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## LOCAL NEWS



PHOTO BY MARK WASHINGTON/THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

Neese Mitchell, a family member to Mary "Leecie" Taylor Edwards, a woman who died in a tragic car accident outside her home on Northeast Mallory Avenue, brings balloons to a memorial at the site of the crash.

### Mysterious Crash

#### Woman loses life outside her home

Authorities are still trying to find out how a Portland woman lost her life in a car crash outside her home last Wednesday evening.

Investigators found the body of Mary "Leecie" Taylor Edwards, 56, near a tree on Mallory Avenue just north of Alberta Street in northeast Portland, seemingly

having been hit and run over by her own vehicle.

Authorities are reviewing information that Edwards may have suffered a medical event while the car was running.

Friends and family set up a memorial for Edwards along the street where the crash happened, just doors down from where she lived, hoping to honor her life as a longtime resident of the neighborhood.

The vehicle was towed from the scene to allow further analysis and investigation.



Mary "Leecie" Taylor Edwards

### Portland Liquor Outlets to Expand

The Portland metro area could see 17 additional liquor stores as part of the largest liquor outlet expansion since Prohibition.

The Oregon Liquor Control Commission directed staff last week to begin work on a market-driven open recruitment process the largest expansion of new outlets since 1933. The plan is to improve customer convenience by expanding liquor sales in underserved areas, including

adding up to 17 new liquor outlets in the Portland area, officials said.

About 30 years ago, Oregon had one liquor store for every 12,000 people. Today, there are 248 liquor stores statewide, but the ratio is 1 liquor store for every 16,000 customers. In the Portland metro area of Multnomah, Clackamas and Washington counties, the ratio is 1 outlet per 26,000 customers.

The OLCC will begin holding applicant informational meetings and accepting applications in mid-October. Officials said they will only add outlets based on the quality of the proposals and demonstrated market opportunity.

The OLCC's independent contractors can also apply for additional outlets under the open recruitment process.

More information, visit the OLCC website [oregon.gov/olcc](http://oregon.gov/olcc).