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 September 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. There will be no distribution on Friday, Sept. 27, due to Tribal offices being closed for National Native American Day.

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 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 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 as needed 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, Sept. 13, via Zoom. Contact Chair Mia Prickett at Editorial.Board@grandronde.org for the meeting link.
- **Education Committee** meets at 5:30 p.m. on the last Tuesday of the month in the Adult Education building. Interim Chair: Valeria Atanacio.
- **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 3 p.m. the third Thursday of the month in the Housing Department conference room. Chair: Harris Reibach.
- **Powwow Special Event Board** meets as needed at the Community Center. Dates vary. Contact Dana Ainam at 503-879-2037. Chair: Dana Ainam.
- **TERO Commission** meets at 10 a.m. the second 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. Chair: Jon R. George.
- **Veterans Special Event Board** meets at 5:30 p.m. the first Tuesday of the month in the Quenelle House. Chair: Raymond Petite.

To update information on this list, contact Smoke Signals Editor Danielle Harrison at 503-879-4663 or danielle.harrison@grandronde.org.

Construction zone

Now through Dec. 31, 2024, construction is occurring for the new child development center. During this time, there will be construction traffic using the loop road around the old powwow grounds across the street from the Governance Center.

The road surrounding the old powwow grounds will have restricted access to allow the contractor adequate space to access the site, as well as store materials and equipment.

For more information, contact 503-879-2404 or Ryan.Webb@grandronde.org. ■

2019 File photo

2019 – The Tribe closed on its purchase of the Blue Heron Paper Mill site from Washington developer George Heidgerken, returning the land to Indigenous ownership for the first time since it was ceded to the federal government in 1855. The Charcowah Village of the Clowewalla and the Kosh-huk-shix Village of Clackamas were forcibly removed from the falls to the Grand Ronde Reservation in the 1850s.

2014 – The Tribe heard a report on the use of the Spirit Mountain Community Fund grant and remaining funds from a National Endowment for the Arts grant, to integrate Tribal basketry traditions and language, as one of the Tribe's cultural heritage preservation projects. The Tribe also published three children's books about how to weave cedar bark baskets.

2009 – Tribal members were hard at work finishing the new plankhouse near the uxyat Powwow Grounds at Fort Yamhill State Heritage Area. They hoped to finish the work in the fall.

2004 – The state's first Indian Housing Fair took place at the Chemawa Indian School in Salem, highlighting housing opportunities for the state's Indigenous residents.

1999 – Tribal member Mark Grosser and his wife, Patti, expanded their Salem tattoo business to add a career school teaching the art of tattooing.

1994 – The Tribe was working closely with the Bureau of Indian Affairs and U.S. Fish and Wildlife experts to preserve a population of Nelson's checker-mallow, a threatened species native to Oregon, that had been growing in the construction site for Spirit Mountain Casino. Existing plants were incorporated into a nature walk with educational materials on the area's native grasslands. Some plants were moved to establish a new population, and the Tribe began controlling bush and noxious weeds at a third site, to encourage expansion of another checker-mallow population.

1989 – The Tribe updated its burial fund regulations, placing the duties of administering the fund under the cemetery committee, and adding some additional rules.

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

Tribal nonemergency text line

The Grand Ronde Tribal Police Department has a nonemergency text line at 541-921-2927.

"If you have a nonemergency situation or question, feel free to contact my officer via text through this line," said Grand Ronde Tribal Police Chief Jake McKnight.

McKnight said that emergency situations still require calling 911.

For more information, contact McKnight at 503-879-1474. ■