

Food Bank provides boxes, seeks help

The Grand Ronde Food Bank – *iskam məkʰmək 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:

- 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 2;
- 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Friday, Nov. 8;
- 2 to 6 p.m. Wednesday, Nov. 13;
- 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 23 (holiday box giveaway).

People must check in 15 minutes before closing to receive a food box. If you need immediate assistance, call 211 or visit 211info.org.

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.

In addition, the Grand Ronde Health & Wellness Center’s Community Health Team will be setting up the mobile clinic at the pantry on the first Friday of every month.

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

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. ■

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 məkʰmək haws*, 9675 Grand Ronde Road. Chair: Francene Ambrose.
- **Editorial Board** meets monthly at the Chachalu Museum & Cultural Center conference room, 8720 Grand Ronde Road. Next meeting is scheduled for 10 a.m. Friday, Nov. 8. The public is welcome to attend. Chair: Siobhan Taylor. Contact: Editorial.Board@grandronde.org.
- **Education Committee** meets at 5:30 p.m. on the first 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: Penny DeLoe.
- **Enrollment Committee** meets quarterly in Room 204 of the Governance Center. Chair: Debi Anderson.
- **Fish & Wildlife Committee** meets at 5:30 p.m. the second Tuesday of the month at the Natural Resources building off Hebo Road. Chair: Bryan Langley.
- **Health Committee** meets at 10 a.m. the second Tuesday of the month in the Molalla Room of the Health & Wellness Center. Chair: Bernadine Shriver.
- **Housing Grievance Board** meets at 3 p.m. the third Thursday of the month in the Housing Department conference room. Chair: Simone Auger.
- **Powwow Special Event Board** meets monthly at noon at the Community Center. Dates vary. Contact Dana Ainam at 503-879-2037. Chair: Dana Ainam.
- **TERO Commission** meets at 10 a.m. the first Monday of the month in the Employment Services building. Chair: Russell Wilkinson.
- **Timber Committee** meets at 5 p.m. the second Thursday of the month at the Natural Resources building off Hebo Road. Interim Chair: Jon R. George.
- **Veterans Special Event Board** meets at 5:30 p.m. the first Tuesday of the month in the old Elders Craft House. Chair: TBD.

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



2014 – Tribal Health & Wellness Business Office Manager Tresa Mercier became the Tribe’s first 30-year employee. She was hired by the Tribe at the age of 19. At 49, she was the Tribe’s longest-serving employee ever. “I feel like she is the biggest asset the Tribe has working here,” said Senior Contract Health Specialist Melody Baker,



2014 File photo

who had worked with Mercier for 15 years.

2009 – Grand Ronde Tribal Chairwoman Cheryle A. Kennedy was set to receive the Fran James Cultural Preservation Award at the Potlatch Fund’s seventh annual gala on Saturday, Nov. 21, at the Grand Hyatt Hotel in Seattle, Wash. The award was named after the Lummi Tribal member whose leadership in cultural preservation revived and continued the traditional weaving and basketry skills of the Lummi people.

2004 – Mitch Goldstein was named the new gaming director at Spirit Mountain Casino. He started in gaming 23 years prior as a dealer in Atlantic City, N.J. He was familiar with Tribal gaming and had been employed for four years at Prairie Nights Casino in South Dakota. As gaming director, Goldstein said he was hoping to look at new and creative ways to expand the business. “I want to look at upgrading the machines and finding different ways to reach customers,” he said.

1999 – Cultural Resources Protection Department staff members successfully reclaimed the remains of 180 men, women and children who had been taken from their original burial places and placed in museum vaults. The remains were only a small fraction of ancestors who still remained in various museums, institutions and private collections across the United States. “Hundreds of thousands of Native dead were taken from North American Indian graves, burial mounds and cemeteries,” said Walter EchoHawk of the Native American Rights Fund.

1994 – The Tribe was establishing a training program through Chemeketa Community College to enhance members’ work skills and improve their chances of obtaining jobs at the soon-to-be-completed Spirit Mountain Casino. All of the employees at the casino, regardless of job title, were expected to contribute to the entertainment experience offered guests. With that in mind, the Chemeketa program was designed to provide training focused on customer service and work readiness.

1989 – Dana Leno was named an outstanding student for the 1989-90 school year after she was awarded an Oregon Minority Tuition and Fee Scholarship to attend Oregon State University. The scholarship provided \$1,707 annually for tuition and fees. She received the scholarship based on academic performance and leadership abilities.

Yesteryears is a look back at Tribal history in five-year increments through the pages of Smoke Signals.

WIC visits Community Center monthly

Pregnant? Breastfeeding? Does your family include a child under the age of 5?

If so, you may qualify for the Women, Infants and Children program. With WIC, people can receive answers to nutritional questions and access fruits and vegetables, whole grains, eggs, milk, cheese, juice, cereal and more.

A WIC representative visits the Tribal Community Center on the third Tuesday of the month, which will be Nov. 19.

Walk-ins are welcome between 9 a.m. and 4 p.m.

For more information or to schedule an appointment, call 503-879-2034. ■

Tribal Court is now open during the lunch hour

As of Monday, Aug. 5, the Tribal Court office will be open Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., including the lunch hour. Tribal Court also provides notary services. However, to obtain notary services please arrive before 4:30 p.m.

For more information about Tribal Court and the services available, contact the court at court@grandronde.org or 503-879-2303. ■