

# Appeal Tribune

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## Woman grabs gun, assaults policeman

### Chain of bizarre events leads to arrest

WHITNEY M. WOODWORTH  
APPEAL TRIBUNE

A lit cigarette allegedly thrown by a woman outside the Silverton Community Swimming Pool sparked a chain of events — giving a fake name, grabbing an officer's gun and squeezing another officer's genitals — that led to her arrest Thursday afternoon, officials said. A Silverton police officer said he saw Megan Frays, 25, of Salem, toss a cigarette while she was sitting in a car parked outside the city pool.

A probable cause statement from the responding officer gave the following account:

Frays told the officer her name was Margaret Fitzhenry. The officer, who recognized Frays, informed her he knew her name was not Margaret, and she could be arrested for giving false information to police. She asserted her name was Margaret.



Megan Frays

When the officer tried to arrest Frays, she refused to get out of her car. She pulled away from the officer and reached for her passenger seat, ignoring the officer's commands to show her hands.

"With the assistance from other officers (Frays) was forcefully removed from the vehicle," according to the statement.

She continued to pull away, push the police officers and threatened to bite the officers. When they forced her to the

ground, she dropped a knife, then began kicking and spitting on the officers.

While one of the officers tried to secure her in the patrol car, she first grasped the handle of his service pistol. When he forced her to release the gun, she grabbed another officer's genitals and squeezed. The injured officer described the pain as a five on a scale from one to 10 and said the pain lingered for about two hours.

Officers were able to handcuff Frays and take her to Marion County jail. She

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## A longer goodbye



PHOTOS BY ANNA REED/STATESMAN JOURNAL

Terri McCarrell, from left, an assistant nurse manager, and Melissa Ngaida, a bereavement coordinator, watch as Roberta Gruber, the co-founder of Willamette Valley Children's Charity, puts together a CuddleCot donated by the WVCC at Salem Health. The cooled bassinet allows families of stillborn or short-lived babies to spend more time saying goodbye. The WVCC also delivered a CuddleCot to Silverton Hospital.

### Donation aids grieving parents

CAPI LYNN  
APPEAL TRIBUNE

A local charity made a special delivery to two hospitals Monday that will help families who suffer the loss of a baby.

Willamette Valley Children's Charity raised nearly \$6,000 to purchase CuddleCots for both Salem Hospital and Silverton Hospital.

A CuddleCot is a cooling device used to preserve the body of a stillborn or short-lived baby so that families



A CuddleCot is a cooling device used to preserve the body of a stillborn or short-lived babies. A cooling pad is filled with cold water and connected to a cooling unit.

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## County ratifies \$9.8M agreement

CAITLYN M MAY  
APPEAL TRIBUNE

The Marion County Commission approved a new agreement with employees that includes cost of living increases for the next four years.

Under the new agreement, employees will see a 1.5 percent cost of living increase immediately, 1 percent increase is scheduled for 2017, 1.15 percent in 2018 and 2 percent in 2019. They also receive improvements to health care, additional vacation time and incentives for both new and long-term employees.

The agreement will add about \$9.8 million in expenses to the county budget over the next four years. The Marion County Employees Association Local 294, part of the Service Employee International Union, began negotiations requesting changes that totaled \$17 million over four years for approximately 700 county employees. There are 5 unions responsible for negotiating 15 contracts for various Marion County employees and require separate action by the commission.

Employees will receive step increases through 20 years of service. Previously, increases ceased at seven years before resuming at 10 and 15 years. Commissioner Janet Carlson cited the institutional memory of long-term employees that contributed to the county and applauded the changes to longevity.

New employees will now have immediate access to two personal holidays and all employees receive one additional day of vacation.

While Carlson said employees had not seen a salary increase in years, she did note that the cost of living increases had long term effects.

"When you increase the cost of living, it takes the salary scale and it bounces it up and that becomes the new floor," she said. "Each of these step increases and market adjustments go from that so it shifts everything upwards so there is a cumulative effect to this."

Marion County Chief Administrative Officer John Lattimer also said the financial impacts of the agreement could be long lasting.

"We know that PERS is going to increase in 2017, by some estimates 20 percent," he said. "In 2020, unless Congress changes it, we face the possibility of a Cadillac tax. That's a tax on health systems that are considered better than average and it's a substantial tax. I'm very concerned about building up those layers that are going to get whacked again with PERS and the Cadillac tax."

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## Silverton city manager search begins

CHRISTENA BROOKS  
SPECIAL TO THE APPEAL TRIBUNE

SILVERTON — City Manager Bob Willoughby's pledge to work five years before retiring is a promise kept.

Now the City Council is working to replace Willoughby, 69, before he steps down Jan. 31. The nation-

wide search for a new city manager is underway, with last Friday being the deadline for application submissions, and a series of phone interviews next on the council's agenda.

"Now we need a city manager who has a strong public finance background — finances are still our big challenge," Willoughby said.

"I'd also like to see Silverton maintain the political organization and stability that we have right now."

If the upcoming election is any indication of Silverton's political temperature, things are relatively cool now. Three council seats are up for grabs in November, and only

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Silverton Spotlight

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