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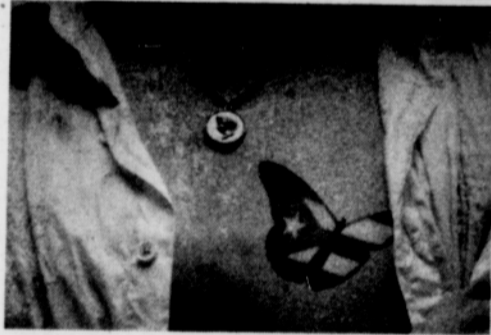
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What's on your list today?

LOCAL NEWS



Anthony Johnson the chief petitioner of Measure 91, the Nov. 4 ballot initiative to legalize marijuana in Oregon, with supporters downtown.

Legalization Fight

Voters get ready to decide on Marijuana

BY OLIVIA OLIVIA
THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

In a matter of days ballots will be going out in a vote-by-mail Nov. 4 election that will decide on the legalization of recreational marijuana in Oregon.

Supporters argue that making marijuana legal for adults will provide a means to more effectively

regulate consumption of the drug and decriminalize laws that place a heavier toll on minority members of the community that are prosecuted at rates much higher than the general population.

Opponents share a concern that deadly traffic accidents will increase from drivers who would illegally get behind the wheel of a vehicle after consuming marijuana, and expect additional resources will be needed to help people who abuse drugs.

Some of the major backers of decriminalization are the American Civil Liberties Union, travel entre-

preneur and TV personality Rick Steves, and Drug Policy Action Oregon. On the opposite side are the Oregon District Attorneys Association and Oregon State Sheriffs Association.

Some recent polls show that voters may have become more indecisive, not less, as the election draws near. In September, just over half of the potential voters questioned said they would support Measure 91. As of mid-October, that number dropped to 44 percent with 16 percent of registered voters undecided and 40 percent against the measure.

Proponents say they still expect

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Family Mourns Father, Grandfather

Killed when hit by Max train

Joe Hill, a 71-year-old grandfather living deep into the numbers of east Portland, died Friday after he was struck by an eastbound train.

Family members say that Hill was a healthy, upbeat person who loved going on walks in the morning and again at night to stay healthy. He was out for a walk about 7:15 p.m. Friday when he got to the MAX tracks at 160th and Burnside. Investigators said he stepped out onto the tracks and looked east and then was struck from behind by an eastbound train.

Reika Box recalls getting the call that her brother had

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A family photograph shows Joe Hill, a father of eight and grandfather to over a dozen grandchildren, who was killed on Friday when he was hit by a TriMet commuter train at the Max Station at 160th and Burnside.