

African Spotlight



The Islamic Month Of Ramadan

Every year, around the month of August, the month of Ramadan fast comes and goes without many Moslems realizing the significance of this special time of the year.

The month of Ramadan is supposed to be a blessed month and the period of sacred days for Allah in which there is acceptance of supplications by Allah. Ramadan is the month in which man draws nearer to God and the barriers separating him from God, his creator are removed so that man may come directly to Him.

Each day of the month of Ramadan are generally reserved for work but at night during this time, Moslems flock into the Mosques shortly after midnight and the name of Allah is heard continuously until morning. The majesty and beauty of their god are sung in a loving fashion, which touch the human soul. In the month of Ramadan, the Moslem world from one corner to the other presents a most wonderful spectacle, obviously a host dedicated to their god and bowing down to him in the deepest meditation.

The importance and grandeur of the Ramadan is described in the Holy Koran 2:186.

"The month of Ramadan is that which the Koran was revealed as a guidance for mankind with clear proofs of guidance and discrimination. Therefore, whosoever of you is present at home in this month, let him fast therein. But whosoever is sick or is on a journey, shall fast the same number of other days. Allah desires to give you facility and He desires not hardship for you and that you may complete the number and that you may exalt Allah for his having guided you and that you may be grateful."

So fasting is emphasized. It is believed that the continually stuffed body cannot see or hear secret things or cannot effectively communicate with the creator. Over-eating breeds dullness and blunts the brain so that fasting for a certain period of the year is beneficial for mankind. It is also taught that fasting elevates the faithful to the higher stage of spirituality. It brings passion under control. It makes souls shine and removes false sense of prestige-ostentation. But most important of all it teaches democracy, how to preserve health, moral discipline, and it keeps faith in God a living force. So fasting during every day of the month of Ramadan is a duty of all adult Moslems, whatever the rank, station, position, and condition in life but it is not proper to compel children to fast.

Other than fasting to try to get closer to their god during this time, many Moslems make special arrangements to study the text of the Holy Koran and the Hadith (traditions of the Holy Prophet). At night a Moslem may hear the Holy Koran repeated in the Tarawih, special prayer, and he tries to lean and understand the same in the day. This is the special time to get back in tune with their god and many, but not a lot, take advantage of Ramadah.

Mother's Collective-Slated

A New Mother's Collective will hold an organization meeting at the YWCA Glade Street building on Tuesday, September 13, at 10:00 a.m.

The purpose of the Collective is to provide a place to share common concerns, adjustments, and feelings of new parents. Meetings of the Collective will include programs by professionals and informal discussion groups.

Mrs. David Lockman, homemaker and mother of two young daughters, will serve as coordinator of the Collective.

The New Mother's Collective is free and open to all expectant mothers and mothers of children up to twelve months of age.

Rev. Hairston To Celebrate

Members and friends of as board member of Shiloh Baptist Church in several organizations.

Rev. Otis L. Hairston on he and his wife live in his 17th anniversary as pastor, Sunday, Sept. 11. The ceremony will be held in the sanctuary of the church, located at 1210 S. Eugene St., at 6 p.m. A reception will follow in the fellowship hall, and the public is invited.

Rev. Hairston assumed the pastorate in 1960. He has also served as pastor of the Brookston Baptist Church in Henderson. He received a doctor of divinity degree from Shaw University, Raleigh. Active in the community, Rev. Hairston has served

Speaker

The Pleasant Elk's Organization will be held on Sunday, Sept. 11, 1977 at Reynolds Park, Shelter No. 10 at 1:00 p.m. The speaker will be Rev. James Goodwin. Dinner will be served immediately following a brief program.

Obituary

Mrs. Evelyn B. Duckett

The funeral services for Mrs. Evelyn B. Duckett, who died in Chattanooga, Tenn., Monday August 29, 1977, was conducted at the Friendship Baptist Church Friday, September 2, 1977, at 4:30 p.m., with Rev. Vernon Thompson officiating.

Mrs. Duckett was born in Winston-Salem and had lived in Chattanooga for thirteen years. She was a member of Friendship Baptist Church previous to moving to Chattanooga.

She was the daughter of the late Mr. Doc and Mrs. Jane Bacote. She attended the public schools of South Carolina. Surviving is a stepdaughter, Mrs. Margaret Allen of Silver Springs, Maryland; two brothers, George Goodson of Baltimore, Maryland; Issac I. Goodson of 2381 Okalina Avenue, Winston-

Salem, and several nieces and nephews. Howard-Robinson Funeral Home, Inc., was in charge of local services.

Paid Political Advertisement

Citizens to Elect David H. Wagner for Alderman of the Northeast Ward



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in a banquet dinner at the Winston-Salem Benton Convention Center on Friday, September 16, 1977 at 7 P.M. The Citizens to Elect David H. Wagner will host a complimentary cheese and wine sampling at 6:30 P.M. The banquet will begin at 7:00 and will be immediately followed by a formal reception, all on September 16, 1977.

Tickets are \$7.50 and may be purchased at:

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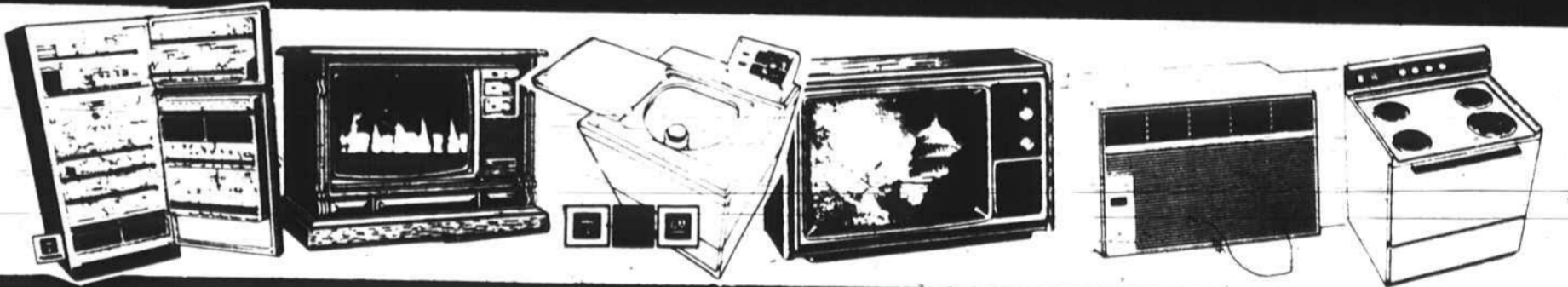
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