



Ben Lonergan/East Oregonian, File

Protesters gather and hold signs outside of Eastern Oregon Correctional Institution in Pendleton on Saturday, July 25, 2020. The group of about 10 were protesting against what they assert are insufficient COVID-19 precautions in Oregon Department of Corrections facilities.

Prisoners: California, Washington have released thousands of inmates

Continued from Page A1

attorneys she's working with, attempted to provide Brown and her office with a list of up to 50 individuals who fit that very criteria, including the often challenging requirement of establishing a housing plan post-incarceration, but those attempts were dismissed without consideration.

In Washington and California, Democratic Govs. Jay Inslee and Gavin Newsome have released thousands of incarcerated individuals to mitigate risks of the pandemic. In Herivel's eyes, Brown's reluctance to release more prisoners is both dismissive of the risks for those inside and ineffective at providing any meaningful protections for them.

"While they certainly impact the individuals, which that's incredibly important for them and their families, it will do absolutely nothing for social distancing in prisons," Herivel said. "It will do nothing for people being exposed to the outbreaks now."

Limited legal avenues

During the pandemic, Herivel and a group of attorneys have formed "The Oregon Habeas Taskforce" that is representing prisoners throughout the state in habeas corpus claims against the Oregon Department of Corrections.

"There's a claim now that's being raised across that state that the Department of Corrections has failed to protect people from the pandemic, and they're doing that by failing to implement known measures, per the CDC, that will curb contraction of COVID," Herivel said.

But when the department has implemented measures, those measures have directly inhibited the ability for prisoners to file these claims.

In an email from prison officials to the *East Oregonian*, the Oregon Department of Corrections confirmed it limited access to the law library in EOCI for



Ben Lonergan/East Oregonian, File

Barbara Dickerson, left, and Patty Youngblood protest in favor of stronger COVID-19 precautions inside of Oregon's prisons across the street from Eastern Oregon Correctional Institution in Pendleton on Friday, July 10, 2020.

"YOU CAN RELEASE PEOPLE WITHOUT CREATING THE SPECTRE OF MORE CRIME."

Tara Herivel, attorney

nearly four months of the pandemic.

According to the email, the law library was closed from July 7-15 as an emergency protocol when COVID-19 was first identified in the facility, and then reopened with restrictions in place. From July 15 to Sept. 7, the email stated, inmates were only allowed access to the law library if they had a "deadline with the court system within 60 days of their request."

"Limiting the number of (adults in custody) that could access the legal library was the only way to ensure social distancing," the email stated. "A secondary consideration was the lack of available and trained (adults in custody) legal clerks that were quarantined."

Without access to the law library unless they had an active court deadline, inmates were barred from filing new lawsuits like those represented by Herivel, who took notice of this potential obstruction when only a handful of cases were filed from the Eastern Oregon prison despite the facility reporting one of the largest work-

place outbreaks in the entire state.

"I can't say that they're trying to block it but they certainly take actions that do block it without apparent concern for prisoner's access to law," Herivel said. "It's the defendant who is stopping those cases, and that's really nefarious."

Those restrictions were lifted on Sept. 7, prison officials stated, and Herivel said there's been additional cases filed from EOCI since.

Brown has directed the Oregon Department of Corrections to provide her with potential candidates for early release every two months moving forward, but for now Herivel and the others are seeking the only pathway they know of to protect incarcerated people from the risk of the virus inside.

"You can release people without creating the spectre of more crime," Herivel said. "You can do it thoughtfully, you can do it with the right people and you can create social distancing for the people that remain. And there's this complete refusal that I don't understand on a real basic level."

to the department, which Corbett believes can continue under Byram.

"This community has a reputation of being a safe place to live. This department has developed a culture of excellence that I want to perpetuate," Corbett stated in the release. "The support Lt. Byram has of his fellow officers gives me the greatest comfort that this tradition will continue."

Byram was born in Klamath Falls but raised in Pendleton after moving to the city in 1980 and became a "product of the Pendleton school system," graduating from Pendleton High School in 1992. While serving as an officer with the city, Byram has also earned a bachelor's degree in criminal justice administration.

Byram is married with two grown children, the release stated, and he will officially begin as police chief on Dec. 1.

Painter: 'I felt very elated and very, very thankful I live in the community I do'

Continued from Page A1

Doherty's 50th year of painting windows before the rodeo was called off too.

Instead, the Pendleton Center for the Arts arranged an exhibition as unique as Doherty's paintings themselves to honor the window painter. The downtown-wide exhibit celebrates the artist's work, featuring images of past windows and interpretive information. Find a map at <https://pendletonarts.org/50-years/> showing 14 businesses with displays.

Doherty, 74, missed her early morning sessions painting Round-Up scenes onto glass this year. She is happiest with a paintbrush in her hand. Doherty, who has dealt with depression most of her life, says painting is a form of therapy.

The daughter of a uranium miner, she attended nine grade schools and three high schools growing up in Colorado and Utah. As a child, she drew cartoons, sometimes tacking them to the walls of her sleeping quarters inside one mining cabin or another. Eventually, she grew up and landed in Pendleton, where she has raised three sons.

Her interest in painting windows was sparked while watching "Big Tom" Simonton create scenes on windows around town. She tried some of her own windows with varied success. She admits some of her earliest efforts were washed off by unhappy shop owners, but she improved with persistence.

Onlookers sometimes offered tips. One intoxicated voyeur startled her with boozy advice about how to improve the look of her caricatures' skin, which came out as "fresh stones"

instead of flesh tones. But the advice was sound: "Start with white paint and a little orange, and add browns and yellows in minute amounts to vary the skin tones and match the caricature's heritage."

When a 10-year-old boy mentioned that he'd seen Doherty's mentor Simonton fix his mistakes with razor

her work. Afterward, the nightly banging all but stopped.

In 2010, Doherty worked at the Oregon Historical Society Museum in Portland, painting cartoon bulls and broncs on the museum's large front windows. Inside was an exhibit called "Tall in the Saddle: 100 Years of the Pendleton Round-Up."

Round-Up Director Tiah DeGroff said she missed seeing Doherty's paintings this year around the Pendleton downtown core.

"The window paintings Laurie's done for our local businesses over the years are as much a part of Round-Up as the Mounted Band and the Cowboy Breakfast," DeGroff said. "I grew up with them. They're iconic and they truly capture the spirit of Pendleton. She did a caricature of me as a princess that I adored."

Arts Center Director Roberta Lavadour said the project honoring Doherty was a natural.

"We wanted to give people a safe and fun way to celebrate Laurie and her work," Lavadour said. "People can stroll from one end of Main to the other on both sides, taking detours to the side streets and encounter all sorts of things along the way."

The Pendleton Center for the Arts received funding from the Pendleton Round-Up Association and several other local donors for the project.

Doherty was humbled when she heard about the exhibit of her window work.

"I felt very elated and very, very thankful I live in the community I do ... I have had many people tell me how sorry they are that I was not able to paint windows my 50th year," she said.

"THE WINDOW PAINTINGS LAURIE'S DONE FOR OUR LOCAL BUSINESSES OVER THE YEARS ARE AS MUCH A PART OF ROUND-UP AS THE MOUNTED BAND AND THE COWBOY BREAKFAST."

— Tiah DeGroff Round-Up director

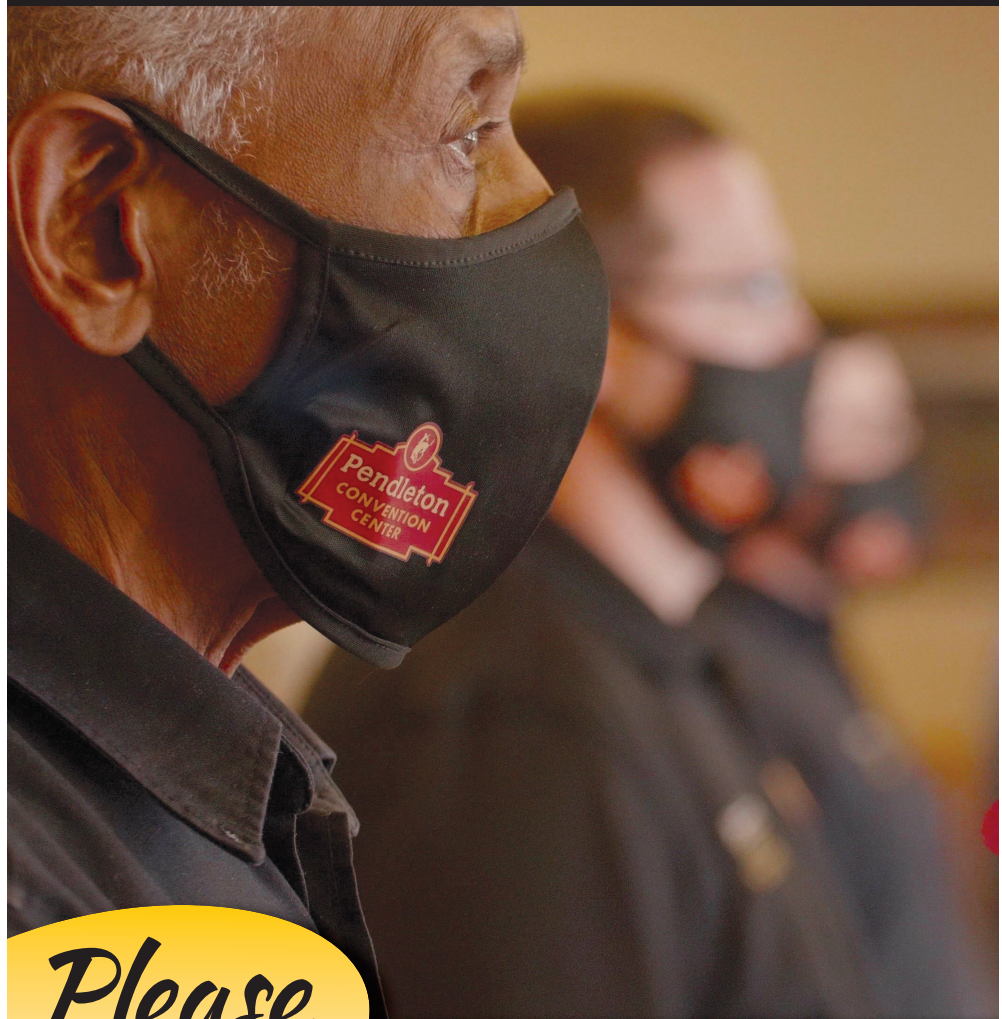
blades, she stocked up on them.

The amount of work ebbed and flowed. One year, she painted 300 windows. Another, she managed only three. That was the year she had a car wreck at Deadman Pass and had to paint from a wheelchair.

Doherty does other projects as well. In 2017, she painted a special door for the Juniper House Memory Care unit. Some of the unit's 16 residents were exhibiting signs of Sundown Syndrome, getting agitated and disoriented late in the day. Some banged at the door to get out. Doherty painted a bucolic scene on the double doors with a mountain, a pond and animals as some of the residents watched

"The staff at the Pendleton Convention Center is ready to help you with your event when it's time to do it safely. We can't wait to welcome you back."

PENDLETON CONVENTION CENTER



Please,

- Wear a mask in public
- Avoid indoor gatherings
- Stay 6 feet away from others
- Wash your hands frequently

UC HEALTH
Building a Healthy Community

Help Reopen Umatilla County

Wearing a mask saves jobs and saves lives

Top cop:

Continued from Page A1

Corbett stated in the release. "In the end, there was overwhelming support for an internal candidate."

According to the release, Corbett also considered Lt. Tony Nelson, who was concurrently promoted to that rank with Byram in 2017, but Nelson indicated early in the process that he wouldn't be a candidate due to family and personal commitments outside of the department.

Roberts announced his retirement on Sept. 15 after leading the department since 2003. He cited both family and personal reasons for his retirement and he will be transitioning into a consultant role with City-county Insurance Services Oregon (CIS).

Roberts has been lauded for the stability he brought

VISIT US ON THE WEB AT:
EastOregonian.com

WILDHORSE RESORT & CASINO
10/2-10/8
Cineplex Show Times
Theater seating will adhere to social distancing protocols
Every showing \$7.50 per person (ages 0-3 still free)

Possessor (NR)
1:40p 4:40p 7:40p

Hocus Pocus (PG)
1:20p 4:20p 7:20p

Tenet (PG13)
2:00p 7:00p

Kajillionaire (R)
1:00p 3:50p

Alone (R)
6:40

The Broken Hearts Gallery (PG13)
12:40p 3:30p 6:20p

wildhorseresort.com • 541-966-1850
Pendleton, OR I-84 - Exit 216