

THE SKANNER

CHALLENGING PEOPLE TO SHAPE A BETTER FUTURE NOW



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EASTER EGGS



PHOTO BY SUSAN FRIED

Marquess Huggins, 1, drops a couple of eggs he found into a basket during the Jefferson Community Center Egg Hunt April 23 in Seattle. Dozens of families and children took advantage of a beautiful day to enjoy a pancake breakfast and search for plastic eggs filled with candy and prizes.

MLK Parade Bomb

White supremacist suspect in Spokane pleads not guilty

By Nicholas K. Geranios
The Associated Press

SPOKANE, Wash. (AP) — The man charged with planting a bomb along the route of the Martin Luther King Jr. Day parade in Spokane pleaded not guilty on Monday to the four charges against him, including new hate crimes charges.

Kevin Harpham, 36, entered the pleas before U.S. Magistrate Cynthia Imbrogno. Harpham, who has extensive ties to white supremacist groups, remains without bail in the Spokane County Jail.

Public defender Roger Peven said afterward that the additional charges of a committing a hate crime and using a firearm during a violent hate crime — which carries a minimum sentence of 30 years — raise the stakes for his client.

“This is very serious,” Peven said. But two of the charges also carry maximum sentences of life, and “that’s kind of high, too,” Peven said.

Harpham replied only to the magistrate’s questions during the brief court appearance. Trial is set for May 31 in federal court. The bomb was found the morning of Jan. 17 and was disabled before it could explode.

Assistant U.S. Attorney Tom Rice could not say if any more indictments are anticipated in the case.

Harpham last month pleaded not guilty to attempted use of a weapon of mass destruction and unauthorized possession of an unregistered explosive device. A grand jury this month added the two additional charges. The superseding indictment contended Harpham planted the device in advance of the Spokane parade “because of actual or perceived race, color and national origin” of participants.

Legally, the bomb is considered a firearm, Peven said.

The Hate Crimes Prevention Act was passed by Congress in 2009, and this is its first use in the Eastern District of

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Tacoma Killer Left Trail of Murder, Rape

Parents suing Pierce County, City for wrongful death of 12-year-old

By Adam Lynn
The News Tribune

TACOMA, Wash. (AP) — Terapon Adhahn was angry the night of July 4, 2007.

He’d hoped to pick up his son for a little one-on-one time that evening, but the child and the boy’s mother weren’t home when he stopped by unannounced.

Adhahn, then 42, flew into a rage, even though it wasn’t his night to have his son.

“I wanted to destroy a human,

cause pain,” he told two FBI agents during a Sept. 8, 2008, interview at the Washington State Penitentiary in Walla Walla, according to recently filed court documents.

He still was “seeing red” a few hours later when he spotted 12-year-old Zina Linnik pedaling her bicycle on Tacoma’s Hilltop.

Within five minutes, the girl was in his van, bound with plastic ties and praying aloud, Adhahn told the agents. Not long after that, she was dead.

Tacoma police detective Lindsey Wade documented Adhahn’s comments in a report she filed in June 2009. Wade and fellow detective Bradley Graham observed Adhahn’s interview with the FBI.

She waited nine months to write the report to give Lakewood police more time to investigate Adhahn’s possible connection to the disappearance of Adre’anna Jackson, a 10-year-old girl who went missing on her way to school in 2005 and later was found dead.

Detectives call Adhahn a person of interest in that case, but he’s not been charged.

Wade’s report - made public recently as part of a wrongful death lawsuit brought by Zina’s parents — is the first public glimpse of how Adhahn snatched the girl, and why.

In the lawsuit, which seeks unspecified damages, the family contends Pierce County and the state did not do enough to monitor Adhahn and that the City of Tacoma was negligent in not

Mumia Abu-Jamal Gets a Legal Break

Court grants new hearing for journalist on Death Row since 1982

By Maryclaire Dale
Associated Press

PHILADELPHIA (AP) — A federal appeals court on Tuesday ordered a new sentencing hearing for convicted police killer and death-row activist Mumia Abu-Jamal, finding for a second time that the death-penalty instructions given to the jury at his 1982 trial were potentially mislead-

ing.

The 3rd U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals told prosecutors to conduct the new sentencing hearing for the former Black Panther within six months or agree to a life sentence. Abu-Jamal’s first-degree murder conviction still stands in the fatal shooting of Officer Daniel Faulkner, who was white.

District Attorney Seth Williams pledged to mount another appeal to the U.S.

Supreme Court, at the urging of Faulkner’s widow, Maureen.

“Yes, the criminal justice system in Philadelphia, the criminal justice system in America, have had a history of problems and racism,” said Williams, the city’s first black district attorney. “(But) this is not a whodunit.”

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