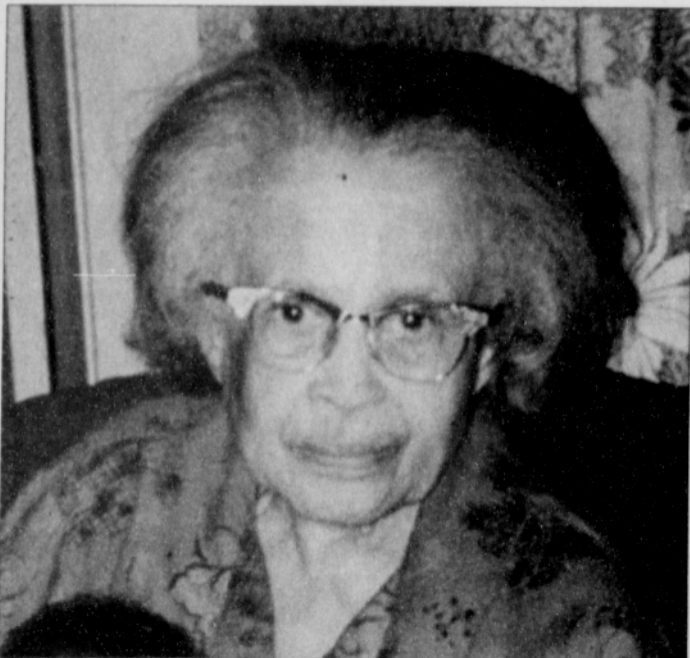


RELIGION

Vann Funeral Director Dies at 99



Roberta B. Vann, proprietor of the former Vann and Vann Funeral Home, died at the age of 99 on Thursday.

A memorial service for Roberta B. Vann who died on Thursday, April 24, 2003, will be held Friday, May 2 at noon at Bethel AME Church on Northeast Eighth Avenue and Simpson. She was 99 years old.

Born on a plantation in Minter, Miss., Vann and her family moved to Portland in 1954. She was the proprietor of the former Vann and Vann Funeral Home and a school teacher.

She is survived by a son, Cleodis H. Vann Jr.; daughter-in-law, Diana Martin-Vann; seven grandchildren and 11 great-grandchildren.

CHURCH CALENDAR

52nd Annual Day of Prayer

A group of pastors along with faithful area residents will gather at the Northeast Community Fellowship Church, 636 N.E. Stanton, for a concert of prayer on Thursday, May 1 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. The theme for this year's celebration is "Righteousness Exalts a Nation, but Sin is a Disgrace to Any People."

Maranatha Church Silent Auction

The Maranatha Church, located at 422 N.E. 12th Ave., will hold a silent auction from 10 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. on Saturday, May 3. The auction will feature books, baby items, gift baskets, household items, porcelain dolls, gift certificates, baked goods and a car wash. All proceeds will benefit the church's Christian Education Department. For more information, call 503-288-7241.

Pre-Mother's Day Revival

The Powerhouse Temple Church of God in Christ, located at 4525 N. Williams, will host a Pre-Mother's Day Revival nightly beginning at 7 p.m. from Sunday, May 4 through Friday, May 9. Prophet Ronnie Nichelson will set attendees free from witchcraft, drug and alcohol addiction, depression, sin and other ailments of the spirit. For more information, call 503-282-6800.

Bethel A.M.E. Cathedral Choir

The 25-year-old Bethel A.M.E. Cathedral Choir, under the direction of Rochelle McElroy, will put on a concert at 4 p.m. on Sunday, May 4 at 5828 N.E. 8th Ave. The choir will present a wide repertoire of traditional and contemporary music. The public is invited to this free event. For more information, call 503-287-9583 or 503-698-1550.

Poetics of Peace

On Friday, May 9 the Mosaic Multicultural Foundation will present author, mythologist and storyteller Michael Meade in an evening of poetry, stories, songs and ceremonies that draw on many creative traditions that respond to the crisis of war, the loss of culture and the spread of terror. Meade and special guests will speak at 7 p.m. at the First Congregational Church, 1126 S.W. Park Ave. For more information, call 1-800-233-6984.

Carl Gross Memorial Lecture

The Center for Spiritual Development welcomes back Marcus Borg, a leading figure in the search for the historical Jesus, to give the Carl Gross Memorial Lecture at Trinity Episcopal on Friday, May 9 at 7 p.m. Borg's lecture is entitled 'Christ and Culture Today: A tale of Two Cities.' Borg will also host a lecture on Saturday, May 10 from 9 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. For more information, call 503-478-1218.

Hope House Ministries Anniversary

In celebration of three years of service to the community, Hope House Drug and Alcohol Treatment Facility will host a banquet at the Holiday Inn, 1021 N.E. Grand Ave., on Saturday

May 10. The benefit dinner is a fundraiser to enable the Ministry to continue to provide one-year residential treatment and spiritual guidance to low-income adults desiring freedom from addiction. Tables for 10 guests can be purchased for a \$350 tax-deductible contribution. For more information, call 503-287-0060.

Advertise with diversity in The Portland Observer call 503.288.0033 or email: ads@portlandobserver.com

Minority Teachers Sought

continued from Metro

Oregon, Victory adheres to a unique teaching model that Blizzard said he has heard of nowhere else in the country. With two instructors in each classroom and a 15-to-1 student to teacher ratio, the school plans to give pupils as much one-on-one attention as possible.

Specialized subject teachers will be available to tutor students in their areas for 45 minutes before school and roaming classroom teachers will stay after school 45 minutes to catch up any pupils who may have fallen behind during the day.

Unlike in public schools where teachers design their own curriculum, classroom content at Victory is set in stone a year in advance to ensure that nothing gets passed up.

"Teachers won't be making choices about what is or is not important to teach," Blizzard said. "Everything will get taught."

While such structured curriculum may seem limiting to instructors' creativity, it actually allows students to move through classroom work at their own pace. Blizzard said the public school educational model assumes that students all progress at the same time, whereas in reality, everybody learns at a different rate.

The school's advanced learners will have the opportunity to work ahead of schedule. If they finish one year's work, they are welcome to start out the next year. Blizzard said that chance is particularly important for kids who want to skip a grade or those who have been held back and would like to catch up with their age group.

Because of the diverse ethnic groups and migrant populations in north and northeast Portland, Victory will also feature an English as a second language program for students in need. Headed by Dan Lucero, the ESL program will strive to help students of Hispanic, Asian and Eastern European backgrounds become productive in both their native languages and English.

Victory Middle School will hold an open house on Tuesday, May 13 for parents who are interested in registering their sixth-grade students for the fall term or sixth- and seventh-grade students for next year.

Any certified teachers or college graduates interested in teaching for Victory are encouraged to contact Rich Blizzard at 503-789-9009. The deadline for applicants is May 16.

Teachers won't be making choices about what is or is not important to teach. Everything will get taught.

-Victory Middle School Principal Rich Blizzard



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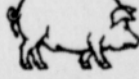
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