

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 July 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 a.m. Thursday, July 20, remotely via Zoom. 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 and Marine Corps veteran Reyn Leno and Tribal Elder and Army veteran Raymond Petite gifted Army veteran Ken Kraft with a Wounded Warrior Project blanket during the Marcellus Norwest Memorial Veterans Powwow held at the úyxat Powwow Grounds. Kraft lost a leg during a mortar attack while he was serving in Baghdad in 2005. He also was gifted a pillow. Both items were created by Tribal Elder Evelyn Seidel and her husband, Leo.



2018 File photo

2013 – Former Hatfield Fellow Francene Ambrose joined the Tribal Council office as an administrative assistant. She was the Grand Ronde Tribe’s 2008 Hatfield Fellow, working in the office of Sen. Ron Wyden. “I felt like this was my opportunity to give back to the Tribe in a meaningful way after they provided me with a scholarship and a wonderful fellowship,” she said.

2008 – Construction on Grand Ronde Road was set to begin in August and included widening the road to add bicycle lanes and sidewalks on the east side of the Yamhill River bridge to allow for safe pedestrian travel. Roadside ditches were to be replaced with storm sewers to make room for the roadway widening.

2003 – Tribal member Bobby Mercier traveled with a delegation of Tribal members to New York City for an annual ceremony with Tomanowos at the American Museum of Natural History. He was asked to perform the private ceremony. Those who attended said that they felt humbled to be in the presence of a sacred Tribal object.

1998 – Oregon Rep. Darlene Hooley toured several Tribal offices, accompanied by Tribal Council Chairwoman Kathryn Harrison and Tribal Council member Chip Tom. Additionally, former Sen. Mark Hatfield led a delegation of entrepreneurs and doctors who met with the Tribal Council with a proposal to tackle the spiraling diabetes epidemic in Grand Ronde. Hatfield, an honorary chairman of the Omega Point Foundation, outlined a proposal to create a community-based diabetes education program that would be managed by the foundation.

1993 – Tribal member Bruce Thomas accepted the position of Spirit Mountain Development Corp. general manager. Thomas, a lawyer, also had a master’s degree in business from Willamette University. “The first thing we’re going to focus on is getting our offices organized and ready to conduct business,” he said. “Chris Leno and Tammy Cook have done a good job working independently, so it shouldn’t take long.” Another immediate goal was to plan and develop the property purchased from the Zimbrick family earlier in the year along Highway 18 near the Spirit Mountain offices.

1988 – Tribal veteran Joseph Mercier was featured in a *Smoke Signals* article that detailed his service in World War II. Mercier served from 1943 to 1945 in the Pacific Theater, where he fought in six landings in the Philippines at different villages where the Japanese forces were hiding. “Gen. MacArthur drove by us once,” he said. “I think he was a pretty smart guy. Instead of landing on the beaches head on, he would have us land on the trails in between villages. Then, we would set up machine guns and hit them as they came along the narrow trails.”

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



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