

Voters

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“Hopefully it is not lost on anyone that the right to have a voice is why this great country exists in the first place,” wrote Walker, who set the deadline at 5 p.m. on Oct. 18.

Powerful Hurricane Matthew didn't make landfall in Florida but caused at least nine deaths there. Over a two-

said.

Allison Tant, chairwoman of the Florida Democratic Party, hailed Walker's decision.

“While we wish it had not taken a lawsuit to get the Scott administration to do the right thing, today's ruling is a major victory for all Floridians and for the democratic

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day period it knocked out power to more than 1 million people and caused flooding and beach erosion.

Democrats late last week asked Republican Gov. Rick Scott to extend the deadline, but Scott turned down the request and said people have had enough time to register. Scott brushed aside questions on whether his decision was related to his staunch support of GOP nominee Donald Trump.

In court, however, attorneys for both Scott and the state's chief top elections official offered no defense of the existing deadline and did not object to an extension. Most of the hour-long hearing before Walker was spent discussing how long to extend voter registration.

Walker said he did not believe that Scott had authority to use his emergency powers to waive the deadline. But he also pointed out that Florida law already allows the governor to suspend or delay an election if there is an emergency.

“There is a gap in Florida law that renders (the deadline) constitutionally untenable,” Walker

process in the Sunshine State,” Tant said.

Voting rights groups, including the League of Women Voters of Florida, joined the legal battle and pointed out that they had cancelled voter registration drives because of the storm. Their legal brief cited statistics that showed nearly 160,000 voters had registered in the final nine days before the 2012 deadline.

They also noted that the threat of Hurricane Matthew had prompted federal authorities to postpone naturalization ceremonies scheduled in south Florida until after the Oct. 11 deadline. They cited the example of one Coral Gables resident who would not be allowed to register to vote until this weekend.

Unlike other states, Florida does not allow residents to register to vote online. They must fill out a form on paper and either deliver it in person or mail to their local elections office.

Federal law does not allow states to shut down registration more than 30 days before an election. Florida's current 29-day deadline has been in place for decades.

Streat

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son said.

She received her first national recognition at 18 for a painting called “A Priest,” which won an honorable mention at the Harmon Foundation exhibit in New York City. Jackson said Streat's career really took off when she moved to California to work in the Bay Area and Los Angeles.

An investigation by the public broadcasting show “History Detectives” found that Streat created works of art for the Federal Art Project of the Works Progress Administration. Streat produced five textile pieces as part of the massive New Deal public works program. One of these pieces, a tapestry titled “Monstro the Whale,” went to the Portland Art Museum.

Streat assisted the artist Diego Rivera on his famed Pan American Unity mural, a WPA project created during the Arts in Action exhibition at the Golden Gate International Exposition from 1939-40.

Although Rivera had many assistants, Streat was one of the few he trusted to assist in painting the mural. Rivera praised Streat's work in a letter to Galka Scheyer, a German art dealer living in Los Angeles.

“The work of Thelma Johnson Streat is in my opinion one of the most interesting manifestations in this coun-

try at the present,” Rivera wrote. “It is extremely evolved and sophisticated enough to reconquer the grace and purity of African and American art.”

Jackson said Streat's art was very diverse with some works taking a political tone and others had the raw creative expression of an explorer of the world. Streat would often create works that reflected the world around her such

as Native American culture when she lived in Canada.

After the end of World War II, there was a rise in lynchings, especially of Black soldiers who were returning home. Streat painted a work protesting these lynchings called “Death of a Black Sailor.” The controversial painting sparked outcry and threats from

the Ku Klux Klan.

“She got a threatening letter from the Ku Klux Klan that told her that she better take that painting down or else. She did not take it down and the gallery didn't make her take it down,” Jackson said. “They stood their ground, which was wonderful.”



PHOTO BY BERNIE FOSTER

History Makers Dinner

The Oregon Historical Society hosted its annual History Makers Dinner Sunday. Pictured here are Oregon Historical Society executive director Kerry Tymchuk; a representative from Nike, accepting an award on behalf of Phil Knight; Oregon State University environmental scientist Dr. Jane Lubchenco; photographer David Hume Kennerly; a representative from Hoffman Construction; and a representative from the Oregon Historical Society.

Police

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misionner Steve Novick voted against it and Commissioner Dan Saltzman was absent, in observation of Yom Kippur.

The vote took place in a conference room outside council chambers, moving away from a public audience and locking out protesters, who have demonstrated against the acceptance of the new contract for more than a week. Wednesday morning local media reported activists from Don't Shoot Portland were blocking traffic in front of City Hall.

Last Wednesday protesters crowded council chambers to testify on the new contract. On Thursday activists reacted by attending an unrelated hearing scheduled that afternoon – related to the city's possible purchase of a bridge crane – to testify. Portland Copwatch leader Dan Handelman, Don't Shoot Portland organizer Teressa Raiford and activist Malcolm Craddock all offered pointed testimony that

mentioned the bridge crane but discussed public safety concerns in great detail.

The tentative contract eliminates the controversial 48-hour rule – a clause in previous union

and had asked the council to postpone voting on the contract until next year. Hales has said he wanted to expedite the vote in order to hire more officers. The proposed contract also raises new officers'

“Activists say the clause gives too much leeway to officers involved in use of force incidents

contracts that gave officers 48 hours before they were required to give statements on incidents involving use of force. But its policy on body-worn cameras allows officers “a reasonable opportunity” to review the body camera audio/video before writing up reports for use of force incidents other than use of deadly force or in-custody deaths.

Activists say the clause gives too much leeway to officers involved in use of force incidents, but they also noted the current contract doesn't expire until 2017,

starting pay from \$49,837 to \$60,840 and delivers pay increases to experienced officers.

Following the Wednesday morning vote, protesters were pepper sprayed and forcibly removed from City Hall by police. Protests were still ongoing early Wednesday afternoon as *The Skanner* went to press.

Wednesday morning, writer and activist Shaun King called on Black Lives Matter activists across the country to boycott the city of Portland if officials accepted the police contract.

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THELMA JOHNSON STREAT / STREAT DANCER/CC-BY-SA-3.0

This self portrait of American artist Thelma Johnson Streat was taken in 1945.