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Ruby Haughton-Pitts, Director, AARP Oregon

Haughton-Pitts Heads Up AARP Oregon

New director started job in October

By Christen McCurdy
Of The Skanner News

In October AARP Oregon announced Ruby Haughton-Pitts was its new state director, taking over from Jerry Cohen, who opened the office in 1996.

Most recently, Haughton-Pitts worked as director of outreach and advocacy for AARP Illinois in Chicago, but the new position marks a return to Oregon. Previously she worked as director of legislative and public affairs at CareOregon, vice president of external affairs for OCHIN (a nonprofit healthcare innovation center) and vice president of government relations for U.S. Bancorp in Portland. In her new

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STEPHANIE ZOLISHAN/THE BERKSHIRE EAGLE VIA AP FILE

In this Nov. 29, 2014, file photo shoppers form a long line at checkout during Small Business Saturday at the Arcadian Shop in Lenox, Mass

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Kam Previews New Movies Opening This Weekend page 6

SERAW REMEMBERED



PHOTO BY ANTONIO HARRIS

Many gathered to honor Mulugeta Seraw at a conference organized by the Urban League of Portland on Nov. 13, 2018, the 30th anniversary of his death. Seraw was a 28-year-old Ethiopian college student living in Portland when he was murdered by racist skinheads outside of his apartment on November 13, 1988. Held at the University Place Conference Center, the event commemorated Seraw, spotlighted the history of anti-Black violence in Oregon, and sought to identify ways to combat hate in Portland's communities. The following day, commemorative street sign toppers in English and Amharic were unveiled to honor Seraw at the intersection of Southeast 31st and Pine, where he was killed.

US Judge Stalls Enforcement of Trump Asylum Restrictions Court says government cannot enforce a ban on asylum seekers

By Nomaan Merchant
Associated Press

HOUSTON — A judge has ordered the U.S. government not to enforce a ban on asylum for people who cross the southern border illegally, another court setback for the Trump administration's efforts to impose new immigration restrictions without congressional approval.

U.S. District Judge Jon Tigar agreed Monday with legal groups that immediately sued after President Donald Trump issued a Nov. 9 proclamation saying

anyone who crossed the southern border between official ports of entry would be ineligible for asylum. The administration argued that caravans of migrants approaching the southern border made the new restrictions immediately necessary.

"Whatever the scope of the President's authority, he may not rewrite the immigration laws to impose a condition that Congress has expressly forbidden," said Tigar, a nominee of former President Barack Obama.

Trump stopped family

separations at the border earlier this year after a global outcry, but it was a federal judge who ruled the administration had to reunify the families. Another judge rejected the administration's request to try to detain migrant families in long-term facilities.

Monday's ruling remains in effect for one month, barring an appeal. In limiting asylum, Trump used the same powers he used to impose a travel ban — the third try was ultimately upheld by the Supreme Court.

A joint statement by

Homeland Security and the Justice Department said the Supreme Court had already shown the president had the legal right to restrict asylum.

"Our asylum system is broken, and it is being abused by tens of thousands of meritless claims every year," the departments said. "We look forward to continuing to defend the Executive Branch's legitimate and well-reasoned exercise of its authority to address the crisis at our southern border."

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Fire Victims' Families Urged to Give DNA for Search System can analyze DNA from bone fragments or other remains, then match to relatives' samples

By Kathleen Ronayne
Associated Press

SACRAMENTO, Calif. — Authorities are using a powerful tool in their effort to identify the scores of people killed by the wildfire that ripped through Northern California: rapid DNA testing that produces results in just two hours.

The system can analyze DNA from bone fragments or other remains,

then match it to genetic material provided by relatives of the missing. But the technology depends on people coming forward to give a DNA sample via a cheek swab, and so far, there are not nearly as many volunteers as authorities had hoped for.

As of Tuesday, nearly two weeks after the inferno devastated the town of Paradise and surrounding areas, the number of confirmed dead stood

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PHOTO BY SUDDHIN THANAWALA

In this November 16, 2018 photo, Stephen Meer, chief information officer, ANDE, demonstrates in Chico, Calif., his company's Rapid DNA analysis system, which is being used to try to ID victims of the Northern California wildfire.