

March 2018

ARISE & REJOICE

Positive Stories About Positive People

MAGAZINE.

A close-up portrait of a middle-aged Black man with a mustache, smiling warmly at the camera. He is wearing a dark blue suit jacket over a light blue and white striped shirt and a red tie with a blue paisley pattern. The background is a soft-focus outdoor setting with green foliage and a stone wall.

**Raised In Prayer
Devoted To Service**

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Family Finds Strength In Music

Goodness, grace and prayer are at the heart of the home that Richard Harding shares with his wife, Sue, and their grandson, Jared, who they adopted seven years ago. The family has a band called "The Lonely Wolves" that performs for ministries, veterans groups and the public.

Jared, 14, plays the guitar and drums. He also writes most of the band's songs, and is its lead singer.

"My faith has done many things for me in my life," said Jared, who will be a first year high school student this fall at Lowery Freshman Center in Allen. "It has gotten me through both personal and medical crises that I have faced in my life. My philosophy of life is that I want to become better, not bitter."



Jared has brought great joy into the lives of his grandparents.

Jared composes many of his songs in the middle of the night. He writes the lyrics and shares them with his grandparents. He was inspired to write after hearing a song that his grandfather had written for

a fellow police officer who was killed in the line of duty.

"I am thankful to God and to my grandparents who saved me from all the pain and stress that I had in my life," said Jared who is cur-

rently home-schooled by his grandmother. "I want to inspire people with my music, especially young people. Too many of us do not take responsibility for the things that we do. Taking responsibility is very important."

"Jared has been a blessing in our lives," said Richard, who like his wife was raised in Dallas. "He has made our lives complete. We both think that he will do great things with his life that he will serve people and help to make the world a better place."

"We are blessed to have a wonderful grandson, and I am blessed to have a wonderful husband," said Sue who worked in education for more than two decades. "Our faith is what gives us balance, and what keeps us moving forward." | **AR**



Opportunity OF A LIFETIME


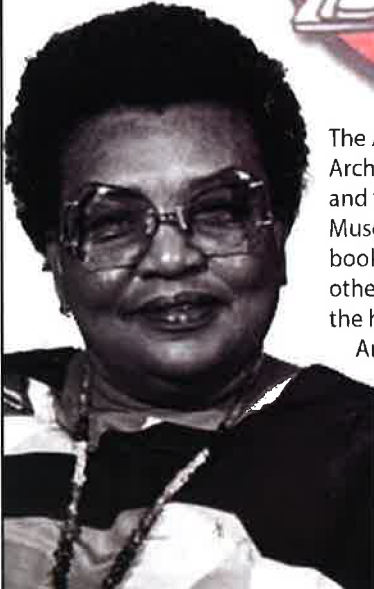
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Documenting the African-American EDUCATIONAL EXPERIENCE



The African American Education Archives and History Program and the Dallas African American Museum are collecting documents, books, papers, artifacts, and other materials to document the history of the African American educational experience in Dallas County, Texas. For more information or to do to the project, please contact Dr. W. Marvin Dulaney at 817-406-8443 or e-mail wmarvindulaney@yahoo.com.

Early Each Morning

For nearly twenty years Jimmy Sosa managed a distribution center in North Texas.

Then one morning, shortly after sunrise, his employer informed him that his services were no longer needed.

"I was devastated," said the West Texas native. "I had given them everything that I had inside of me. I thought I would retire with them."

His sense of disappointment and hurt did not last long, said Sosa, who owns the Highway 10 Tire Shop in Euless.

"I did not know much about the tire business other than that an opportunity existed to provide customers with a much-needed service," said

Sosa who opened his enterprise in October of 2010.

"We treat customers fairly, and with respect."

A resident of Hurst, Sosa told friends and family about his new business. Word spread quickly that he was honest, and that his products were of high quality, and were reasonably priced.

"I have always believed in treating people fairly," said Sosa, whose partner, Cynthia, a native of Puerto Rico, works with him in the business.

They faithfully attend First Baptist Church of Euless.



Cynthia and Jimmy Sosa are devoted to their business, and to their family.

Highway 10 is open six days each week. On Sundays the two principals spend quality time with their children.

"Sunday is our time for our

family and football," said Sosa.

"We believe in our business, and we believe in one another," he said. | AR

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An Abundance Of Faith

As the sun rises each morning in Cedar Hill, its radiant warmth embraces the Church On The Hill, blessing its people and their pastor for being vessels of faith, and patrons of goodness.

With more than one thousand members the house of worship had its beginning in the living room of Pastor Adam McCain and his wife, Jami, a member of the Cedar Hill City Council.

"I began my ministry in Texas seventeen years ago," said Pastor McCain, a nationally known speaker, church planter and father of three children. "Initially the work here centered around building and supporting ministries throughout the world."

For seven years Pastor McCain directed the Bible School at Christ For The Nations in Dallas. A fellow clergyman said that Pastor McCain should start a church.

"At the heart of our ministry is a sense of service ... we are on a mission."

"Our church began with approximately twenty members," he said. "Our first service outside of our home was in funeral parlor. From there we moved to a recreation center."

At the heart of the ministry of Church On The Hill is a deeply-

rooted sense of service to those beyond the walls of its sanctuary.

"We are on a mission," said Pastor McCain who was called into ministry at the age of fourteen. "We have adopted three schools in Cedar Hill, and when they have needs we are there to meet them."

In addition to supporting the school system, Church On The Hill sponsors an annual arts festival in the city, and partners with the city each Easter to provide festivities for children, including a massive Easter egg hunt.

"We are actively involved with students on area college campuses," said Pastor McCain whose parents, both former mis-



The vibrancy and soul of the Church On The Hill is reflected in the character and heart of its visionary pastor, Adam McCain.

sionaries, relocated to Cedar Hill to assist their son and daughter-in-law with the ministry.

"We are a body of faithful people called to service," he said. "God has placed great purpose in our souls, and on our hearts" | **AR**



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A Seeker of Peace

With an engaging demeanor and a welcoming smile, the new president of the Dallas Peace and Justice Center, Aftab Siddiqui, spends his days and nights attempting to convince people that peace and justice are fundamental to human growth and global progress.

"The work of peace in our world is crucial," said Siddiqui, a U.S. citizen who immigrated to this country from Pakistan. "Each of us must become peace advocates. We should not live in a world of persistent conflicts. War is not an acceptable alternative

The Dallas Peace Center began its work in the 1980s. Some of the most prominent res-

Siddiqui is an ardent proponent of peace and justice.

idents of North Texas have been involved in its activities.

"We would like to change war economies to peace economies," said Siddiqui, who helped to launch the Muslim Democratic Caucus of North Texas. "Among our various committees at the Peace Center is one that works against the existence and proliferation of nuclear weapons," he said.

"We are committed to creating a nuclear-free world," Siddiqui said. "It makes no sense for any country to have nuclear




Siddiqui, left, counts among his colleagues national leaders such as Donna Brazile and Syed Hassan.


weapons."

Siddiqui said that he enjoys the work of the organization. "I

consider it to be a great honor to be in a leadership role," he added. | **AR**



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Selecting the Right Lawyer

If you are involved in a criminal or civil dispute and your situation requires the services of a lawyer, it is extremely important that you use your best judgement in selecting who represents you!



Your selection of an attorney may be financially costly, but you want the best result and often getting the best representation can be expensive.

It is important that you look before you leap. Prudent steps in the beginning will avoid an abundance of pain and shock once you are on your legal journey.

There are some basic steps in selecting legal representation that everyone should know. For instance, if you are charged with homicide or aggravated assault you might not want to retain someone who specializes in divorce law.

In selecting a lawyer you should apply the same standards that you use when purchasing a

If your potential counselor balks at explaining the agreement you probably need to excuse yourself, and find other representation.

fine cut of meat for your family's meal on a special occasion.

Not only is it a good idea to get references about a potential lawyer but it is also wise to review his or her standing with the local and state bar associations. Do that before you pay a retainer.

Once you see a lawyer and you are asked to sign a service contract make sure that you understand it before you sign.

Since most agreements are written in legal terms, which can be difficult to understand, ask

your potential lawyer to explain it to you without using legal terms. Don't be afraid to say that you are confused and need further explanation.

If your potential counselor balks at explaining the agreement you probably need to excuse yourself, and find other representation.

Remember, you are the one who is facing the difficulty. The role of your legal representative is to make you comfortable, and lead you through the process with acceptable results. | **AR**

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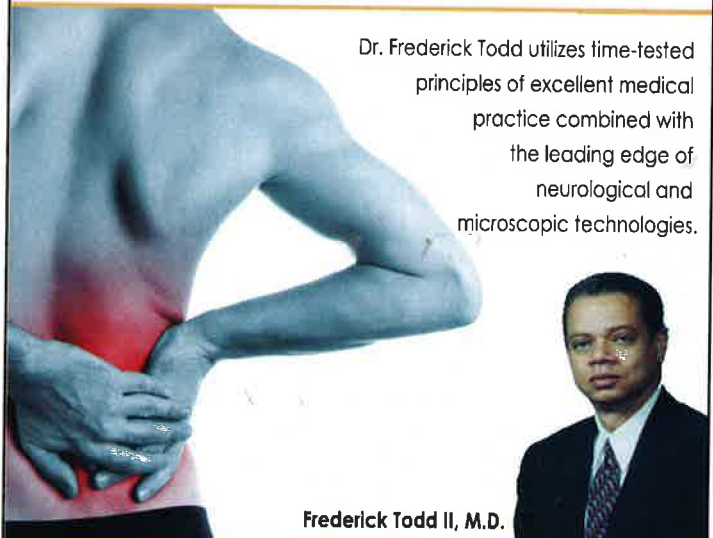
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