

The Seattle Times

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Metro adds buses to handle flock of Amazon interns

BUSES PACKED TO GILLS

As many as half of them are housed at UW, overwhelming Route 70

By DAVID GUTMAN Seattle Times staff reporter

At 8:18 Wednesday morning 23 people with identical black backpacks — fold-over top, metallic buckle, five leather zipper pulls, water-bottle sleeve - boarded a Route 70 bus at the University of Washington.

Eight minutes later 13 more people with the same backpack boarded another 70 bus.

At 8:40, 21 matching backpack-



carriers got on the 70, and at 8:42

At 8:55, two number 70 buses arrived at the same time and both were swamped with people carrying the black backpack — too many to count, both buses packed to the gills.

Each one of those backpacks also had one more identifying characteristic, a small tan arc with an arrow on the right pointing upward — the Amazon Smile.



ELLEN M. BANNER / THE SEATTLE TIMES

Amazon interns (with black backpacks) and others board the Route 70 See > TRAFFIC, A9 bus in the University District on Wednesday morning.

RAMADAN A CHANCE TO SHOW **NEIGHBORS TRUE FACE OF ISLAM**



Muslims and non-Muslims gather this month at the Muslim Association of Puget Sound to observe Iftar, when Muslims end their daylong fast during the holy month of Ramadan. Aneelah Afzali, second from left in the second row, heads the American Muslim Empowerment Network.

The Muslim Association of Puget Sound opens the mosque to let others see that Islam is a religion of peace, tolerance and charity.



DEAN RUTZ / THE SEATTLE TIMES

Chema Jamel Oh talks about writings in the Quran that are on a marble wall outside the women's prayer room.

By SCOTT GREENSTONE Seattle Times staff reporter

hema Jamel Oh brings her local tour guests to a marble wall covered in Arabic calligraphy.

"That's my favorite," Jamel Oh says, pointing to the inscribed verses of the Muslim holy book, the Quran. "It basically summarizes what Islam is about: 'I do not worship that which you worship, nor do you worship that which I worship.

... You have your beliefs, and I have mine." Jamel Oh is leading a tour of the Muslim Association of Puget Sound (MAPS), the largest mosque in the Puget Sound area. The guests range from Catholic parishioners to agnostics, and Jamel Oh trades jokes and quizzes them on Abrahamic religions.

This is the final week of Ramadan, the holy month during which Muslims don't eat while the sun is up, and the mosque is packed for Iftar, the ceremony at sundown where fasting Muslims eat for the first time all day. But this Iftar is different — the congregation at MAPS has opened the mosque to nonbelievers for all to join in a night of discussion and celebration. And though Jamel Oh and her colleagues are smiling and joking, security guards stand post in and outside the mosque, some wearing bulletproof vests.

Muslims have been in the news a lot, first with the election of Donald Trump, who called for a ban on Muslims entering the country during his campaign last year, and more recently with

See > RAMADAN, A6

SPD body cameras stalled over labor talks

GUILD SEEKS 1.5% RAISE

No video available of police shooting of mother who called 911

By STEVE MILETICH Seattle Times staff reporter

More than a month after a federal judge approved the Seattle Police Department's longawaited proposal to equip officers with body cameras, the timing for the rollout remains clouded amid tense labor negotiations.

The Seattle Police Officers' Guild, which has a history of trading wage hikes for reforms, has asked for extra pay of about 1 ½ percent for officers who wear body cameras, according to three sources familiar with the

The negotiations come at a time the issue has come under sharper scrutiny after no video evidence was captured of Sunday's highly charged fatal shooting of a 30-year-old African-American woman by two white Seattle police officers in her Northeast Seattle apartment.

Only audio of the confrontation was recorded, leaving many questions about what occurred when the officers shot the woman, Charleena Lyles, after she allegedly displayed two knives.

On the recording, the two See > CAMERAS, A9

CHARLEENA LYLES' DEATH by police should shame us. Jerry Large writes > **B1**

Abortion adds new obstacle for plan to unveil health bill

By ROBERT PEAR AND THOMAS KAPLAN

WASHINGTON — Abortion flared up Wednesday as the latest hot-button issue to complicate passage of a bill to repeal and replace the Affordable Care Act, which Senate Republican leaders had planned to unveil Thursday and pass next week.

The Obamacare repeal bill passed last month by the House would bar the use of federal tax credits to help purchase insurance plans that include coverage of abortion. But senators said that provision might have to be jettisoned from their version because of complicated Senate rules that Republicans are using to expedite passage of the bill and avoid a filibuster.

If that provision is dropped, a bill that has already elicited deep misgivings among moderate Republicans — and stiff resistance from Democrats, healthcare providers and patient-advocacy groups — could also generate concern among abortion

See > HEALTH CARE, A7

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