

Ballots must be returned by March 22

AMENDMENT continued from front page

requirements. Applicants also must meet the five-year relinquishment requirement if they enrolled in another Tribe.

Tribal Council was encouraged to move the proposed amendment forward by a positive September advisory vote. Tribal voters favored a similarly worded proposal 839 to 365, for a 69.7 percent majority. To amend the Tribal Constitution, two-thirds of those voting must approve of the change.

Only two proposed constitutional amendment changes have ever received sufficient yes votes to pass – the July 1999 enrollment requirements that created the split-sibling situation and the February 2008 proposal to increase the relinquishment period from one to five years.

Other constitutional amendment proposals have either failed to garner the two-thirds majority mandated by the Tribal Constitution or have been outright defeated.

Since the election is being supervised by the BIA, Tribal members wanting to vote on the issue had to specially register. The BIA still supervises Grand Ronde constitutional amendment elections because a proposal to remove the federal government from the process was defeated 381-230 in 2015.

Two-thirds of those who vote will have to approve for the amendment



To hear Social Media/Digital Journalist Jennifer Clark's report on the upcoming constitutional amendment election, visit www.speaker.com and search for "Smoke Signals podcasts" or follow the link on Smoke Signals' Facebook page.

to pass, as well as 30 percent of those who registered – 388 – must cast a ballot for the election to count. In the last three constitutional amendment elections, turnout has not been an issue with an average of 61.3 percent of those who registered to vote eventually casting ballots.

Ballots are scheduled to be mailed to Tribal members who registered on Friday, March 1, and must be returned by Friday, March 22, to count.

The registered voter list can be viewed at <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1cWdnz90ySZ-8ALkestT-C0MsCg6-uUr0/view> ■

Elder Valentines



Photos by Timothy J. Gonzalez

Tribal member Linda and Cecil Donahue (Kiowa, Pima, Maricopa) posed in the kissing booth during the Valentine's Day lunch held at the Elders Activity Center on Thursday, Feb. 14.

Visit Smoke Signals' facebook page to see more photos



Tribal Council member Jack Giffen Jr., second from left, joins in the Valentine's Day lunch held at the Elders Activity Center.

Tribe receives \$250,000 transit grant

The Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde was notified on Wednesday, Feb. 13, that it is the recipient of a \$250,000 Federal Transit Administration grant that will help purchase two buses for an upcoming Dallas route.

The award was part of \$5 million awarded to American Indian and Alaska Native governments under the Tribal Transit Program that supports 36 projects in 14 states.

Tribal Transit grants are designed to help connect Tribal residents with jobs, school, health care and other community services. ■



Constitutional Amendment Election



March 13 - Educational Meeting
(5:30 P.M. – Dinner Provided) Eugene, OR
Lane Community College Longhouse,
4000 E. 30th Ave., Eugene

Ad created by George Valdez

RISE OF THE COLLECTORS

June 5, 2018 - May 17, 2019
Tuesday - Friday 10am - 4pm

Chachalu Museum & Cultural Center is pleased to present *Rise of the Collectors*. This exhibit will feature items collected at Grand Ronde shortly after the establishment of the reservation. These objects, on loan from the British Museum and Oregon Historical Society offer us a deeper understanding of our ancestors and their resiliency at a critical point in history.



