatum-Garcia

Victor Garcia and Turina Wallulatum are pleased to announce the birth of their son Warren Wallulatum-Garcia, born on November 3, 2008.

The grandparents on the father's side are Javier Garcia and Pabla Villanueva of Culver.

Grandparents on the mother's side are the late Warren Wallulatum Sr., and Deborah Jackson of Warm Springs.

Aiyana Alize Zacarias

Isac J. Zacarias and Brianna M. Huizar of Madras are pleased to announce the birth of their daughter Aiyana Alize Zacarias, born on November 2, 2008.

Grandparent on the father's side is Adelita Zacarias of Madras.

Grandparent on the mother's side is Alfredo Huizar of Madras.

Native American Heritage Art Market at museum

The Museum at Warm Springs will host a Native American Heritage Art Market on Saturday and Sunday, Nov. 29 and 30.

The event will feature local artisans with Columbia River Plateau Traditional Art and Native American Contemporary Arts and Crafts for sale.

The market will be open from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the museum. There is no admission charge for the market and guests who sign up at the registration desk will be eligible for door prizes.

Drawings for door prizes will be held on Saturday every half hour. For more information call 553-3331.

Teaching tools foster science and diabetes education in Native American schools

Schools across the country now have free access to an innovative set of teaching tools designed to increase the understanding of science, health and diabetes among American Indian and Alaska Native students from kindergarten through the 12th grade.

The comprehensive new curriculum is called "Health is Life in Balance."

The curriculum was launched this month at the Smithsonian's National Museum of the American Indian in Washington, D.C.

The curriculum – a product of the Diabetes-based Science Education in Tribal Schools (DETS) program – integrates science and Native American traditions to educate students about science, diabetes and its risk factors.

Another focus is the importance of nutrition and physical activity in maintaining health and balance in life.

Applying an inquiry-based approach to learning, the curriculum builds research skills in observation, measurement, prediction, experimentation, and communication.

The project was developed in collaboration with eight tribal colleges and universities and several Native American organizations, with funding from the National Institutes of Health, the Indian Health Service (IHS), and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

Diabetes is a major cause of heart disease and stroke, and is the most common cause in adults of blindness, kidney failure and amputations not related to trauma.

The disease now afflicts nearly 24 million people in the U.S.

Type 2 diabetes is the most common form of the disease, and is linked to older age, obesity, physical inactivity, family history of the disease, and a history of gestational diabetes.

In the last 30 years, the incidence of type 2 diabetes has been steadily rising. The rate of diagnosed diabetes in American Indians and Alaska Natives is two to three times that of non-Hispanic whites.

Nearly 17 percent of the total adult population served by the IHS has diagnosed diabetes.

After adjusting for popula-

tion age differences, diabetes rates vary from 6 percent among Alaska Native adults to 29 percent among American Indian adults in southern Arizona.

Once seen only in adults, type 2 diabetes is increasingly being diagnosed in youth, especially in American Indian and other minority populations.

"Many people don't know that type 2 diabetes can often be prevented by losing a modest amount of weight through diet and regular physical activity," said Griffin P. Rodgers, M.D., director of the National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases, which contributed most of the funding for the project.

"We hope that this innovative, well tested curriculum will reduce the rapidly rising incidence of type 2 diabetes in Native Americans by teaching young people about diabetes prevention."

Alvin Windy Boy is the former chair of the Tribal Leaders Diabetes Committee, a group of elected tribal officials who advise the Indian Health Service on diabetes topics.

He voiced the need for the curriculum at a 2002 meeting of the Diabetes Mellitus Inter-agency Coordinating Committee, which coordinates federal research and activities related to diabetes.

The materials were designed and extensively tested by staff in eight tribal colleges and universities.

Staff worked with 63 teachers and 1,500 students in schools across 14 states. "This curriculum is an important step in educating American Indian and Alaska Native youth about preventing type 2 diabetes," said Windy Boy. "The materials are understandable, tailored for students at different grade levels, and make the concepts relevant to our lives and families."

"We're pleased that our native youth will now be learning how to prevent type 2 diabetes early in life and in their own schools. We hope some of these students will be inspired to become health professionals to help us in the fight against diabetes and other chronic diseases," added Buford Rolin, who now chairs the Tribal Leaders Diabetes Committee.

Howlak Tichum

Ronald James Morning Owl, "Pow-ya-Wow"

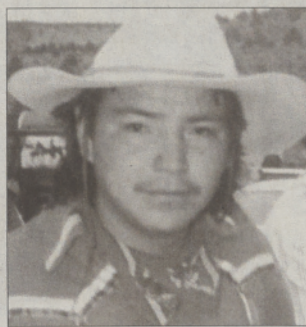
March 19, 1965–November 6, 2008

Ronald James Morning Owl, whose Indian name was "Pow-ya-Wow" passed away on November 6, 2008 in Richland, Wash.

A Dressing Ceremony was held on Friday November 7, 2008 at the Mission Longhouse. Washat services, with a traditional midnight meal was held following the dressing.

Sunrise burial services were held on Saturday, November 8, 2008 at the Old Agency Cemetery – Spino Addition.

Ron was born on March 19,



1965 at Pendleton, Oregon to Inez Spino and Edwin Morning Owl Sr.

Ron's education began in Pilot Rock Elementary and continued through Pilot Rock Jr. High School and Pilot Rock High School.

Many of his friends knew him as "Pow-ya-Wow" or Ronnie. He was affectionately known as "Moggie" by his nieces.

Ron was of Umatilla, Warm Springs and Blood Reserve descent.

Ron loved to travel, pow-wow, and rodeo. He enjoyed breaking and training horses for family and friends.

He was a rodeo cowboy and competed in wild horse races, roping and all rough stock events.

He enjoyed being in the mountains hunting with "the boys". He also enjoyed fishing, gill netting and dip netting on

the Columbia river at traditional sites.

He was a skilled hunter and fisherman and often provided meat and salmon for his family, tribal elders and various long houses.

He was a member of the Starr Society and traveled to many pow-wows throughout the U.S. and Canada. He was a singer, fancy dancer and a traditional dancer.

Ron loved spending time with his family and friends.

He is survived by his children: Leroy Morning Owl, Nahoma Morning Owl, Ariane Wildbill, Rolin Morning Owl, Neal Morning Owl, Celestine Morning Owl, Chelsea George and Shawna Waheneka, his grand-children: Shayonnie Jackson, Tsones Morning Owl, Kamiya Jackson and Caden Stewart, his mother Inez Spino, brothers: Edwin T. Morning Owl of McKay Creek, Leroy Spino of Pendleton, Jimmy Chiefmoon Sr. of Canada, Edwin Bad Man of Canada, and Mathew Chiefmoon of Canada, sisters: Celeste Reves of Pendleton, and Shirley Chiefmoon of Canada. He is also survived by numerous other siblings in Canada.

He was preceded in death by his father Edwin Morning Owl, grandparents George and Maude Spino, as well as grandparents in Canada.

Burns Mortuary of Pendleton was in charge of arrangements.

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