

Health care hero

Dr. Randy Blome honored for Hep C campaign

By Danielle Frost
Smoke Signals staff writer

A local medical professional’s efforts at Hepatitis C prevention have been recognized on a national level. Randy Blome, a Grand Ronde Health & Wellness Center doctor, was honored by the National Indian Health Board at the annual Heroes in Health Awards gala held on Wednesday, Sept. 19, in Oklahoma City.

The award recognizes individuals or organizations whose work has affected change or health care on the local or Tribal level.

Blome was notified last month that he would be honored for the award. When contacted, he was quick to recognize his coworkers.

“We are making a big impact and I am extremely proud of that,” Blome said. “I am proud of how many people here at the clinic have worked so hard and that together we are doing such wonderful work.”

Health Services Executive Director Kelly Rowe said Blome is helping to change the health of the Tribe.

“I’m very thankful for Dr. Blome’s enthusiasm and commitment to eliminating Hep C from our patient population,” she said. “The program he has championed has already impacted several Tribal members, who have been able to access the cure for Hep C. Dr. Blome is truly a hero in health care and changing the health of the Tribe.”

He created a Hepatitis C Elimination



Randy Blome

nation Program at the clinic and organized a promotional event that was held on May 18. Blome also recorded a podcast with *Smoke Signals* to

promote the event. Blome was the only doctor working for an Oregon Tribe who was honored with an award at the event, joining others from across the country. He said since the Tribe’s Hepatitis C program is going strong and that people are being cured, focus is needed on helping those with addiction issues. “Most all of the new cases of Hep C are from intravenous drug use,” Blome said. “Our (drug and alcohol) counselors do a wonderful job, but we would like to see Suboxone become an option here for those struggling with addiction.” Suboxone is a prescription medicine that contains buprenorphine and naloxone, used to treat adults who are opioid dependent. Blome also has been working at the state level to increase awareness of Hepatitis C and to help change state policy to make the new medications more widely available. ■

Certified Application Assisters at the Health & Wellness Center

Cheyeanne Zimmer is now available to assist with re-certification and applications for the Oregon Health Plan. She can be reached at 503-879-1359 or cheyeanne.zimmer@grandronde.org.

Leah Bailey also is a Certified Application Assister available to help. She can be reached at 503-879-2197 or leah.bailey@grandronde.org. ■

History and Culture 2018 SUMMIT

The Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde

Join us!

October 24-25

LOCATION // Grand Ronde, OR
www.grandronde.org/hcsummit

ikta pus mamunk

AGENDA

Day 1 | October 24

ilap ikta pus muk REGISTRATION
8:00 – 8:30 AM | Tribal Gym
chxi-san mek'mek {breakfast}

muk-+ush uk ilil'i ilap OPENING
8:30-9:00 am | Tribal Gym

wawa lu?lu PRESENTATIONS
9:00 – 11:30 AM | Tribal Gym

katsaq-san mek'mek LUNCH
11:30 – 1:00 PM | Tribal Gym

xilem+ lu?lu WORKING CIRCLES
1:00 – 4:00 PM |
 Tribal Gym {k'anawi lu?lu? OAK PATH}

Chachalu {kenim-stik lu?lu? CEDAR PATH}
chaku k'anumakwst NETWORKING
4:00 – 5:15 PM | Chachalu
{Poster Presentations}

mek'mek tin tin DINNER
5:30 – 8:00 PM | Achaf Hammi
{9600 Hebo Rd. Grand Ronde, OR}

Day 2 | October 25

ilap ikta pus muk REGISTRATION
8:00 – 8:30 AM | Tribal Gym
chxi-san mek'mek {breakfast}

muk-+ush uk ilil'i ilap OPENING
8:30-9:00 am | Tribal Gym

wawa lu?lu PRESENTATIONS
9:00 – 11:30 AM | Tribal Gym

katsaq-san mek'mek LUNCH
11:30 – 1:00 PM | Tribal Gym

xilem+ lu?lu WORKING CIRCLES
1:00 – 4:00 PM |
 Tribal Gym {kenim-stik lu?lu? CEDAR PATH}

Chachalu {k'anawi lu?lu? OAK PATH}
4axayam CLOSE
4:00 – 4:20 PM |
 Tribal Gym {lu?lu? kenim-stik CEDAR PATH}

Chachalu {lu?lu? k'anawi OAK PATH}

History and Culture 2018 SUMMIT
The Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde

Sponsored by: The Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde
Parks and Recreation Program
Presented by the Willamette Valley Mushroom Society

Mushroom Seminar

Tuesday, Oct. 16, 2018
1p.m.
Elders Activity Center

Participants will learn how to identify many edible mushrooms, including chanterelle mushrooms, and will be provided suggestions on where to find them.

There will be dessert, door prizes and a display of mushrooms that have been picked locally.

For more information, contact Jerry Bailey 503-879-2337

EVERYONE IS WELCOME TO JOIN US