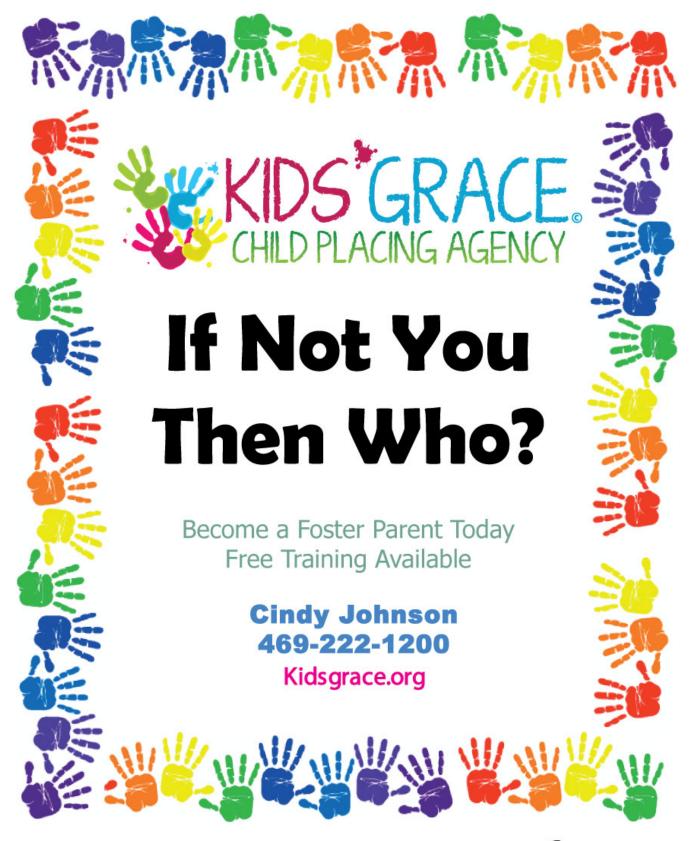
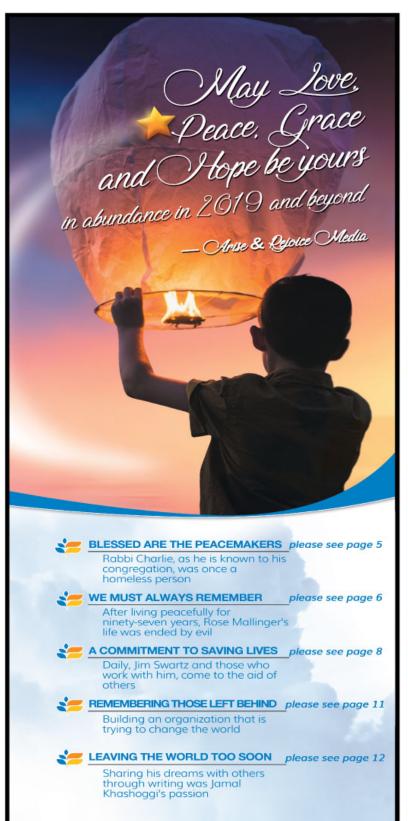
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Volume 1 Number 7 December/January 2019

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Arise & Rejoice is a publication that demonstrates the goodness and grace that abounds within all people. It seeks to bring all of us closer together, promoting understanding and reconciliation.

It believes in the development of a community of "we" where no one is seen as "the other" and where all people are acknowledged and respected!

Blessed Are the Peacemakers

abbi Charlie, as he is fondly known to the members of the Colleyville congregation he serves, has experienced homelessness and has worked in a soup kitchen. When he married his wife, Adena, he made her last name a part of his own, and he embraces all people as members of a single human family.

"Our world is broken and we have to repair it," said Rabbi Charlie, who has led members of Congregation Beth Israel in Colleyville since 2006. In fact, he is the first rabbi to serve the institution's one hundred eighty families that look to him for spiritual and personal guidance.

Working nearly ten hours daily and six days each week, Rabbi Charlie has a broad smile that illuminates the hearts of those who hear his sermons, and that lifts the spirits of all those who meet him.

"I want to see a world in which all people are treated with dignity and respect and are honored for who they are," said Rabbi Charlie who grew up in Lansing, Michigan, raised by a single mother, Judith, with three children. His father, Mark Walker, an elementary school principal, died when Rabbi Charlie and his brother and sister were small children.

"I want to see a world in which all people are treated with dignity and respect."

"Daily I look for opportunities to be peaceful and kind towards all of those that I meet," said Rabbi Charlie, a member of the Colleyville Ministerial Alliance and the Southwest Association of Reformed Rabbis.



Rabbi Charlie and his wife, Adena Cytron-Walker, met while studying at the University of Michigan.

"Beth Israel is a congregation of servants," he said. "We have people who serve in the military, and others that are directors or members of organizations that attempt to enhance people's lives, and improve communities."

"We believe in making the world a better place in which to live," said Rabbi Charlie, who was educated at the University of Michigan and at the Hebrew Union-College-Jewish Institute of Religion's campuses in Cincinnati and Israel.

Experiences that Rabbi Charlie had while working for a non-profit in inner-city Detroit and at a soup kitchen in Massachusetts have helped to shape his life, and sharpen his sense of mission.

"I believe that we can make the world better," he said. "We simply must be rooted in our beliefs and in our common humanity. We have no alternative than to try." | AR

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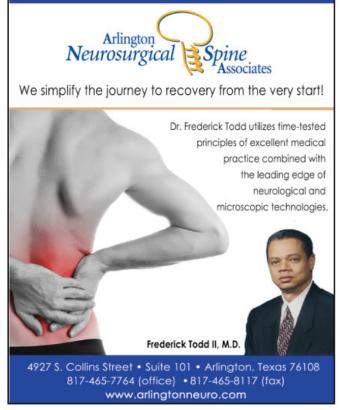
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Caring For and Saving Lives

ours before the sun lights the sky in the morning, when the world is near silence and darkness prevails, Jim Swartz begins his day, preparing himself to direct an organization whose principal mission is to quickly respond to accidents on roadways and industrial sites in North Texas.

Often on his brief drive to his office he prays that everyone will be safe, but the reality of living is frequently different, with numerous accidents and life-threatening injuries occurring, leaving people in need of immediate professional medical assistance.

"I believe that the work we do each day is a calling," said Swartz, the president and chief executive officer of CareFlite, the Grand Prairie-based air medical program which uses an airplane, helicopters and ground-based ambulances to meet the emergency medical and transportation needs of accident victims.

"The people I work with, the paramedics, the nurses, the pilots, the drivers and the office personnel are all committed to helping others, to saving lives," said Swartz who has guided CareFlite since the summer of 2005.

A former business owner, airline pilot and U.S. Military officer, Swartz said that a primary function in his position is to ensure that CareFlite employees have the best information and equipment that they need to serve people who find themselves in harm's way.



The work of law enforcement is important to Jim Swartz and CareFlite

Created in 1979, CareFlite, a not-for-profit entity, is sponsored by the Baylor Scott & White Health Care System, the JPS Health Network, the Methodist Health System, the Parkland Health and Hospital System and Texas Health Resources.

Affordable, and membership-based, CareFlite is widely recognized as the finest air and ground ambulance service in the entire United States.

Twice each year, on the 4th of July and during the Christmas season, Swartz, a member of Temple Emanu-El in Dallas, travels throughout North Texas with baked goods that his wife, Lynn, prepares for CareFlite employees.

CareFlite is widely recognized as the finest air and ground ambulance service in the entire United States.

"I am extremely proud of the work that we do, and of the people who work here," Swartz said. "This past year we aided and transported 103, 196 patients, some in very critical condition, to area hospitals and facilities."



Highly-trained emergency workers from CareFlite respond quickly to scenes of major accidents.

A native of Baltimore, Swartz's great-grandfather, Mano Swartz, opened America's oldest furrier in 1889 in that city. Jim Swartz was introduced to the family business when he was merely five-years-old.

His grandfather, James Swartz, taught him very valuable lessons about how to treat people, and how to properly run a successful business. They remain with him today, he said.

"He taught me never to hesitate to do what is required to make an enterprise successful," Swartz said. "And the importance of creating a work environment where people feel valued and welcomed. That is what we do at CareFlite," said Swartz, who taught the same lessons to the three children that he and his wife raised.

"Coming to work each day at CareFlite is a gift, a great privilege," Swartz said. "What could be better than being a member of a team that saves the lives of men, women and children, and being told thank you for what you have done?" | AR



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Finding a Divorce Lawyer

ivorce can be extremely painful, financially and personally. Those who do not have children and complicated finances with their spouses should consider going to a mediator before hiring a divorce lawyer.

In most instances, mediation will be less expensive and quicker. familiar with family law judges in the city or county where you intend to end your marriage.

If you have friends who are divorced ask them to recommend lawyers and ask your friends what questions you should ask those that you intend to interview. Remember, you are hiring someone to advise you during



"Always ask about costs that you may have to pay the court."

If mediation is not an alternative to help you terminate a union and you must pursue litigation, it is a good practice to interview more than one lawyer, legal experts say.

It is important to find someone who is experienced, and is

a very important time in your life. Use the internet to find reviews of lawyers and read comments from their former clients.

Do not hire the first person that you speak with. Ask each of those that you inquire about the cost of a divorce, and their payment schedule.

Always ask about costs that you may have to pay the court. In some instances use your instincts.

For instance, if a lawyer appears too busy or impersonal during your first meeting, he or she is more than likely not the person that you want to handle your divorce.

While you are not hiring a therapist or psychologist, you do want the services of a caring and compassionate person that makes your feel comfortable, and who will help you get through a difficult time in your life. | AR

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Training farmers in Uganda is critically Important to Julius Sonko, second right, and his wife, Eva.

"Each summer we take a team of American farmers and students to Uganda."

The second oldest of fourteen children, it would have been quite easy for Julius Sonko, a trained academician equipped with an MBA and a doctorate's degree, to forget about his siblings and others in Uganda, his native country, where some people earn less than one dollar each day.

When he was a teenager, Sonko promised his parents, Jonathan and Judith and others in his family whose fortunes were not as bright as his own, that he would one day do what he could to improve their lives, and the world.

"The majority of people in my native country are farmers," said Sonko who in the summer of 2016 with his wife, Eva, organized a humanitarian organization named Eatbeta which assists farmers in Uganda, training them in modern-day farm techniques, and farming economics.

"Each summer we take a team of volunteer American farmers and college students to Uganda," said Sonko, who lives with his wife A non-profit organization, Eatbeta has a number of employees throughout Uganda and numerous volunteers in the United States.

"In just under two years we have made significant progress in Uganda," said Sonko who funds much of the program from his personal earnings that he receives from Dallas Baptist University and from his practice as a financial consultant.

Two universities, Prairie View A&M and North Carolina AT&T have sent students as volunteers. A number of Texas farmers have also participated in the program, Sonko said. | AR

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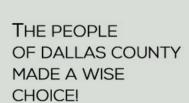


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