



Graphics created by George Valdez

By Ron Karten

The Grand Ronde Food Bank, the Grand Ronde Clothes Closet, Shop with the Sheriff, the on-going food drives, turkey rolls, ice cream socials, Coyote Joe's Christmas dinner, and assorted other fun ideas for helping those in need are all on the schedule again this year.

A Thanksgiving Turkey bowl will be held at noon outside the Governance Building on November 16. Participants will contribute to take a shot at the pins, with the contributions going to the Grand Ronde Food Drive.

The Grand Ronde Community Resource Center, located at the end of North Street in Grand Ronde, is open Monday and Friday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. In addition to all the basic foods, the Resource Center provides senior meals, food preservation services and a community garden.

"We have turkeys to distribute at 10 a.m. on November 15, and will have holiday distributions for Thanksgiving and Christmas, but call for dates and times," said Alisa Larson, Resource Center Director. She can be reached at 503-879-5731.

The Tribe is also back this year with another Giving Tree. Help a

child in need this Holiday season by contributing presents to special children. Contact Tracy Biery at 503-879-2017 to get a tag with information about the kind of present to get. All presents should be new, in their packaging, but unwrapped.

"We are working with the Tree of Giving in Willamina," said Biery. "The children are from the Grand Ronde/Willamina area." She has a virtually unlimited number of tags, so please call and contribute.

"There is a great need in our community this year," she said.

The Clothes Closet, located at the Grand Ronde Preschool, which is back behind the Grand Ronde Middle School, is open Monday and Thursday 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. This season, the Clothes Closet is in special need of: men's and boys' clothes, winter scarfs, hats and gloves, sweatshirts and heavy shirts, boots and warm shoes.

They also need such household items as small kitchen appliances and utensils and, of course, toys.

As always, all items must be clean and in working condition. Reach the Clothes Closet during open hours at



The Tribe's Human Resources Department will put on "Turkey Bowling" on Thursday, November 16 in front of the Governance Building.

503-879-4578.

Again this year, Polk County's 'Shop with the Sheriff' program will bring kids out to buy presents for their families with Polk County Sheriff Robert Wolfe as well as off duty deputies SALT (seniors) members and the Grand Ronde Service Integration Team, which hosts a party afterwards. "Last year, 23 deputies came," said Rhonda Holder of the Polk County Juvenile Department. "It's fun to watch those little guys wrap the presents," she said.

This year, 25 kids identified by local elementary school administrators were chosen to come with the group. They'll meet at the Middle School at Grand Ronde. Tribal busses will take them to Wal-Mart in Dallas, where they'll buy presents for their families, and then bring them back to school for the wrapping party and lunch.

Meanwhile, back at the Tribe, the canned food drive is in full gear with ice cream socials, bottle and can collections, raffles, coin collections, juice sales, friendly competitions among Tribal government groups, a spaghetti lunch event hosted by Tribal Grants Developer Bob McElderry (Flathead), and late Wednesday, word came out from Marietta Leith, a Specialist in

Human Resources that McElderry had plunked down \$20 for the Food Drive and issued a challenge "to meet or beat this donation."

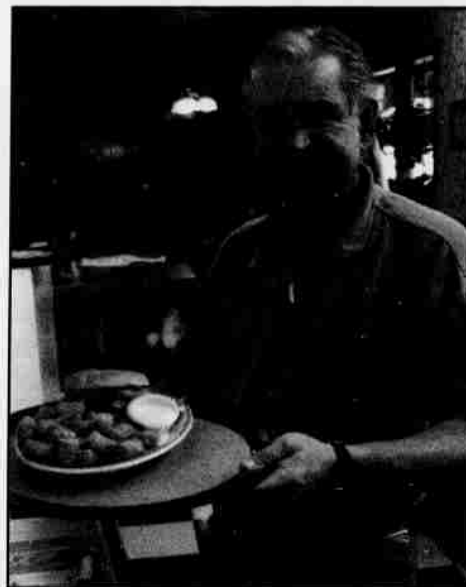
Next thing we knew, Tribal Relations Coordinator and Tribal member Dakota Whitecloud had dropped off a crisp \$100 bill. Then, word came that Stephanie Grim, Civilian Review Board Assistant in the Tribal Court, had matched McElderry's \$20 and added a canned ham.

Tribal Council member "Buddy" West met that canned ham and raised it one with \$25 additional, and called Whitecloud "a smart aleck."

Then, word came that Community Fund Director Shelley Hanson had contributed \$100. And so it went.

In Willamina, meanwhile, they're already looking forward to Christmas. "Same thing this year," said Coyote Joe's owner Rolly Heuser about his annual free Christmas dinner for the community. Live music, gifts for the kids, ham or turkey dinner with dressing - "the whole dinner including dessert," he said, "from 11 a.m.-2:30 p.m. on Christmas Day."

We encourage everybody to keep it going, all through the holidays, and all through the year. ■



Coyote Joe's owner Rolly Heuser is ready to serve up another free Christmas dinner in Willamina for 2006.

WINTER COAT DRIVE FOR LOCAL YOUTH

OPEN TO ALL CTGR, SMC EMPLOYEES, & COMMUNITY MEMBERS

FOR EVERY COAT YOU DONATE,
YOUR NAME WILL BE ENTERED INTO A RAFFLE.
PLEASE DONATE ONLY NEW
OR SLIGHTLY USED CLEAN QUALITY COATS.
ENTER FOR YOUR CHANCE TO WIN SOME
REALLY GREAT PRIZES.

(Columbia Coats, NANO IPOD, Pendleton Blanket).

**TO BE ELIGIBLE FOR THE RAFFLE, ALL COATS
NEED TO BE TURNED INTO CTGR SOCIAL SERVICES
BY 2:00 P.M. DECEMBER 15TH.**

RAFFLE WILL BE HELD DECEMBER 15th AT 2:30 P.M.
YOU DO NOT NEED TO BE PRESENT TO WIN.



ALL COATS DONATED WILL BE GIVEN TO THE LOCAL CLOTHES CLOSET FOR DISTRIBUTION
FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT SOCIAL SERVICES AT 879-2034.