Muslims gather at Capitol for inaugural event

By Charles Pearl

Contemporary writer

Muslims from across the state will gather in Frankfort on Wednesday for the inaugural Muslim Day at the state Capitol.

People of the Islamic faith will tour the Capitol building, meet with legislators and speak with legislators who represent them, receive training on how to advocate for issues affecting the Muslim community, listen to guest speakers, including state legislators and national representatives of the Council on American Islamic Relations, and have a chance to meet the Capitol resides.

The doors will open at 9 a.m. and remain open until 6 p.m. It is sponsored by the Kentucky Chapter of the Council on American Islamic Relations, and the inclusive partners in the event are the Islamic Center of Frankfort.

Adiaz Zaman, a associate of the Islamic Center of Frankfort, said, “This is very exciting about the first state Capitol gathering in our capital city.”

“Muslim communities have organized the largest of all the communities of an event for a while,” he said. “We feel Muslim-owned businesses and restaurants serving Halal (permissible) food every day.”

“Muslim communities run Islamic centers, charitable organizations and Islamic schools in the area, and we are becoming common in major cities and areas in our hands, and we anticipate any effort to organize Muslims statewide.”

“The victory is the Muslim Community’s day and a major milestone in the history of our community, and that’s the day we discovered many Muslim organizations meet to discuss our issues, and we also organized a group of the people in our community to discuss our issues.”

She said the event will encourage Muslims to get involved in government, including running for office.

Muslims also plan to address certain legislation, including strengthening anti-bullying laws.

CAIR invited Gov. Andy Beshear to meet with the group. However, Sebastian Kitchen, deputy communications director for the governor, said Thursday Beshear failed to be available to attend the event.

Muhammad Zaman of the Islamic Center of Frankfort, a member of the Frankfort Interfaith Council, said, “We are at least 10 people from our center to attend for the whole day, and others will attend part of the day.”

Zaman also serves on the Frankfort Interfaith Council, a group of 20 men and women who voluntarily work to promote respect and understanding of all religions. Muslims on the local interfaith council include: Mohammad Zaman, a native of Iran, Faridah Fatima, formerly of India, and Tammie Fellin, a member of the community. The group meets on a monthly basis to discuss topics related to religion, culture and society, because if people know you, you are one step closer to sharing our community, and that’s part of encouraging Islam.”

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Charles Pearl, a retired State Jour-

nality staff writer, is a member of the Franklin Inter-

university of Louisville. The university is being reviewed by the Commission on Accreditation of Rehabilitation Facilities.

The event will focus on the history of the Capitol and the role of Muslims in Kentucky history.

The day will also feature a special address by Governor Beshear, who will discuss the importance of diversity and inclusion in the state capitol.

The event is free and open to the public, with no reservations required. Attendees are encouraged to dress appropriately for the weather.

For more information, please contact Adiaz Zaman at 502-245-3693 or azaman@gmail.com.

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Today

• Tom T. Hall Night Sky Tour at Josephine Sculpture Park, 9-11 p.m. International Space Station, Dan Pry. State Star Spotter/ Ambassador will give presentations on the Art Barn following the tour.

Sunday, Jan. 19

• S.P. the Franklin County Clerks Foundation presents The Black History Month Program at the Baptist Church, 234 Murray St. Host speaker will be the Rev. Dr. David Moore, the founder of the African American Baptist Church.

Wednesday, Jan. 22

• A child and adults event will be held on Wednesday, Jan. 22 from 1 to 3 p.m. at the Green Lantern Books, 424 E. Main St., Frankfort.

BLATHER

The following calls were made to the Kentucky Police Department:

• A motor vehicle accident with no inju-

ies was reported on Cedar Grove at 7:04 a.m. A burglary was reported on 93rd St. at 7:38 a.m.

• A sexual offense was reported on By-

wick Lane at 6:43 p.m. A burglary was re-

ported on Peir Ridge at 4:28 p.m.

• An intoxicated driver was reported on Tupelo St. at 5:19 p.m.

• A theft was reported on East Main Street at 11:30 a.m.

• A burglar was reported on West Second Street at 11:02 a.m.

• A burglary was reported on West Second Street at 1:38 p.m.

• A juvenile was reported at his school.

• A juvenile was reported at an address.

• A juvenile was reported at an address.

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