

Smoke Signals

NOVEMBER 15, 2014

A Publication of the Grand Ronde Tribe

www.grandronde.org

UMPQUA ■ MOLALLA ■ ROGUE RIVER ■ KALAPUYA ■ CHASTA



Photo by Michelle Alaimo

Water fountains in the Governance Center were taped off so people could not drink from them due to coliform bacteria being detected in water samples taken by the Grand Ronde Community Water Association at the end of October.

Bacteria detected in water

By Dean Rhodes

Smoke Signals editor

Grand Ronde residents received a scare just before Halloween, and it didn't come from children dressed as ghosts and goblins.

The Grand Ronde Community Water Association, which has more than 950 service connections in the area, alerted its customers that coliform bacteria had been detected in two of the five water samples taken in October. The drinking water standard is that no more than one sample per month may indicate the existence of coliform bacteria.

A notice sent to Water Association customers in late October characterized the situation as a non-emergency and said that users

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Banking on food

By Ron Karten

Smoke Signals staff writer

The local food bank, operated by the Grand Ronde Community Resource Center out of a building near Uxyat Powwow Grounds, is a nonprofit funded by the Tribe and government grants, with in-kind contributions from Marion-Polk Food Share.

The facility is moving to a new building with new management closer to Tribal housing. Food Share, partnering with the Tribe, will operate the facility that opens on Monday, Dec. 1.

Food Share intends to increase the food bank's hours in January, says Ian Dixon-McDonald, vice president of Programs for Marion-Polk Food Share, from once every other week to once every week. In December, it will keep the previous operating times: Dec. 5 and 19, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Under Tribal Council direction, Food Share will bring a new outlook with input from the community and experts in the field to meet local and ongoing emergency food needs.

"We're looking forward to having Food Share's wealth of expertise as we open this state-of-the-art food pantry," says Rick George, interim general manager for the Tribe and current point man for the new operation.

George's direct responsibility will eventually be turned over



Photos by Michelle Alaimo

Jesse White, above left, Tribal Engineer and Public Works manager, shows a group from Marion-Polk Food Share around the new Grand Ronde Food Bank building on Friday, Nov. 7.



Grand Ronde Community Resource Center Board members, from left, Secretary Julie Duncan, Vice Chair Claudia Leno, Chair Ellen Fischer, Louise Medeiros and Candy Robertson have been running the Grand Ronde Food Bank off Hebo Road.

to a Tribal department still to be named.

"The larger vision the Tribe has," he says, "is to understand the

entire emergency food system."

"We want to be part of the Grand Ronde community," says Dixon-McDonald, "to understand community needs for the long term. It's more than providing food. We want to be involved with community gardening, nutrition and cooking efforts. We want to make sure we're doing what the communi-

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Presentation discusses mushrooms

By Ron Karten

Smoke Signals staff writer

There is something growing on the Tribal Reservation besides timber that might have value to Tribal members — mushrooms.

Almost a full house at the Elders Activity Center on Tuesday, Nov. 10, listened to Bureau of Land Management Botanist Ron Exeter discuss

mushrooms.

Tribal Elder Harold Lyon, a member of the Tribe's Fish and Wildlife Committee and organizer of the presentation, along with community member Bob Duncan picked the majority of some 50 varieties on display during the event. Lyon

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Jay Ojua, Tribal Silviculture/Fire Protection technician, looks at a lobster mushroom during a mushroom identification seminar held at the Elders Activity Center on Monday, Nov. 10. Attendees learned how to identify edible mushrooms and suggested locations on where to find them.



Photo by Michelle Alaimo