

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, Jan. 4;
- 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Friday, Jan. 10;
- 2 to 6 p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 15;
- 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Friday, Jan. 24;
- And 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 1.

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.

The Food Bank will be closed on Monday, Jan. 20, in observance of Martin Luther King Jr. Day.

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@marion-polkfoodshare.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. Next meeting is scheduled for 10 a.m. Friday, Jan. 17, in the Employment Services Building conference room. 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.



2015 – The Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde filed an appeal of U.S. District Court Judge Barbara Jacobs Rothstein’s ruling in favor of the Department of the Interior’s decision to take land into trust for the Cowlitz Indian Tribe near La Center, Wash. The Cowlitz Tribe had been trying since 2002 to take approximately 152 acres into trust near La Center so it could build a casino on that property.



2005

File photo

2010 – The Tribe began doing something that was suspended most of the previous two years, selling timber on the Reservation. Natural Resources Department Manager Michael Wilson said the timber market was slowly showing improvement, which made it worthwhile for the Tribe to once again sell timber. The recent Big Toe sale received seven bidders and sold for \$267 per 1,000 board feet.

2005 – Tribal Council Chairwoman Cheryle A. Kennedy was selected to open the U.S. Figure Skating Championships on behalf of the Tribe and Spirit Mountain Casino in Portland. Additionally, past Tribal Council Chair Kathryn Harrison and the Grand Ronde Honor Guard were selected to lead an invocation and bring in the flags to open the event.

2000 – Tribal Elders surprised Tribal Council Chair Kathryn Harrison during a holiday party at the Community Center. Harrison had recently been named one of three Oregon Women of the Year by the Oregon Commission for Women. “Kathryn was both surprised and speechless,” Elders Committee Chair Sharon Hanson said.

1995 – Construction and planning for the Tribe’s new casino were on schedule. Spirit Mountain Development Corp. Director Bruce Thomas said that coordination with the state on traffic diversion construction on Highway 18 was an ongoing process, with permit approval expected soon. Most entry-level jobs started at \$6.50 an hour and the Tribe established a training program at Chemeketa Community College for Tribal members who wanted casino jobs.

1990 – No January edition available.

1985 – Tribal Council authorized its general manager to develop and submit a proposal to Housing and Urban Development to construct a 4,000-square-foot social services facility to be located near the depot. The \$250,000 proposal was competing for funding with proposals from 33 other Northwest Tribes. “We are optimistic that our proposal will receive favorable reviews,” said General Manager Jim St. Martin.

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

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GRAND RONDE’S
LONGEST-SERVING
EMPLOYEE,
TRESA MERCIER

“The Years of Service Awards on Thursday, Dec. 19, is Grand Ronde’s way of appreciating its long-time employees. Tresa Mercier is not only an award recipient, she is also Grand Ronde’s longest-serving employee. She came on the Smoke Signals podcast to talk about her time here and the changes she has seen since her first day in 1984.”

To listen to Tresa Mercier, go to www.speaker.com and search for “Smoke Signals podcasts” or go to the Smoke Signals’ Facebook page and follow the link.



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