

Food Bank news

The Grand Ronde Food Bank – iskam mək^hmək 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@marionpolkfoodshare.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 mək^hmək 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 – Tribal Silviculture/Fire Protection Technician Jeremy Ojua and Tribal Silviculture/Fire Protection Supervisor Colby Drake had their photos featured in a new exhibit at Chachalu Tribal Museum & Cultural Center. “I had seen a lot of Jay and Colby’s pictures online,” exhibit curator and Tribal Artisan Travis Stewart



2016

File photo

said. “A lot of people who live out here tend to take how beautiful it is out here for granted and these guys have a way of putting it out there for you to see the beauty.” The photos featured many images that the two captured during their work outdoors.

2011 – The Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde filed a lawsuit in U.S. District Court in Washington, D.C., asking that a U.S. Department of the Interior decision to grant the Cowlitz Tribe reservation land near La Center, Wash., be vacated. The Tribe’s lawsuit said Grand Ronde is challenging the decision because “the land is not located within the Cowlitz Tribe’s aboriginal territory, is not historically or culturally significant to the Cowlitz, and would be taken in trust for a Tribe that was neither ‘recognized,’ or ‘under federal jurisdiction.’”

2006 – Tribal member Jan Reibach’s CD release “A New Day” was a finalist for the best New Age album in the fifth annual Independent Music Awards. The awards gave heightened visibility to artists who worked without a major label. Winners were selected from thousands of submissions from around the world, which represented the independent music community. “It is a great honor to be recognized by the IMA,” Reibach said. “The CD is really about cultures coming together, the old and the new. After all, music is a gift to all people.”

2001 – More than 25 Tribes attended the Affiliated Tribes of the Northwest Indians Winter Conference, including representatives from the Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde. “Honestly, I’ve gotten so much good information from all this,” Tribal Council member Butch LaBonte said. “And I’ve had fun, too.” In addition to Tribal representatives, several different agencies were on hand, including the Bureau of Indian Affairs, National Congress of American Indians and the Bonneville Power Administration. Tribal Council Chair Kathryn Harrison spoke during a lunch event, offering thanks to Rep. Elizabeth Furse and Sen. Mark O. Hatfield, longtime Tribal allies.

1996 – Tribal Council voted to purchase 12 acres of land adjacent to Spirit Mountain Casino on Highway 18. Tribal Council Chairman Mark Mercier said the council made a decision to purchase the land to keep private developers from acquiring the parcel. “The Tribal Council’s concern was if anyone else were to purchase it, there would be no control over what could be built there,” he said.

1991 – Tribal member Shonn Leno was off to a good start in wrestling after winning third place in the Pacific Open Tournament held in Forest Grove. There were approximately 350 to 400 other wrestlers in his bracket. Leno was a sophomore at Willamina High School and ranked second in the state at 106 pounds.

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

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED



Sheridan, SW Polk and West Valley Fire Districts are recruiting volunteers for fire response, emergency medical response, and support functions. Please see our websites for volunteer applications and instructions.

sheridanfd.org – swpolkfd.org – westvalleyfd.org