

Food Bank provides boxes, seeks help

The Grand Ronde Food Bank – *iskam mək^hmək haws* – is operated by Marion-Polk Food Share, which has been leading the fight to end hunger since 1987 because no one should be hungry.

Recipients of SNAP, TANF, SSI or LIHEAP assistance automatically qualify for assistance at the Grand Ronde Food Bank, 9675 Grand Ronde Road. No one will be turned away in need of a food box.

“We believe that everyone deserves to have enough to eat,” Food Bank Coordinator Francene Ambrose says. “You are welcome to get a food box at each of our regular weekly distributions. No one will be turned away in need of a food box.”

Upcoming food box distribution dates will be:

- 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Friday, May 19;
- 2 to 6 p.m. Wednesday, May 24.

The Food Bank will be closed on Monday, May 29, in observance of Memorial Day.

Those who are unable to pick up a food box can fill out an authorized representative form and that person can pick up a food box on your behalf. The authorization is good for one year.

The Food Bank continues to seek volunteers to help with repacking food, putting food on the shelves, handing out food boxes and end-of-month inventory.

The Food Bank also is participating in a program called Fresh Alliance in which volunteers pick up food donations directly from area stores. Volunteers with a truck who could pick up at these stores at least once a week and a partner to ride along and help load are being sought. Volunteer training will be held at 1 p.m. Tuesday, May 16.

Call to ensure someone is available to assist. People also can sign up for a monthly e-mail for the Food Bank calendar and events, as well as follow the Food Bank on Facebook.

The Food Bank is an equal opportunity provider.

Call Ambrose at 503-879-3663 or contact her at fambrose@marionpolkfoodshare.org for more information or to volunteer. ■

Clothes Closet open Monday, Friday

The Clothes Closet is open from 9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. the first and third Fridays of the month and 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. all other Fridays on the Tribal campus near the Elders Activity Center at the end of Blacktail Drive.

The Clothes Closet accepts clothing, small appliances, small pieces of furniture, electronics and household goods that are clean and in good condition. It does not accept books, large TVs or large furniture, but there is a community board where people can post those items. Donations are accepted during regular business hours. For more information or emergency clothes, contact Lori Walker-Hernandez at 559-847-7565. ■

Committee & Special Event Board meeting days and times

Below is the most current information on the meeting days and times for Tribal Committees and Special Event Boards:

- **Ceremonial Hunting Board** meets as needed. Chair: Marline Groshong.
- **Culture Committee** meets at 5:30 p.m. the second Tuesday of the month at the Grand Ronde Food Bank/*iskam mək^hmək haws*, 9675 Grand Ronde Road. Chair: Francene Ambrose.
- **Education Committee** meets at 5:30 p.m. on the second Tuesday of the month in the Adult Education building. Chair: Tammy Cook.
- **Elders Committee** meets at 10 a.m. the third Wednesday of the month in the Elders Activity Center. Chair: Gladys Hobbs.
- **Enrollment Board** meets quarterly in Room 204 of the Governance Center. Chair: Michael Mercier.
- **Fish & Wildlife Committee** meets at 5:30 p.m. the second Tuesday of the month at the Natural Resources building off Hebo Road. Chair: Tyson Mercier.
- **Health Committee** meets at 10 a.m. the second Wednesday of the month in the Health & Wellness Center. Chair: Patti Tom-Martin.
- **Housing Board** meets at 3 p.m. the third Thursday of the month in the Housing Department conference room. Chair: Matt Thomas.
- **Powwow Special Event Board** meets monthly at noon at the Community Center. Dates vary. Contact Dana Ainam at 503-879-2037. Chair: Dana Ainam.
- **Timber Committee** meets at 5 p.m. the second Thursday of the month at the Natural Resources building off Hebo Road. Chair: Bob Mercier.
- **Veterans Special Event Board** meets at 5:30 p.m. the first Tuesday of the month in the old Elders Craft House. Chair: Steve Bobb Sr.

To update information on this list, contact Publications Coordinator Dean Rhodes at 503-879-1463 or dean.rhodes@grandronde.org.

Missing breast plate recovered

By Dean Rhodes

Smoke Signals editor

A missing breast plate made from spent brass M16 shells that was donated to the Grand Ronde Tribe during the 2016 Veterans Powwow has been found.

Veterans Special Event Board Chairman Steve Bobb Sr. said that Tribal member Deitz Peters had the breast plate and was working on making its neck band more comfortable.

When Peters saw a front-page story about the missing breast plate in the April 1 edition of *Smoke Signals*, he called Bobb to remind him that he had the breast plate.

The breast plate went “missing” after the August 2016 Contest Powwow. Its disappearance was turned over to the Grand Ronde Tribal Police Department for investigation and Crime Stoppers publicized the case.

“Me and Pooter (Tribal Elder Alton Butler) had talked to Deitz,” Bobb said. “Pooter is the one who wears it. It had like only a single leather band that went around his neck. Well, that thing is kind of heavy, especially when you wind up standing out there for 45 minutes or longer. Even though we tried to tuck it under his shirt collar and stuff like that, by the time 45 minutes went by it was pulling on his neck pretty heavy. It’s kind of weighty.”

“So we had asked Deitz Peters if he could somehow put a leather



File photo

pad around that and add some padding so it wasn’t just that single string, and we gave it to him.”

However, as the veterans started assembling their equipment and regalia for the upcoming powwow season in early December, both Bobb and Butler forgot they had given it to Peters and started wondering where it had gone.

“Pooter said he thought he remembered giving it to somebody, but we both spaced on it because a few months had passed. ... When it came out in the paper, he (Peters) called me right away and said he has had it all that time.”

Part of the mix-up, Bobb said, occurred because Peters, who had been attending Veterans Special Event Board meetings regularly, took a break to care for his ailing wife, who recently walked on.

“The last thing he was thinking about was our breast plate,” Bobb said.

Bobb said the one-of-a-kind breast plate, which was donated to the Tribe by the Eugene-Springfield chapter of the Oregon Veterans Motorcycle Association in appreciation for being allowed to use Kalapuya as its chapter name, is now in his possession.

“I’m keeping an eyeball on it,” Bobb said. “It’s not getting away from me now. It’s in the top part of one of my closets so I know right where it’s at.” ■

Official Tribal Facebook pages

- **Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde:** www.facebook.com/CTGRgov
- **Grand Ronde Tribal Council:** www.facebook.com/TheConfederatedTribesOfGrandRondeTribalCouncil
- **Grand Ronde Higher Education:** www.facebook.com/grand.r.ed
- **Grand Ronde Youth Education:** www.facebook.com/CTGRYouthEducation
- **Spirit Mountain Community Fund:** www.facebook.com/SpiritMountainCommunityFund
- **Grand Ronde Station:** www.facebook.com/GrandRondeStation
- **Grand Ronde Royalty:** www.facebook.com/CTGRRoyalty
- **Veterans Special Event Board:** www.facebook.com/pages/Veterans-Board-of-the-Confederated-Tribes-of-the-Grand-Ronde-Community
- **Community Garden:** www.facebook.com/GrandRondeCommunityGarden
- **Grand Ronde Food Bank:** www.facebook.com/GrandRondeFoodBank
- **Grand Ronde Youth Council:** www.facebook.com/CTGRYouthCouncil
- **Grand Ronde Tribal Police Department:** www.facebook.com/grandrondepolice/
- **Children & Family Services:** www.facebook.com/CTGRFCFS/
- **Social Services Department:** www.facebook.com/CTGRSocialservices/



ATTENTION TRIBAL MEMBERS

COMMITTEE AND SPECIAL EVENT BOARD VACANCIES

The following Committees and Special Event Boards have vacant positions.

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|----------------------------|---------------------|
| Election Board | 1 alternate vacancy |
| Education Committee | 2 vacancies |

Please send completed applications to Stacia Hernandez, 9615 Grand Ronde Road, Grand Ronde, OR 97347.