

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.”

The Food Bank will hold January food box distributions from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Fridays. In addition, there is a light food box (mostly bread and produce) distribution from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Wednesdays.

People must check in 15 minutes before closing to receive a food box on both days. 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@marionpolkfoodshare.org for more information or to volunteer. ■

POLK COUNTY WIC

Is now in Grand Ronde
for more information please call
503-623-8175 Ext 2297

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 10:30 a.m. Tuesday, Jan. 17. Chair: Mia Prickett. Contact: Editorial.Board@grandronde.org.
- **Education Committee** meets at 5:30 p.m. on the last 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: Daniel Ham.
- **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: Harold Lyon.
- **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 Tuesday 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.



2018 – Tribal member Lisa Watson became the first Native American female leader of the City Club of Portland when she was named president of the organization. She became involved with the civic organization four years earlier at the urging of friend and past club executive director, and Portland Mayor Sam Adams. She joined the board of directors two years



File photo

later. “We are working on becoming diverse in age, race, experience, socioeconomic and geographic areas, and education,” she said.

2013 – Tribal police hosted an active shooter training at the former Grand Ronde Middle School. Approximately 30 officers from state, county and local departments participated with simulated weapons to practice effective responses in the event of an actual school shooting. Several community members volunteered to be role players, such as injured or scared bystanders, for the scenarios.

2008 – New Tribal attorney Jennifer Biesack began working for the Tribe’s legal department, handling issues involving land, construction and housing. “Jenny is a welcome addition to the Tribal Attorney’s Office,” said Tribal staff attorney Lisa Bluelake. “She comes to us with a lot of experience, having previously worked as an in-house attorney for another Tribe. Her experience and personality complement the other attorneys in the office. It is a great fit.”

2003 – The Grand Ronde Tribe’s new residential community was under construction and expected to be complete by June. It was being built using federal money from the Department of Housing and Urban Development. The development was designed for moderate-income families and rent would not exceed 30 percent of income.

1998 – The Grand Ronde Tribe and Spirit Mountain Development Corp. announced plans to build a \$3.1 million retail and commercial center in Salem, and had entered into a partnership with Stew Stone of Prudential Commercial Services to help build the retail center. The project site would be located at the corner of Fairview Road and Commercial Street, and was intended to help the Tribe diversify its economic base and gain economic self-sufficiency for its members. “This project shows our confidence in Salem’s future and by working with Stew Stone, we will produce a high-quality retail center that benefits the entire community,” Tribal Council Chairwoman Kathryn Harrison said.

1993 – The Grand Ronde Tribal Council passed a Burial Ordinance that would provide a benefit for any deceased family member who was Tribal, a Tribal spouse, non-member child or parent. Adopted children were eligible for payment on the same basis as natural children. The Tribe would pay burial benefits up to a maximum of \$3,000 directly to the funeral service provider selected by the applicant.

1988 – Tribal Council Secretary Kathryn Harrison was the only Native American woman present at a brown bag luncheon with Oregon Gov. Neil Goldschmidt. He met with representatives from all over the state to discuss a wide variety of women’s issues. Harrison was selected to attend the meeting on behalf of the Oregon Commission on Indian Services, of which she was vice chair.

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

Grand Ronde Station offering gas discount

Grand Ronde Tribal members, as well as Tribal and Spirit Mountain Casino employees, can receive a 30-cent per gallon discount on gasoline at the Tribally owned Grand Ronde Station convenience store.

There are, however, a few rules. Tribal members and employees must go inside and show either their enrollment card or employee identification card to receive the discount.

“Your service to keeping the Tribe and casino operational have been invaluable,” General Manager David Fullerton said via e-mail in announcing the discount to governmental employees. “The Tribe wants to reward that commitment by helping you ease the burden of rising gas prices. ... We know that we have a number of employees commuting to and from Grand Ronde for work, and we are aware that rising gas prices create an additional hardship. We hope that this new system will make life a little easier.” ■