

Food Bank providing boxes on Fridays in May

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.”

In reaction to the COVID-19 coronavirus pandemic, the Food Bank will be holding May food distributions only from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Fridays.

“We are asking clients to not come for a food box if they are having any symptoms or concerned about their health,” Ambrose said. “We are going to limit our geographic service area to Sheridan to Otis on Highway 18 and Sheridan to Hebo on Highway 22. We are asking clients and volunteers to wash their hands immediately upon entry to the building. Our lobby is closed until further notice.

“Food box distribution is happening outside while maintaining a safe distance between clients. We are sanitizing and keeping the food quarantined for three days before distribution. Pre-made boxes are available on distribution days, limited to two days of food for two adults. Clients within our geographic service area are still welcome to visit us weekly.”

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 designated 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, 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.** The next meeting has not been scheduled. 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: Rich VanAtta.

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

(Editor’s note: All committee and special event board meetings have been suspended during the Tribe’s limited shutdown in reaction to the coronavirus pandemic.)



2015 – A decision on the Tribe’s request to have its flag hung in the Willamina High School gym was postponed by the School Board. After listening to 42 minutes of sometimes emotional comments in support of the Tribe’s request, the board decided not to act on the request until a meeting the following month. No one spoke in opposition to the proposal and School Board members did not explain why they would not address the request.



2015 File photo

2010 – A permanent exhibit at McMinnville’s Evergreen Aviation Museum honored a late Tribal member. Air Force Capt. Carroll Grenia served as a B-17 pilot based in England during World War II. He led his men through 35 missions without being hit, enjoyed a long career in the Air Force and retired in the 1960s. He walked on in 2002. After his passing, word reached Evergreen Aviation Museum and the exhibit was created, which included Grenia’s jacket and flight suit, photographs and his carrying bag.

2005 – The Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde was honored with a stewardship award from the state’s Water Resources Division. The award is given out annually for outstanding commitment to managing, conserving and restoring Oregon’s water resources. “I want to say we are honored to receive this award,” Tribal Council member Chris Mercier said. “We really appreciate the partnership with the Water Resources Commission.”

2000 – Oregon’s Start Making a Reader Today program paired the Tribe with the Portland Trail Blazers to help children become better readers. The program was targeted at children from kindergarten through second-grade. The program received a boost from Spirit Mountain Community Fund to help children at elementary schools across western Oregon, including Willamina and Grand Ronde.

1995 – There were 14 candidates nominated for Tribal Council at the General Council meeting. They were Joyce Kirk, Janell Haller, Randy Butler Sr., Kathy Tom, Kathryn Harrison, Ed Larsen, Joyce DeHart, Tom Jones, Margaret Provost, Earl Floyd LaBonte, Albert Jeffers, June Sherer, Pam Warren and Reyn Leno.

1990 – Tribal member Angie Leno was the first recipient of an Oregon Minority Achievement Scholarship. She was a senior at Willamina High School who maintained a 3.98 GPA. The scholarship paid full tuition and fees for the next five academic years.

1985 – The first Native American press conference was held in Warm Springs and attracted almost 100 representatives from the United States and Canada. Workshops were held in layout/design, writing/editing, business operations and advertising. Attendees also were encouraged to submit copies of their newspaper for the competition. Of 100 entries, the Siletz Tribe received an award for overall excellence.

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



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TRIBAL MUSEUM & CULTURAL CENTER