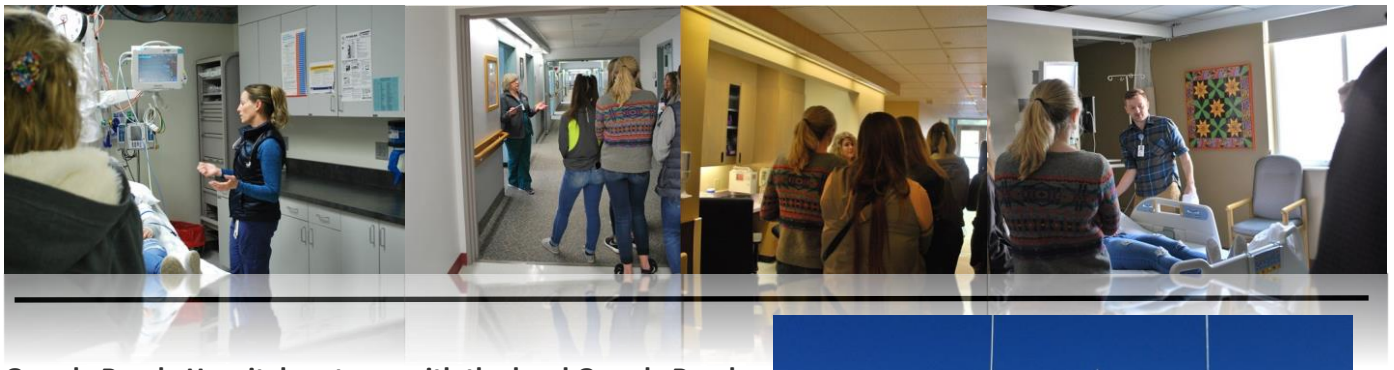
Students from Imbler High School were led by Nikkita Titus and Katelyn Winkler through a multi-department tour of GRH. Employees shared their knowledge and passion with the students and provided multiple behind the scenes demonstrations. The students proved to be engaged and were able to have all of their questions answered by our wonderful staff. Thank you to GRH for opening the door to our younger generations interested in learning the many sides of healthcare!



Grande Ronde Hospital partners with the local Grande Ronde Radio Amateur Association (GRRAA) by housing equipment that would function as a communication tool in the event of a major disruption of daily communications. HAM radios have proven to be effective tools to provide communication when the big communication grids go down. On top of the third floor of the hospital is a communication room. In that room are the repeaters for ambulance traffic, GRH IT communications, television reception and the Grande Ronde Radio Amateur Associations repeater.

In 1991, now retired Technical Services employee Ted Ivester approached Jim Mattes, CEO, about the local HAM club putting a HAM repeater in the communications tower at the hospital. Dr. Judge Hicks, retired physician, donated the equipment to establish the W7GRA repeater. The GRRAA repeater can locally reach the entire Grande Ronde Valley. Worldwide communication can be achieved, even the space station if you time it right.

If you are a licensed HAM radio operator, Technical Services would love to know, you may be able to help in the case of an emergency. If you are interested in becoming licensed or learning about HAM radio check out the W7GRA website. Website: http://w7gra.org/ Local contact: Tyson.brooks5@frontier.com

***From the website**: The Grande Ronde Radio Amateur Association (GRRAA) is an organization for those interested in amateur radio. Amateur Radio Operators (also known as "hams"), are licensed by the FCC to operate amateur radio communications for personal enjoyment and for emergency communications. The GRRAA has been granted a call sign by the FCC of W7GRA. We use this call sign for official club functions like Field day or other amateur radio events.*

***The purposes of GRRAA**: Prepare for emergency communications needs of our community; Provide interesting and meaningful programs and education to the organization members; Promote the hobby and service that is amateur radio to our community.*

Submitted by: Elaine LaRochelle, Facilities Director