

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 June 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. Wednesday, June 21, 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 – Tribal Elder Steve Bobb Sr., 69, finally received a Willamina High School diploma during the class of 2018 graduation ceremony. Bobb was on track to graduate 51 years earlier, but dropped out three months shy of earning his diploma after he and two friends were suspended for tampering with a fire alarm. As a veteran, Bobb was eligible to be awarded the diploma and Willamina



2018

File photo

staff worked with his wife of more than 50 years, Connie, to surprise him.

2013 – The Tribe continued its effort to amend the Grand Ronde Reservation Act and streamline how the Tribe took land into trust with Tribal Council Chairman Reyn Leno making his second appearance in Washington, D.C., in less than a year to testify in favor of H.R. 841. The legislation was introduced by Oregon Rep. Kurt Schrader and sought to end the two-step process that required the Tribe take each piece of former Reservation land into trust with approval from the Bureau of Indian Affairs and then request the land be designated Reservation land by Congress. The legislation would allow the Tribe to streamline the process.

2008 – The Memorial Day ceremony in Grand Ronde included a keynote speech from then-Gov. Ted Kulongoski at the West Valley Veterans Memorial. Approximately 50 Tribal and family members and veterans from across the West Valley gathered for the event. It was also the first Tribal ceremony held with fresh ceremonial meat.

2003 – Seven gates were installed to protect forests on the Grand Ronde Reservation during high fire hazard days. “We’ve got \$180 million plus worth of timber,” Natural Resources Manager Pete Wakeland said. “We’re putting a lot of our timber resources at risk if we’re not closing down during high fire danger.”

1998 – Tribal Information Day was celebrated at the State Capitol building with a proclamation presented by Oregon Secretary of State Phil Keisling to kick off the day set aside for Oregon citizens to learn firsthand about Tribal culture, history and community programs. Traditional dancers and drummers attended the event, and Tribes also provided informational tables. Tribal leaders said that the proclamation honoring Oregon Indian nations was a significant recognition of Indigenous sovereignty.

1993 – The first year of the Tribe’s Head Start program wrapped up and was touted as the “first of its kind” in Grand Ronde. It was developed in conjunction with the Yamhill Community Action Program of McMinnville. Nineteen children attended the program, which was staffed by teacher Angela Bedortha, assistant teacher Mary Cook and family services advocate June Olson.

1988 – A harmful 1950s-era Termination policy, H.R. 108, was repealed by Congress as part of an education reauthorization bill passed by the House of Representatives and Senate. The 1953 policy led to an era of Termination amongst Native American Tribes. Eventually, most of the Tribes that were terminated under the policy were restored to their former status as federally recognized Tribes, but the policy remained on the books for years longer.

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

RABBI TRUST FUND AND MINORS’ CUSTODIAL TRUST FUND

This announcement is to inform you of the upcoming election opportunity to recommend an investment option that best suits your tolerance for investment risk. The election deadline is June 22, 2023, and the investment period will be effective from July 1, 2023, until modified.

Recognizing that each Tribal member’s tolerance for investment risk may be different, parents of minor members age 17 or younger having balances in the Rabbi Trust Fund and Minors’ Custodial Trust Fund, or members age 18 or older can recommend that these funds be invested in one out of five possible investment options.

Please e-mail deanne.norton@grandronde.org or call 503-879-2215 to receive your Investment Risk Assessment Recommendation Form. This is optional and open only to those who participate in the Rabbi and Minors’ Custodial Trust Funds. ■