

# Food Bank news

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 continuing COVID-19 coronavirus pandemic, the Food Bank will hold February food box distributions on Fridays from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

“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 limiting 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 is continuing the Farm Share Rx program with 35 farm shares being distributed from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Wednesdays. It is a first-come, first-served distribution until the shares are depleted.

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@mari-polkfoodshare.org for more information or to volunteer. ■

## Committee & Special Event Board meeting days and times

- **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 will be held at 10 a.m. Friday, Feb. 19, using the Zoom conferencing program. 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 4 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 in-person meetings have been suspended during the Tribe's reaction to the COVID-19 coronavirus pandemic.)



**2016** – Former Social Services Department Manager David Fullerton became the Tribal government's new general manager after an employment agreement was approved during a Tribal Council meeting. Fullerton began working for the Tribe in 2001 as an Indian Child Welfare caseworker. He managed the Social Services Department from December 2001 through late August 2015 when he was tapped to serve as interim general manager.

**2011** – Spirit Mountain Casino was named the new official sponsor of the Portland Rose Festival Grand Floral Parade. The casino and Portland Rose Festival Foundation signed a three-year deal, according to casino spokesman Greg Fritz. “The Tribe has ancestral ties to Portland,” Fritz said. “The Tribal board felt this was an important event that deserved support.”



2011

File photo

**2006** – The Grand Ronde Tribal Library was expanding and would soon be at capacity. Tribal Librarian Marion Mercier said that circulation had jumped from 884 to 3,025 items in one year. She noted one of the drivers of increased library usage was the Internet connection available to the public on library computers. Additionally, Mercier hosted programs that included weaving, a poetry recital, book club, summer reading incentive program, Native authors exhibit and Native storytelling.

**2001** – Spirit Mountain Community Fund awarded the Oregon Zoo Foundation a \$20,000 grant to fund the Birds of Prey outreach program. It was the second year the fund had provided support for the zoo's environmental education program that introduced predatory birds to 15,000 Willamette Valley students in Polk, Marion and Yamhill counties. “This grant will help the zoo serve children from rural communities throughout the Willamette Valley,” Community Fund Administrator Angela Ellis said.

**1996** – The Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde and Spirit Mountain Casino donated financial offerings left at the statue of Martha Jane Sands, located just inside the casino entrance, to local Head Start programs to assist in the education and development of children in need. Offerings to Sands totaled approximately \$1,500, which the casino matched. Donations began appearing at the bronze statue shortly after the casino opened in 1995.

**1991** – Tribal member Todd Dean Galindo, 20, of Yakima joined fellow Army soldiers in Iraq for the task of driving out Iraqi President Saddam Hussein and his Republican Guard forces from Kuwait. Galindo's tank unit was stationed in Saudi Arabia 18 miles from Kuwait's border where Hussein's army had invaded several months before.

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

## St. Michael's offers brunch

St. Michael's Catholic Church offers an open house brunch every Sunday following Mass. The brunch is free to the community. Brunch begins at about 11:30 a.m. following the 10:30 a.m. Mass. Mass attendance is not required for brunch attendance. For more information or for kitchen and hall rental, contact Janelle Justen at 503-550-0923. ■

### GRAND RONDE TRIBAL LIBRARY MAIL OUT LITERACY PACKET PROGRAM

The Tribal Library is excited to announce our literacy packet program to tribal members and descendants living outside the Grand Ronde area.

Registration February 1st- February 12th

We have **20** openings so early registration is encouraged. Tribal members and descendants accepted into the program will receive an email confirmation.

Each literacy packet will include activity sheets and a book. Packets will be mailed out once a month starting in February and going through April 30th

**SIGN UP AT THIS LINK**  
<http://bit.ly/mailoutpacket>



Please contact the library with any questions at  
kathy.cole@grandronde.org  
or call  
503-879-1488

