

# Food Bank news

The Grand Ronde Food Bank – iskam mək<sup>h</sup>mək 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 January 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](http://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 email 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 at 503-879-3663 or [fambrose@marionpolkfoodshare.org](mailto:fambrose@marionpolkfoodshare.org) 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 mək<sup>h</sup>mək haws, 9675 Grand Ronde Road. Chair: Francene Ambrose.
- **Editorial Board** meets monthly. The next meeting will be in February. Chair: Mia Prickett. Contact: [Editorial.Board@grandronde.org](mailto: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 first and 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](mailto:danielle.harrison@grandronde.org).



**2019** – Tribal Council approved a memorandum of understanding with the city of Salem, which is in the area ceded in the Willamette Valley Treaty of 1855. Salem also designated Jan. 22 as Willamette Valley Treaty Commemoration Day. Tribes and bands represented by the signing of the 1855 treaty, ratified two months later, included the Kalapuya, Santiam, Tualatin, Yamhill, Ahanchuyuk, Mary’s River (Chelamela), Mohawk, Winfelly, Calapooia, Northern Molalla, Santiam Molalla and Clackamas Chinook (Clowewalla, Watlala and Multnomah).

**2014** – Tribal Ceded Lands Program Manager Michael Karnosh, Tribal Planner Rick George and Tribal Land and Culture Department Manager Jan Reibach updated the membership on the Tribe’s ceded lands plan at a General Council meeting. The land ceded by the Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde in seven treaties signed in the 1850s totaled more than 13 million acres,



2014

File photo

covering most of western Oregon, parts of southwestern Washington and northern California. The ceded lands plan was a direct result of the 2010 Tribal Strategic Plan, which sought to assert Grand Ronde rights in its ceded lands and educate the public about these lands. The Ceded Lands Program, created by the Tribe in 2007, became part of the Land and Culture Department in 2013.

**2009** – Cultural Resources Department Manager and Tribal member David Lewis prepared a 500-page dissertation, “The Termination of the Confederated Tribes of the Grand Ronde of Oregon,” earning a doctorate from University of Oregon. Lewis thanked Tribal Elders Don Day, Pat Allen, Tribal Council Chairwoman Cheryle A. Kennedy and the Tribe’s Education Department for their ongoing support. His journey through higher education spanned 22 years, beginning in 1987. He was one of the first Tribal members to earn a doctorate.

**2004** – Grand Ronde Postmaster Phil Burris, a Cherokee-Choctaw Tribal member and Navy veteran, took care of 328 post office boxes and two letter carriers who delivered mail to 360 addresses in Grand Ronde. Burris began his Postal Service career in 1981 and planned to stay in Grand Ronde until retirement. He arrived early every morning to raise the U.S. flag and lowered it every night. He even slept at the post office during an ice storm to open it on time the next day.

**1999** – Alaska Native Ted Mala was hired in December as the Tribe’s new executive officer. Mala grew up in a northwest Alaskan village and attended boarding schools. He earned a bachelor’s degree in philosophy and master’s degree in public health from Harvard, becoming a member of the Association of American Indian Physicians. He was a professor and director of the University of Alaska Public Health Institute before coming to Grand Ronde, and also served as the secretary of health for the Alaska governor’s office.

**1994** – The Tree of Giving, sponsored by the Tribal Social Services Department, and coordinated by Mychal Childers and April Howren, was a “huge success” during its second year. More than 60 Tribal, staff and community members participated to help children with special needs have a Merry Christmas.

**1989** – Tribal Council established a Tribal burial fund, which covered Tribal members and their immediate families, and designated council member Merle Holmes to administer the fund. The burial fund would be paid for through Tribal timber revenues.

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

The Confederated  
Tribes of Grand Ronde  
**COMMITTEE SUMMIT**



COMMITTEE SUMMIT

Thursday, March 14, 2024  
5:30 to 8 p.m.

Dinner Provided

Spirit Mountain Casino

For questions please contact:  
[Shannon.Ham-Teixeira@grandronde.org](mailto:Shannon.Ham-Teixeira@grandronde.org)



Ad by Samuel Briggs III

# Kick the Habit.

Call these numbers for free from anywhere in Oregon:  
1-800-QUIT-NOW (1-800-784-8669)

Español: 1-877-2NO-FUME (1-877-266-3863)

TTY: 1-877-777-6534

Or register online at: [www.quitnow.net/oregon/](http://www.quitnow.net/oregon/)