

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 May 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. ■

Drop box installed

The Grand Ronde Tribal Police Department, 9655 Grand Ronde Road, has a medication drop box located in the front lobby.

Lobby hours are 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday.

The drop box is for any prescribed or over-the-counter medication. If the containers are too large to fit in the drop box, please repackage them in a zip-lock plastic bag. Tribal Police employees cannot handle the medications so the person dropping them off must repackage them.

Needles and liquids are not allowed in the drop box.

Tribal Police suggest mixing liquid medications with cat litter or coffee grounds and then throwing them away with the household trash.

For more information, call 503-879-1821. ■

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 10:30 a.m. Friday, May 19, at Chachalu Museum & Cultural Center, 8720 Grand Ronde Road. 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: Carmen Robertson.
- **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: Darlene Aaron.
- **Housing Grievance Board** meets at 4 p.m. the third Thursday of the month in the Housing Department conference room. Chair: Shayla Myrick-Meyer.
- **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 – After a year of competition with the only other Tribal casino in the Portland-Vancouver gaming market, Ilani, the Grand Ronde Tribe’s landmark Spirit Mountain Casino continued to exceed revenue expectations. Original estimates of what the competition would do to Spirit Mountain Casino revenue and the dividend sent to the Grand Ronde Tribe for governmental operations and important programs such as Elders’ pensions, educational funding and health care were, at times, dire. Although gaming revenue was originally projected to decrease by 38.8 percent per year, it only ended up being 18.8 percent.

2013 – The Tribe mounted a new exhibit at the Willamette Heritage Center at the The Mill in Salem. “We Were Here First ... and We Are Here to Stay: Assimilation, Termination and Restoration of the Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde Community of Oregon” took visitors through the 1850s Treaty Era to the Termination Era of the 1950s to the Tribe’s prepara-



2013

File photo

tion for its 30th anniversary of being restored. “We were told a long time ago that you’re going to have to tell your history over and over again,” Tribal Elder Kathryn Harrison said. The exhibit was curated by Land and Culture Department Exhibits and Archives Program staff members David Lewis, Julie Brown and Veronica Montano.

2008 – The Oregon Fish and Wildlife Commission approved a rule change that returned big-game hunting rights for cultural ceremonies to Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde members. The Tribe had been working to regain the rights after losing them. “A great day ... a historic day,” said Tribal Council Vice Chair Reyn Leno. “I wish every Tribal member knew what was going on here today.” The new ceremonial game hunting rights applied in the Trask Wildlife Management Unit where Tribal members had hunted since time immemorial and during state-sanctioned hunting seasons since Restoration.

2003 – New Spirit Mountain Casino Chief Executive Officer Douglas Pattison brought a range of gaming experience with him when he was hired to the casino’s top job. “His talents are what we are looking for,” Tribal Council Chairwoman Cheryl A. Kennedy said. Pattison had most recently served as chief executive officer of the Silver Star Hotel and Casino owned by the Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians, and had also worked at casinos in Atlantic City and Memphis.

1998 – Language specialist Tony Johnson was featured for his development of a Chinuk Wawa archive of written and audio materials. He was pursuing a master’s degree in linguistics at the University of Oregon when he was recruited as a language specialist by the Grand Ronde Culture Board. He decided that establishment of a language program archive was an essential first step.

1993 – The Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde announced its intent to open a gaming facility on Tribal land. Tribal officials contacted Oregon Gov. Barbara Roberts, requesting that a contract be drawn up between it and the state of Oregon, as required by the Indian Gaming Regulatory Act of 1988. “We are very concerned about sustaining financial support for our programs,” Tribal Council Chairman Mark Mercier said. “Opening a facility that taps Oregon’s growing tourism industry makes us less susceptible to the uncertain future of the timber industry and anticipated budget cuts.”

1988 – *Smoke Signals* honored its first Tribal veteran in the newspaper, selecting Tribal Council member Russ Leno, who joined the Air Force at the age of 18 and served a two-year tour of duty in Japan from 1945-47. He was an eyewitness to the devastation caused by the dropping of atomic bombs on the cities of Hiroshima and Nagasaki. “I rode a train right down the middle of the whole thing,” he said. “I took a bunch of pictures, but they wouldn’t let you keep them. All my bothers had served, so it was natural for me to go.”

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



Are you frustrated with your diabetes control?

Do you have questions about diabetes?

Do you need help managing your diabetes?

If so...

Call the Medical Clinic today at 503-879-2002

To schedule an individual diabetes education appointment