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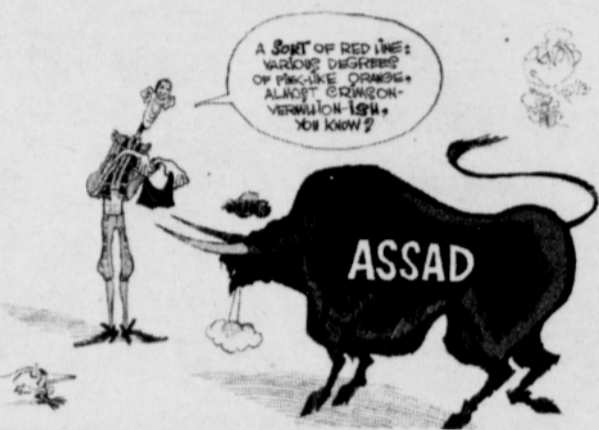
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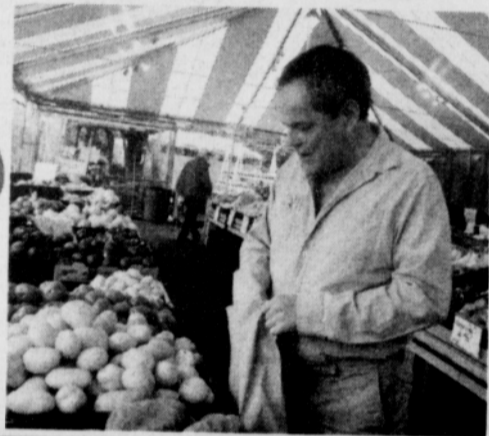
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What's on your list today?

LOCAL NEWS Teeth Grinding

Serious discussion ahead of fluoride vote

BY DONOVAN M. SMITH
THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

The fluoride debate in Portland is causing serious teeth grinding on both sides of the issue.

On May 21 ballot measure 26-151 will give voters the decision of whether or not to fluoridate the city's water supply. Many groups and individuals are raising their hand in support or rejection of the proposal which was referred to the primary ballot after being approved by the Portland City Council.

The Portland Observer took to the streets to see how people are feeling about the issue and came across some interesting answers:

Townley Covington, a Portland resident for more than 20 years, grew up with fluoride in his water in California. He put very plainly, "I'm 42 years old, I'm from California and still don't have a cavity yet. So I'm with it, I'm pro."

Paul Brewer who also grew up out of state echoes that sentiment, "One of the things I noticed is when I went into the military, I was getting a dental examination and the dentist had commented on the condition of my teeth; which she said was good. And I told her our water was fluoride treated."

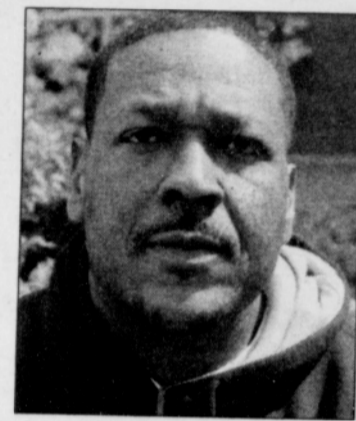
He added in his later years dental work has become a must, but attributes his good dental health start in life to water fluoridation.

Others are skeptical. "It's good for strong teeth, for the children especially. The con is chemicals in the water, I'm not too keen on having chemicals in the water," said Kristy McPherson, who indicated she was still not sure on which way to vote.

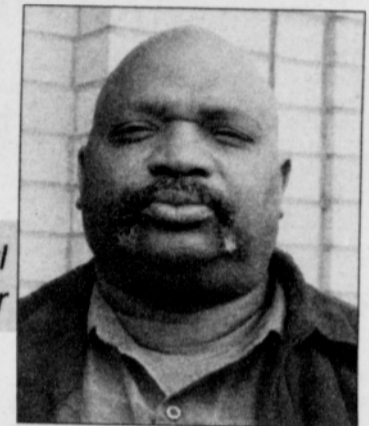
Dion Ragsdale questions if there's a deeper story to be uncovered behind the ballot measure.

"I don't know what to think about it because there's so many things the government tells us we need, or that they try to do and then they'll have ulterior motives," Ragsdale said. "The fluoride might be making your teeth stronger, but what are the other health problems you could get from it in the long term?"

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Townley Covington



Paul Brewer



Kristy McPherson



Dion Ragsdale



Kris Gonzales Ray



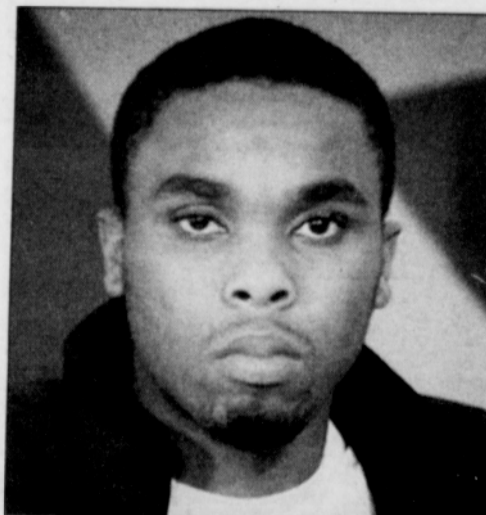
Karla Caballo

Gas Station Murder Suspect Named

Police are now on the hunt for 23-year-old Lonnell Demarcus George who is wanted for the murder of 18 year old Edward Jewell Paden Jr.

Paden was gunned down March 23 at a gas station on the corner of Northeast 60th Avenue and Killingsworth Street in the Cully Neighborhood.

The Portland Police Bureau in cooperation with Crime Stoppers of Oregon is asking for the public's



help in locating George, who is considered armed and dangerous.

Crime Stoppers is offering a cash reward of up to \$1,000 for information that leads to an arrest in this case. Tips can be left online at crimestoppersoforegon.com or by contacting Detective Rico Beniga at 503-823-0457.

Lonnell Demarcus George