

Food Bank news

The Grand Ronde Food Bank – iskam məḥmək 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 December 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. The upcoming holidays may affect distribution dates.

Contact Ambrose at fambrose@marionpolkfoodshare.org or call 503-879-3663 for more information.

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. Contact Ambrose for more information or to volunteer. ■

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 11 a.m. Friday, Dec. 15, at Spirit Mountain Casino: 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: Reyn Leno.
- **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 Smoke Signals Editor
Danielle Harrison at 503-879-4663 or danielle.harrison@grandronde.org.*

Clothes Closet open

The Clothes Closet is open from 9 a.m. to noon Friday on the Tribal campus near the Elders Activity Center at the end of Blacktail Drive.

The Clothes Closet accepts clothing, small appliances and pieces of furniture, electronics and household goods that are clean and in good condition. It does not accept books, large TVs or furniture, but there is a community board where people can post those items.

For more information or emergency clothes, contact Lori Walker-Hernandez at 559-847-7565. ■

YESTERYEARS | A LOOK BACK...



2018 File photo

2018 – The 35th Restoration Celebration drew 400 to Spirit Mountain Casino, including all Tribal Council members, Gov. Kate Brown and former Rep. Les AuCoin. Tribal Council Secretary Jon A. George announced a life-sized bronze statue honoring Merle Holmes, Marvin

Kimsey and Margaret Provost would be created by Steve Bobb Sr. and placed in front of the Governance Center. “The three key Restoration Elders have since walked on – Kimsey and Provost earlier this year,” George said. Tribal Council Chairwoman Cheryle A. Kennedy urged young people to talk to Elders who experienced Termination by the federal government in 1954.

2013 – The Tribe’s Land and Culture staff hosted the first annual history conference with Tribal Historian David Lewis. “We’ve come a long way from our 2.5-acre cemetery,” Tribal Council Vice Chair Jack Giffen Jr. said in opening remarks to 150 attendees. Tribal Archaeologist Briece Edwards discussed cultural connections in ceded lands. Attendees included faculty from several universities, Willamette National Forest, the Army Corps of Engineers, the Oregon Historical Society, Oregon Geographic Names Board and the Willamette Falls Heritage Area Coalition.

2008 – The 25th anniversary of Restoration chronicled the early days of Tribal members meeting in churches, restaurants and Chemawa Indian School. The Temporary Council of the Grand Ronde Indians in 1975 included Marvin Kimsey, Merle Holmes, Margaret Provost, Patti Martin, Vicki Lawrence, Darrell Mercier, Russ Leno, Les Houck and Ken Hudson. On Dec. 7, 1975, the Council Treasurer noted a balance of \$2.27 and Holmes received a letter from Sen. Bob Packwood.

2003 – The Willamina High School girls' volleyball team, led by Tribal youth, made the state playoffs held at Pacific University in Forest Grove. This was only the second time in the school's history that this happened. The team went on to place fourth in the 2A division.

1998 – In its first business foray into the Portland area, the Tribe invested \$3.7 million in a \$44 million transit-friendly housing, retail and office project. It included 480 dwellings, a child care facility and community center. Located near the MAX line in southeast Portland, the housing complex would include 40 percent affordable housing. “Our ancestors lived where Portland is now and many of our Tribal members still live there,” Tribal Council Chairwoman Kathryn Harrison said. “We’re proud to help build good housing that people can afford.”

1993 – The 10th anniversary of Tribal Restoration included a mini powwow at Grand Ronde grade school. Special guests included former Rep. Les AuCoin, who introduced the Grand Ronde Restoration Bill to Congress in 1983, his wife Sue, Don Wharton of the Native American Rights Fund, and State Sen. Dick Springer. Powwow Committee Chairman Merle Leno, his wife Claudia and Janell Haller were recognized for their many years of services and for organizing the event.

1988 – A higher education and career awareness workshop, sponsored by the Tribe's education program, was held at the Nazarene Church in Grand Ronde. Participating colleges included Western Oregon State College, Eastern Oregon State College, the University of Oregon, Portland State University and Chemeketa Community College.

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

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. ■