

Wisconsin cont'd from pg 1

thing like this," Evers said in a statement Wednesday. "Power-hungry politicians rushed through sweeping changes to our laws to expand their own power and override the will of the people of Wisconsin who asked for change on November 6th."

Walker was in Washington on Wednesday for former President George H.W. Bush's funeral.

In one concession, Wisconsin Republicans backed away from giving the Legislature the power to sidestep the attorney general and appoint their own attorney when

“Power-hungry politicians rushed through sweeping changes to our laws to expand their own power and override the will of the people of Wisconsin

The GOP move comes as Michigan Republicans discuss taking action before a Democratic governor takes over there. North Carolina lawmakers took similar steps two years ago.

The legislation passed in a session marked by stops and starts as GOP leaders tried to muster enough votes in the Senate. That chamber ultimately approved the package 17-16, with just one Republican voting against it, around sunrise. The Assembly approved it on a 56-27 vote about two hours later, with just one Republican defecting.

"This is a heck of a way to run a railroad," Democratic Senate Minority Leader Jennifer Shilling said as Senate debate resumed at 5 a.m. after a seven-hour impasse. "This is embarrassing we're even here."

Walker, who was booed and heckled by protesters Tuesday during an Christmas tree lighting ceremony in the Capitol rotunda, is in his final five weeks as governor. A spokeswoman did not immediately respond to a question about how quickly he would act.

state laws are challenged in court.

Faced with a Democratic governor for the first time in eight years, legislative Republicans came up with a package of lame-duck bills to protect their priorities and make it harder for Evers to enact his.

"You're here because you don't want to give up power," Democratic Assembly Minority Leader Gordon Hintz said as debate concluded in that chamber. "You're sore losers. Does anybody think this is the right way to do business? If you vote for this, shame on you. You will go down in history as a disgrace."

Assembly Speaker Robin Vos countered that the bills would ensure a balance of power between the Legislature and the executive branch.

"We have allowed far too much authority to flow to the executive," Vos said. "To you this is all about politics. To me, it's about the institution."

Vos last month cited the desire to protect key achievements from being undone by Evers.

Read more at TheSkanner.com

Star of Television's 'The Wire' and 'The Walking Dead' Recounts His Musical Journey at VSO Event

The Vancouver Symphony Orchestra announces that television, theater and film actor Lawrence Gilliard Jr. will be the guest at a Vancouver Symphony Orchestra fundraising dinner on Jan. 12, 2019. Gilliard is best known for his television role as D'Angelo Barksdale in the critically-acclaimed HBO series "The Wire." He is also known for his role as Bob Stookey in AMC's "The Walking Dead" as well as co-starring as Chris Alston in the HBO series, "The Deuce." Less known is Gilliard's musical journey from Baltimore to New York's acclaimed Julliard School of Music, where he studied clarinet before becoming an actor.

Guests will hear about Gilliard's path to stardom while enjoying the finest Pacific Northwest cuisine and spirits in partnership with The Heathman Lodge. Gilliard will speak to his experience as a young boy growing up in 1980's Baltimore, Maryland, where his discovery of music changed the course of his life. He will also perform some musical selections.



PHOTO COURTESY OF VANCOUVER SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

Students cont'd from pg 1

charter school KairosPDX and Chalkboard Project.

As a call to the community, KairosPDX co-founder Kali Ladd rallied students, educators and local organizations for a City Club of Portland Friday Forum on Nov. 30.

"Black children graduate at significantly lower rates than White students in Oregon and many other states," said Oriana Magnera, member of City Club's forum board, in her introduction. "Given Oregon's history of exclusion and creating systemic barriers for people of color, the state and community must do something."

The subject of the forum was how Oregon is failing its Black and African American students. And the proposed solution - community engagement.

Long-time education activist Ron Herndon opened Friday's event by reading from the late William McClendon's book "Straight Ahead," a collection of essays on the struggle of Blacks in America. McClendon was a writer, journalist, jazz musician and a prominent member of Portland's civil rights community until his death in 1996.

Herndon gave context to the current state of Black students

by summarizing Portland's failed integration policy of the 1960s into the early 1980s. In the name of desegregation, Portland Public Schools bused Black children outside of their northeast communities to some 32 predominantly White schools around the metropolitan area. Schools in historic Black communities were ultimately shuttered.

“Currently the number of Black teachers and administrators is less than it was six years ago

"These policies and practices have created what we see today," said Herndon. "Currently the number of Black teachers and administrators is less than it was six years ago."

To uproarious applause, Herndon closed by saying that change lies with those who are willing to "fight like hell to ensure our children receive the education they deserve."

Moderator Joyce Harris, of Education Northwest, was joined by Ladd alongside panelists Joe Mc-

Ferrin, CEO of Portland Opportunities Industrialization Center (POIC), and Lisa Collins, director of Teaching and Learning at Parkrose School District.

Ladd began by explaining how using criminalizing language to describe young African American children is directly connected to suppressing student achievement. She mentioned examples where four-year-olds were being called "violent" by teachers and child care providers.

"It's no wonder we have disproportionate discipline of Black children in pre-school," said Ladd. "It's because we've forgotten who they are. We've forgotten that they're children."

McFerrin drew parallels between rates of suspension and expulsion of Black students to what is referred to as the school-to-prison-pipeline.

"You're two to three times more likely if you're Black in Multnomah County to be suspended or disciplined," he said. "What you'll find in the data is that students who are disciplined at a higher level in school are likely to end up in the criminal justice system."

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Baking cont'd from pg 1

Portland General Electric, took three weeks personal time off to fly to England to shoot the new season, which filmed in August.

"It was all fun. Days were long, but it was fun. I should say, most of it was fun," Norris said, laughing.

Norris told *The Skanner* the experience made her a better baker, and despite the fact that they were her competitors, she had a sense of camaraderie with them and has remained friends since the show finished taping. They wouldn't share baking secrets while competing directly, but would often give each other tips and hints after each phase of competition was over.

The producers also didn't do something reality-show producers are sometimes notorious for - intentionally creating or escalating interpersonal problems onset in order to create a more dramatic program. It's that lack

of ginned-up dramatic tension that fans and critics have reacted to when describing both "The Great American Baking Show" and its British counterpart.

“Norris said she wants to encourage readers to seek out opportunities that may seem far-fetched or over-the-top to them

Norris said she wants to encourage readers to seek out opportunities that may seem far-fetched or over-the-top to them - because one never knows what can happen.

"It was a once-in-a-lifetime opportu-

nity," she said of appearing on the show. She's been encouraging a friend she describes as "an amazing cook" to finish and submit an application to be on "Chopped," something her friend has long considered but never followed up on.

When not in the kitchen, Norris is active in her church, Kingdom Nation, and volunteers with iUrbanTeen, a non-profit that provides mentoring opportunities for teens underrepresented in STEM fields. She also loves to travel: in addition to traveling to England for the show, she was able to travel to Italy with her husband this year and is planning a trip to Japan next year. She also loves to read, and recently started a food blog, Bakes By Brown Sugar, with recipes including lemon bundt cake, apple cider donuts and chocolate chip cookies.

Baking is Norris' primary culinary hobby, although she also enjoys cook-



PHOTO COURTESY OF DISNEY ABC

Portland native Cheryl Norris appears on the new season of "The Great American Baking Show," which appears this week on ABC. ing savory foods and is always trying to learn and improve.

"I'm always trying to get better, even if it's something as simple as a steak," Norris said.