



Photo by Michelle Alaimo

Haven Conklin runs up to Rebecca Snowden to get a second corndog as Snowden serves a free lunch at the covered basketball court in Tribal Housing on Monday, June 18. The lunch program is a partnership between the Willamina School District and the U.S. Department of Agriculture that provides free lunches to children ages 1-18, Monday through Friday until Aug. 3. However, there is no lunch service on Wednesday, July 4.

Free kids' meals offered in Grand Ronde until Aug. 3

By Danielle Frost
Smoke Signals staff writer

There is such a thing as a free lunch.

For the 22nd year, the Willamina School District is offering free meals to children every weekday through Aug. 3 with the exception of the Fourth of July.

Any child ages 1 through 18 may participate in the program regardless of family income. There is no registration required, but meals must be consumed on site.

This summer, meals are being served locally at Raven Loop Park in Grand Ronde in addition to Willamina Elementary School and Tina Miller Park in Willamina.

Tribal Library staff will be at Raven Loop Park on Wednesdays to read stories during lunch time.

On the first day of the program Monday, June 18, a handful of children waited patiently for School District employee Rebecca Snowden to pass out corndogs, apples, cucumber slices and milk.

It is her third year working for the summer program.

"The best part of this is seeing the kids," Snowden said. "I have a great relationship with them because I see them in the summer."

During the school year, Snowden works in the Willamina Elementary School cafeteria. This summer, she is handing out punch cards and those who eat lunch 10 times will receive a prize.

"The kids are happy to see me during the summer because they are getting food," she said. "It

If you go

Free summer meals

Where: Raven Loop Park
When: 12:30 to 1 p.m., Monday-Friday through Aug. 3. There is no meal service on Wednesday, July 4.
For more information: Call 503-876-2702.

definitely helps build that positive relationship. I get kids that run up and hug me. I consider that to be good feedback."

Haven Conklin, 6, echoed that sentiment.

"I like the food and I get to see our lunch lady," she said. "I love her."

Ethan Sabin, 11, has been participating in the summer lunch program for three years.

"I like coming here and seeing my friends, and eating the corndogs," he said. "This is only the first day of the program, but sometimes there are a lot of people here."

School District Nutrition Director Lynne Shore said the program is one of the longest running in the state, with the simple goal of providing a healthy lunch option for students during the summer months. An average of 35 meals are served at each site.

"We serve a lot of the same items we do during the school year so the kids are familiar with it," Shore said. "This is a way for kids to get a good, healthy meal when school is out, see their friends and play at the park. We invite anyone from the area to come out." ■

Grand Ronde Housing Department



Down Payment Assistance Program depleted for 2018

Tribal Funded Down Payment Program grants have been depleted for the year. There are several HUD grants left however, but they are only grants for those families or members who meet the HUD 80% median income criteria (gross income) which is the following:

FAMILY SIZE	HUD LOW-INCOME LIMITS
1	\$45,600
2	\$52,100
3	\$58,600
4	\$65,100
5	\$70,350
6	\$75,550
7	\$80,750
8	\$85,950

Housing Board seeks community input

The Grand Ronde Housing Board is inviting Tribal members and Tribal housing residents to provide input to assist its members in carrying out its advisory role to the Housing Department and Tribal Council regarding policy guidance. The Housing Board meets at 3 p.m. the third Thursday of each month in the Housing Department conference room, 28450 Tye Road. Its chair is Kristy Criss-Lawson. For more information, contact the Housing Department at 503-879-2401. ■

Medication drop box installed

The Grand Ronde Tribal Police Department, 9655 Grand Ronde Road, now has a medication drop box located in the front lobby.

Lobby hours are 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday.

The drop box is for any prescribed or over-the-counter medication. If the containers are too large to fit in the drop box, please repackage them in a zip-lock plastic bag. Tribal Police employees cannot handle the medications so the person dropping them off must repackage them.

Needles and liquids are not allowed in the drop box.

Tribal Police suggest mixing liquid medications with cat litter or coffee grounds and then throwing them away with the household trash.

For more information, call 503-879-1821. ■

TRIBAL COURT FACILITATION SERVICES

Starting July 1, Tribal Court will offer Court Facilitation Services. Court staff will be offering help to people who do not have an attorney and who would like assistance with court-related paperwork. Court staff are not attorneys and cannot provide legal advice or assistance. This service is open to the community and will be offered by appointment only from 9 a.m. to noon every Friday. If you would like to schedule an appointment, contact the Tribal Court at 503-879-2303 or by e-mail at court@grandronde.org.

Court Staff May Not...	Court Staff May...
Apply rules and laws to the facts of a specific case.	Provide basic information applicable to all parties about court procedures, rules and practices.
Interpret the meaning of ordinances, statutes or rules in an attempt to explain how those rules may apply to particular situations.	Refer people to specific statutes or court rules that govern routine court practice or procedures.
Recommend one procedure or form over another.	Provide instructions and forms developed by the Tribal Court.
Substitute their own words for a customer's words on a form or draft a legal document of their own.	Indicate where to provide information on a form. Fill in blanks under the direction of a customer on forms selected by the customer.
Take sides, recommend the services of a specific attorney and offer opinions about possible outcomes of court matters.	Provide court schedules and information on how to get matters scheduled or refer to Oregon State Bar or local legal aid offices for legal assistance.

Name changes in court

Tribal Court provides both minor and adult name changes to enrolled members for a filing fee of only \$30. If you have any questions or would like to request a packet, contact Tribal Court at 503-879-2303. ■