

Tribal Halloween scenes
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Membership votes to limit disenrollments

By Dean Rhodes

Smoke Signals editor

Tribal voters decisively approved only the third change to the Tribal Constitution since 1983's Restoration during the Nov. 2 election that will limit future disenrollments to only cases of fraud and dual enrollment.

Of the 679 Tribal members who voted, 516 approved the amendment for a 75.99 percent approval rate, which surpassed the Tribal Con-

stitution's requirement of two-thirds approval. Only 163 Tribal members voted "no."

Of the 858 Tribal members who registered to vote in the Bureau of Indian Affairs-run election, 679, or 79.1 percent, voted. At least 30 percent of those who registered had to cast a ballot for the results to count.

About 20 percent of all adult Tribal members registered to vote in the Nov. 2 constitutional amendment election. During the recent Septem-

ber Tribal Council election, there were approximately 4,400 adult Tribal members.

"This is a big day," said Tribal Council Vice Chair Chris Mercier during a special Nov. 2 Tribal Council meeting, adding that the result will alleviate fear among Tribal members that they one day might be the subject of disenrollment

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Wahoo Yahoo!

Company taps Tribal member to design logo

By Kamiah Koch

Social media/digital journalist

The Internet company Yahoo rolled out a new logo on Tuesday, Nov. 1, featuring bright colors and an artistic style the Grand Ronde community may recognize.

Grand Ronde Tribal member and artist Steph Littlebird was approached by Yahoo over the social media app Instagram to re-design the logo in honor of Native American Heritage Month.

Littlebird, who grew in Oregon and currently resides in Las Vegas, says Yahoo redesigns the logo for heritage and identity recognition months, working with artists from that respective community.

"It's something that they do throughout the year and I was really honored to be asked," Littlebird says.

The logo Littlebird was commissioned to design uses Native American patterns local to the Willamette Valley area, as well as other patterns she researched, to fill up the space within the lettering. The last "O" features a Native woman and her baby wrapped in a blanket, which is currently Yahoo's avatar on all its social media platforms.

According to Littlebird, Yahoo mainly let her take creative control of the design, which made her feel appreciated as an artist.

"It's cool when I get to do these crossover projects, where I get to do a little bit of design but still be my artist-self," she says.

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Graphic by Steph Littlebird

Levine participates in Indian Child Welfare Act panel



Photo by Timothy J. Gonzalez

By Danielle Harrison

Smoke Signals assistant editor/staff writer

SALEM — Grand Ronde Tribal member Nicomi Levine said her work as an Indian Child Welfare Act unit supervisor with the state of Oregon is far more than a

job to her.

"I work for the Oregon Department of Human Services, but I'm also a mom and grand-

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Nicomi Levine, a Grand Ronde Tribal member and Indian Child Welfare Act unit supervisor for the Oregon Department of Human Services, center, is joined by Attorney Lea Ann Easton, left, and Oregon Department of Health Services' Office of Tribal Affairs Director Adam Becenti during the Oregon Department of Human Services' "Complex Conversation" event held at Willamette University on Wednesday, Nov 2. The conversation concerned the Haaland v. Brackeen case that is before the Supreme Court and seeks to declare the Indian Child Welfare Act unconstitutional.