

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 February 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 a.m. Wednesday, Feb. 22. 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 – The Grand Ronde Tribe was well-represented at the Affiliated Tribes of Northwest Indians Winter Convention held in Portland. The annual event was an opportunity for meetings, discussion, presentations and committee work that affected policy, legislation and the future of Indian County in the Northwest.



File photo

Tribal Council Secretary Jon A. George led the invocation and Tribal Council Chairwoman Cheryle A. Kennedy welcomed attendees to the event. ATNI is comprised of 57 Northwest Tribal governments from Oregon, Idaho, Washington, Alaska, California and Montana.

2013 – The Grand Ronde Tribe drafted a letter expressing its “great alarm and concern” to University of Oregon President Michael Gottfredson regarding a restructuring that ended the contracts of three top diversity officers, including former Klamath Tribal Chairman Tom Ball. He had served as one of three assistant vice presidents in the university’s Office of Equity and Inclusion since 2005, and was the top Native American diversity administrator at the school.

2008 – The Tribe received a two-year grant from the Administration for Native Americans for the architectural schematic design of the Tribe’s planned museum and cultural center. The two-year project included surveying, soils analysis, wetland and archaeological site assessment, and preliminary interpretive design of exhibit space. The Tribe was prepared to provide \$52,000 in matching funds for the schematic design as part of its 20 percent match share, with most of the other funds coming from in-kind staff time spent on the project.

2003 – Native American rapper Litefoot rocked the house when he performed at the Grand Ronde Tribal gym. Litefoot had received many accolades during his career, including four Native American Music Awards. He said his main goal was to break down stereotypes of Native people. “My people don’t wear headdresses and we don’t ride horses,” he said.

1998 – The Tribe created the Hatfield Fellowship honoring U.S. Sen. Mark O. Hatfield for his accomplishments on behalf of the Tribe, Native Americans, Oregonians and all Americans. The fellowship also was created to honor the memory of Susan Long, who worked in Hatfield’s office during the Restoration era. The fellowship would enable a Native American to serve as a staff member of one of Oregon’s congressional delegation members. The fellow would act as a liaison between the congressional member and Tribes in Oregon, and advocate for Tribal issues.

1993 – Tribal member Neesha Grant of La Grande was crowned 1993 Grand Ronde Powwow queen. Her parents were Steve and Jackie Grant, and grandparents were David and Emma Leno. The 14-year-old enjoyed horseback riding, camping and being with friends. At school, she was a member of the marching band and student league organization. “I am honored to have the opportunity to represent the Tribe through the Grand Ronde Royalty program,” she said.

1988 – Chemawa High School students spoke about the importance of Elders and education while participating with Tribal leaders at the Affiliated Tribes of the Northwest Indians’ Winter Conference. The conference theme, “Our Children Are Our Future,” was discussed by Chemawa Assistant Principal Jake Bighorn, who urged students to be humble. The main focus of the conference was to have Northwest Tribes work on issues dealing with education, health, child welfare, natural resources, aging, culture and Tribal governance.

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

Tribe offering warming centers during winter

The Tribal Emergency Services Department recently announced its plan to activate a warming center if needed during the daytime hours at the Elders Activity Center if the temperature dips to 25 degrees or lower for more than four hours and there is a need for the center to open.

In addition, the plan includes a nighttime overnight center, but only for the hours from 8 p.m. to 7 a.m. at the Tribal gym if the temperature reaches 25 degrees or lower for more than four hours in duration.

If there is a need for either of the centers, people should call Emergency Preparedness Coordinator Brandy Bishop at 503-879-1837.■