

Woman who drove through Oregon market guilty, insane

EUGENE (AP) — A woman who drove her SUV down the aisles of a Springfield supermarket last summer has been found guilty by reason of insanity.

The Register-Guard reported that Noella Fay has been diagnosed with bipolar disorder and could be sent to the Oregon State Hospital.

Her convictions include reckless driving, criminal mischief, recklessly endangering another person and unlawful use of a weapon.

Lane County Judge Mustafa Kasubhai made the ruling Wednesday and will decide next year whether Fay should be sent to the state-run mental hospital or allowed to remain in the community while receiving psychological services.

The August 24 incident at a Safeway Inc. supermarket caused nearly \$100,000 damage and happened after Fay got into an argument with store managers who would not let her write a large check to purchase gift cards, police

said.

Fay, 42, parked a Chevrolet Tahoe in front of the supermarket's west doors — then drove through them. Fay then barreled down an aisle, backed up the SUV and turned it toward the deli and drove between the aisle ends and the checkout stands.

She then drove out the store's east doors and into the parking lot, police said. No one was injured.

Fay told a reporter Wednesday that she blamed the incident on a manic episode she experienced after her doctor adjusted her medication.

She is expected to return to court in late January for a hearing that will help Kasubhai decide whether she must go to the mental hospital.

Lane County Assistant District Attorney Paul Graebner suggested that he is likely to argue in favor of Fay's hospitalization.

Fay's attorney, Allison Knight, said several doctors will testify on her client's behalf.



PHOTO PROVIDED

Sam Mitchell, Chayse Sproat, Ethan Morgan and Jordan Pollard with donated foodstuffs.

Food drive scores big in Sisters

As winter settles in over Sisters Country, many of our families struggle to balance basic needs with the expectations of the holidays.

In response to the increased pressure on food banks throughout Central Oregon, the Sisters School District and various local businesses hold canned food drives in an effort to help keep the shelves full.

Aspen Lakes Golf Course offers a canned food golf special throughout the fall season, gathering non-perishable food items in exchange for discounted greens fees.

"We have many regular players who look forward to this time of year and are extremely generous with their donations. It's their way of giving back to the community while getting a great

deal," said Laurie Farley, group coordinator at Aspen Lakes. "We have developed a nice partnership with the high school, where we donate the stockpile of cans to their annual food drive and the students provide the labor to transport it to the food bank."

This year Aspen Lakes was able to contribute an estimated 1,000 pounds of food.



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