

Making history



ETHEL SIMON-MCWILLIAMS

Ethel Simon-McWilliams chairs St. Vincent Hospital Board

Ethel Simon-McWilliams, associate director of the Northwest Regional Educational Laboratory, has been named chairperson of the St. Vincent Hospital and Medical Center Advisory Board.

Dr. Simon-McWilliams has been a board member since July 1980 and is the first woman to serve as chairperson.

The board, composed of business professionals and civic leaders, provides advice and counsel to St. Vincent Hospital administrators on development and expansion of the hospital and its services to the community.

Dr. Simon-McWilliams holds a doctorate in education from the University of South Carolina.

A member of the Portland Mayor's Committee for Civil Service Reform (1979), she served as a school district consultant, 1975-1979. Her background includes serving as a program specialist for the State of South Carolina Department of Education, as a teacher, assistant principal, drug education coordinator, language arts coordinator, developmental reading program director, and county director of reading.



ORA LEE BEEMON

Ora Lee Beemon named to receive "Mother Joseph Medal"

Ora Lee Beemon, a central service technician and 34-year employee at St. Vincent Hospital and Medical Center, has been selected to receive the Mother Joseph Medal of the Sisters of Providence.

Awarded annually, the medal is presented to an individual who has given dedicated service to the Sisters of Providence or one of their institutions throughout Oregon, western Washington, Alaska and California. St. Vincent is one of 13 health care institutions owned and operated by the Sisters of Providence in the West.

According to her supervisor, Jim Sartor, Ms. Beemon "puts love" into the thousands of special-procedure instrument trays that she prepares for the hospital each year. She also teaches new employees in her department how to identify instruments and prepare trays.

"(Most) outstanding, however, is her Christian commitment," Sartor said. "She has raised and educated 12 'foster' children and has had an open door to children who need a temporary and loving home."

"The voice of a whole people, oppressed by a common injustice, is far more likely to command attention and exert an influence on the public mind than the voice of single individuals and isolated organizations."

—Frederick Douglass



LOUIS 'SATCHMO' ARMSTRONG

Out of the slums of New Orleans, Louis "Satchmo" Armstrong rose to the top in the world of jazz.

His trumpet and gravel voice and his inimitable style and showmanship catapulted him into the ranks of musical immortality over a career spanning almost 60 years.

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Maggie Draper Walker

In Richmond, Va., a fraternal order, the Independent Order of St. Luke, had as a member *Maggie L. Walker*. Recognizing the need for a systematic savings program, she organized St. Luke's Penny Savings Bank, and encouraged black investors to make regular, albeit small, deposits. In 1903, the name was changed to St. Luke's Bank and Trust Co., and Mrs. Walker became the first female bank president in America, black or white. Maggie L. Draper Walker, born the daughter of a former slave in 1867, was active in other affairs: she established the newspaper *The St. Luke Herald*, was a partner in an unsuccessful department store—her only failure—founded The Richmond Independent School for Girls, and helped to establish a black health care center. The bank which she founded merged with another black bank in Richmond and became the Consolidated Bank and Trust Co. with Mrs. Walker as its board chairman until she died in 1935.

287-5656/Hours: 6:30-6:00

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Simon of Cyrene

WHEN JESUS ANNOUNCED, "Whosoever will come after Me, let him... take up his cross," He was speaking to men and women who would follow Him through all generations. It doesn't matter whether a man is brown, yellow, black or white, whether he lives in the first century or the twentieth, Jesus was speaking to that man.

Are you ready to pay that price for accepting Christ? Can you carry the cross? We know that our Saviour did. The book of Mark, chapter fifteen, verse twenty-one tells us that Simon did, for it records: "They compel one Simon a Cyrenian, who passed by, coming out of the country, the father of Alexander and Rufus, to bear His cross" (Mark 15:21).

Cyrene was a city of Libya, in North Africa. In ancient times there was a large colony of Jews in Cyrene. There was also a synagogue in Jerusalem identified with Cyrenians and others. Simon had heard of Jesus. His sons were believers in the Saviour, but he himself was not a disciple.

After Pilate had given in to the mob and sentenced Jesus to be crucified, the blood-thirsty killers made ready for the execution march. A satanic swiftness marked their program. Within an hour after He was condemned Jesus was on His way to Golgotha.

Before the executioners could start with their victim for Calvary, the signing of the death warrant, and certain other formalities took a few minutes. During that time the "whole band of soldiers" took Jesus into the large assembly room. As we read in the book of Matthew, it seems that there, too, they stripped Him, clothed Him in the scarlet robe once more, crushed the crown of thorns upon His bleeding head, knelt in mockery before Him, sneering, "Hail, King." Then they spat upon Him, and lashed Him with the reed they had forced into His hand.

No later than nine o'clock on Friday morning, the death procession was ready to start for Golgotha, the skull-shaped execution hill outside the city walls, but not far from Pilate's palace. If you think that now finally the Saviour will have a few moments of peace, you are mistaken. For Jesus was forced to carry His own cross.

When Jesus fell beneath his staggering load, the Roman legionnaires removed the cross from Him, but they would not think of carrying it themselves. Hence we read, "They compel one Simon, Cyrenian... to bear His cross."

Why did they select Simon? The Scriptures do not offer any reason; but it has been supposed that the soldiers forced him into this disagreeable service because he was the first person they spied. This may be the explanation, but perhaps there is another. Simon was a dark man. He is referred to as Simon Niger, which suggests he was from Africa. It is known that Romans looked down on Africans as lowly, menial servants, fit for the ugliest tasks. Despite modern progress, millions in our enlightened culture still try to keep minority peoples in ignorance and superstition. They seek to strip them of their rights, exploit them, cheat them, despise them, coax them into evil, but do nothing to bring them into salvation. Jesus, who demonstrates no respect of persons, and before whom all races stand on the same level, is seeking the hearts of all men who will respond to His invitation.

People to People Ministries

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