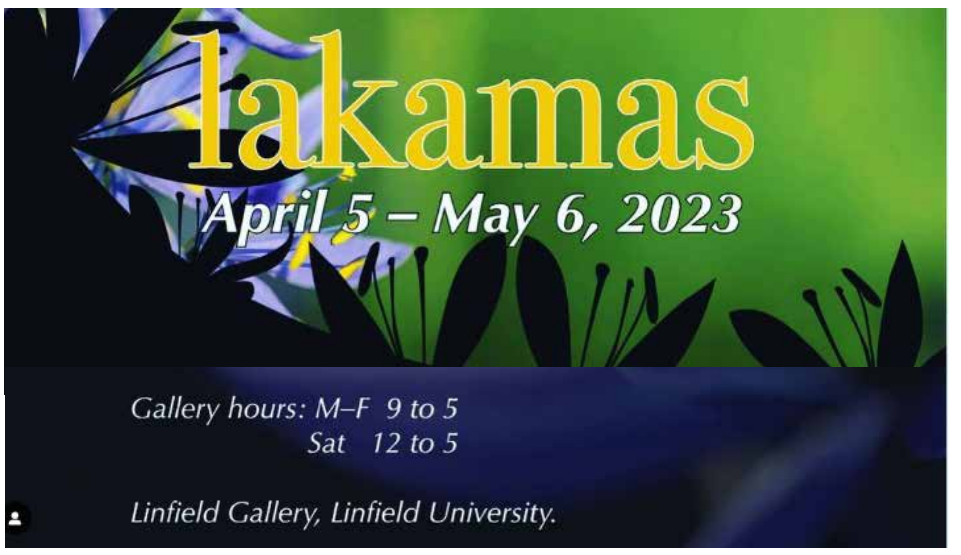
Blanket farewells

Photo by Michelle Alaimo

Tribal Council member Jon A. George goes to hug Amber Mercier, left, Tribal Youth Prevention manager, after she and Julie Singer, Tribal Social Security/Disability consultant, were gifted blankets in the Tribal Community Center on Tuesday, April 25. Mercier is leaving the Tribe after 21 years of service to work closer to home and with preschoolers, and Singer is retiring after 19 years with the Tribe.



Three constitutional amendment proposals adopted since 1983

ENROLLMENT continued from page 10

able to show their knowledge of their Tribe, the risk gets higher for some outside group to make that decision for us and go down the road of Termination again."

Langley said he thinks the endgame will be either a 4/4 or lineal descent proposal, but no matter what, the Tribe must correct its enrollment files in case either proposal fails.

"If these don't pass, we still have to do something with our files that will allow people on council to feel like they are still operating within our Constitution when they enroll somebody," Langley said.

The Grand Ronde Constitution requires two-thirds of those who register for and cast ballots in a BIA-supervised election must approve any proposal for it to change the Tribe's governing document. An effort to remove the federal government from Tribal constitutional amendment elections was rejected by voters in 2014.

In addition to the 1999 amendment, Tribal members have only agreed in sufficient numbers on two other proposals – in 2008 when they increased the relinquishment period from one to five years and in 2022 when they agreed to ban disenrollment actions unless fraud or dual enrollment can be proven.

Of the 12 constitutional amendment proposals voted on since 1983's Restoration, three have been adopted.

Langley said his ultimate goal for the current enrollment process is to craft a proposal that will pass. "Something that gets that 67 percent," he said. ■