

# Appeal Tribune

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## Silverton man charged with rape

### Nurse faced previous sexual assault charges

WHITNEY M WOODWORTH  
STATESMAN JOURNAL

After being arrested on first-degree rape and first-degree sexual abuse charges May 9, a Silverton man is being held without bail at Marion County jail.

Christopher Gerig, 34, is accused of raping and assaulting a

woman on Sunday. The woman, according to court records, was incapable of consent by reason of physical helplessness and mental incapacitation.

Gerig, a registered nurse, was faced with the possible revocation of his license after separate sexual assault charges surfaced in 2016. The Oregon State Board of Nursing served

Gerig with a notice of proposed revocation in July 2016 after they were notified of allegations that he sexually abused a woman.

According to the complaint, Gerig allegedly used his nursing education and knowledge to establish trust with a woman then planned a sexual encounter between himself and her, claiming it was a therapeutic exercise to help her recover from past trauma.

Board members said Gerig's conduct was derogatory to the standards of nursing. They also alleged he failed to maintain



Gerig

professional boundaries and acted outside his scope as a registered nurse.

His nursing license is now expired, according to the board's database.

Gerig was previously arrested on rape and sex abuse charges in April 2016. He was acquitted of those charges in January.

Following his arrest by Silverton police, Gerig was arraigned on new rape charges Wednesday.

He was ordered to have no contact with his victim, a different woman than the one listed in the 2016 complaint.

Marion County Judge Rafael Caso ordered Gerig held without bail.

His next court appearance is scheduled for 8:30 a.m. on May 19.

For questions, comments and news tips, email reporter Whitney Woodworth at [wmwoodwort@statesmanjournal.com](mailto:wmwoodwort@statesmanjournal.com), call 503-399-6884 or follow on Twitter @wmwoodworth.



PHOTOS BY ANNA REED/STATESMAN JOURNAL

Payton Diller and Jonathan Schey, both juniors, hold hands as they approach the Silverton High School prom on Saturday.

## STUDENTS MAKE MEMORIES AT PROM

STATESMAN JOURNAL

Silverton High School students celebrated their prom at the Oregon Garden, Saturday, May 13. Find more photos at [StatesmanJournal.com/photos](http://StatesmanJournal.com/photos).



Nick Engelfried, a junior, dances at Dallas' prom at the Northwest Wine Studies Center at Chemeketa Eola.

More prom photos, page 2A



Silverton students dance and chat during prom at the Oregon Garden on Saturday.



SPECIAL TO THE STAYTON MAIL  
Don and Sue Harteloo

## Couple collects care packages

JUSTIN MUCH  
STAYTON MAIL

May is more than a month for celebrating moms and observing Memorial Day.

To underscore this, franchise owners of the Silverton and Stayton Postal Connections, Don and Sue Harteloo, have put together an annual drive similar to others they've conducted in the past intending to show some appreciation to overseas military personnel.

According to Military.com, May is National Military Appreciation Month as designated by the U.S. Congress in 1999.

The National Military Appreciation Month website notes that this month includes related designations of May 1 as Loyalty Day, May 8 as VE Day, May 12 as Military Spouse Appreciation Day, May 20 as Armed Forces Day and, finally Memorial Day on May 29.

In a press release issued earlier this month the Hartelooos announced "in honor of May being nationally recognized as Military Appreciation Month, Stayton and Silverton's Postal Connections stores are hosting its second-annual month-long, community-wide donation drive to gather much-needed items for military members serving over-

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## Silverton City Council ponders gas tax

CHRISTENA BROOKS  
SPECIAL TO THE APPEAL TRIBUNE

Should the City of Silverton enact a 2-cent-per-gallon local fuel tax to generate an estimated \$173,000 per year to pay for street maintenance and improvement? Voters will decide the

question in the November election if the Silverton City Council opts next month to put a fuel tax measure on the ballot. Councilors are scheduled to discuss the idea at their June 5 meeting, five months before Election Day, Nov. 7. "Street maintenance is

our goal here. That's precisely what we'd be getting after with this tax," said Mayor Kyle Palmer. "It would be an effort to try and capture some income from non-Silverton residents, so the people who live here aren't the only ones paying for our roads."

All fuel stations inside the city limits would be required to add the 2-cent-per-gallon tax if the ballot measure passes. Silverton would join a growing number of Oregon cities that have

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Online at [SilvertonAppeal.com](http://SilvertonAppeal.com)

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