

Food Bank providing boxes on Fridays in June

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 June food distributions 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 in-person committee and special event board meetings have been suspended during the Tribe’s reaction to the COVID-19 coronavirus pandemic.)



2015 – The Willamina School Board was to consider a revised policy regarding flag displays and salutes. The revised policy, developed by Willamina School District administrators, would allow the display of flags other than the U.S. and Oregon flag “from a federally recognized sovereign nation located within district boundaries if the sovereign nation requests and provides an appropriately sized flag.” Willamina School District Superintendent Gus Forster said the revised policy would protect the district from receiving requests “from everywhere” to hang a flag inside school facilities.



2010

File photo

2010 – Oregon Rep. Kurt Schrader spoke of veteran sacrifices at the Tribe’s annual Memorial Day observance at the West Valley Veterans’ Memorial on the Tribal campus. Tribal Elder and Tribal Council member Steve Bobb Sr. and Tribal Council Vice Chair Reyn Leno shared master of ceremonies honors. The ceremony, which included the reading of names added to the memorial, attracted more than 100 people.

2005 – Two Tribal members of the Willamina High School Class of 2005, Amanda Thomas and Ashlee Merrill, were awarded Gates Millennium Scholarships. There were only five scholarships given to Northwest Native American high school students. The Gates Millennium Scholarship covered 100 percent of a student’s unmet needs and was renewable for up to nine years.

2000 – The Grand Ronde Community Resource Center Food Bank received a grant to assist with purchases of a storage trailer, refrigeration unit, more nutritious food and a van for distribution and pick up. The \$15,000 grant was awarded by the Native American Hunger Program in association with First Nations Development Institute and Kraft Foods to help alleviate hunger among members of 17 Reservation-based programs in 11 states.

1995 – Spirit Mountain Casino officials announced that they would be hiring 850 employees by the time the casino opened in October. The hiring included positions ranging from casino operations to guest services. To help people learn more about the jobs available to match positions to skills and interests, Spirit Mountain was planning to conduct a job fair in Grand Ronde. Attendees would be briefed on the casino and job categories, and then have the opportunity to visit booths for each area and talk with Spirit Mountain personnel.

1990 – Oregon gubernatorial candidates Barbara Roberts and Dave Frohnmayer met with representatives of the Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde at the Chumaree Hotel in Salem. Representatives of the Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs and Burns Paiute Tribe also were present to hear candidates discuss the issues.

1985 – Grand Ronde Tribal Council members Kathryn Harrison, Merle Leno and Henry Petite met with Polk, Tillamook and Yamhill County commissioners, as well as the mayors of Sheridan, Willamina and McMinnville to update them on the Tribe’s Reservation Plan. They also spoke with Sen. Mark O. Hatfield, Rep. Les AuCoin and BIA Area Director Stan Speaks. “These people are all supportive of our efforts for a Reservation Plan,” a *Smoke Signals* article stated. “Our economic base will be timber revenues generated. Due to the current slow timber economy in the Northwest, we need the support of these influential people and others to help us get our Reservation Plan passed in Congress.”

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

Tribe receives \$750,000 federal housing grant

The Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde received the majority of \$1.2 million in federal funding administered by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development under the Indian Community Development Block Grant program that was awarded to two Oregon Tribes.

The Grand Ronde Tribe will use its share of the funds — \$750,000 — to construct a 2,000-square-foot domestic violence addition to the Tribal Community Center. The new space will include four offices, an interview room, child room, group

room and restrooms.

The other Oregon Tribe receiving a share of the funds is the Confederated Tribes of Coos, Lower Umpqua and Siuslaw Indians, which will use \$450,000 to rehabilitate 10 housing units.

The grants were announced on Monday, June 1, in a joint press release from Oregon Sens. Jeff Merkley and Ron Wyden.

“I’m pleased that this funding will help provide urgently needed resources to victims of domestic violence,” Merkley said. ■