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Montagé

asis

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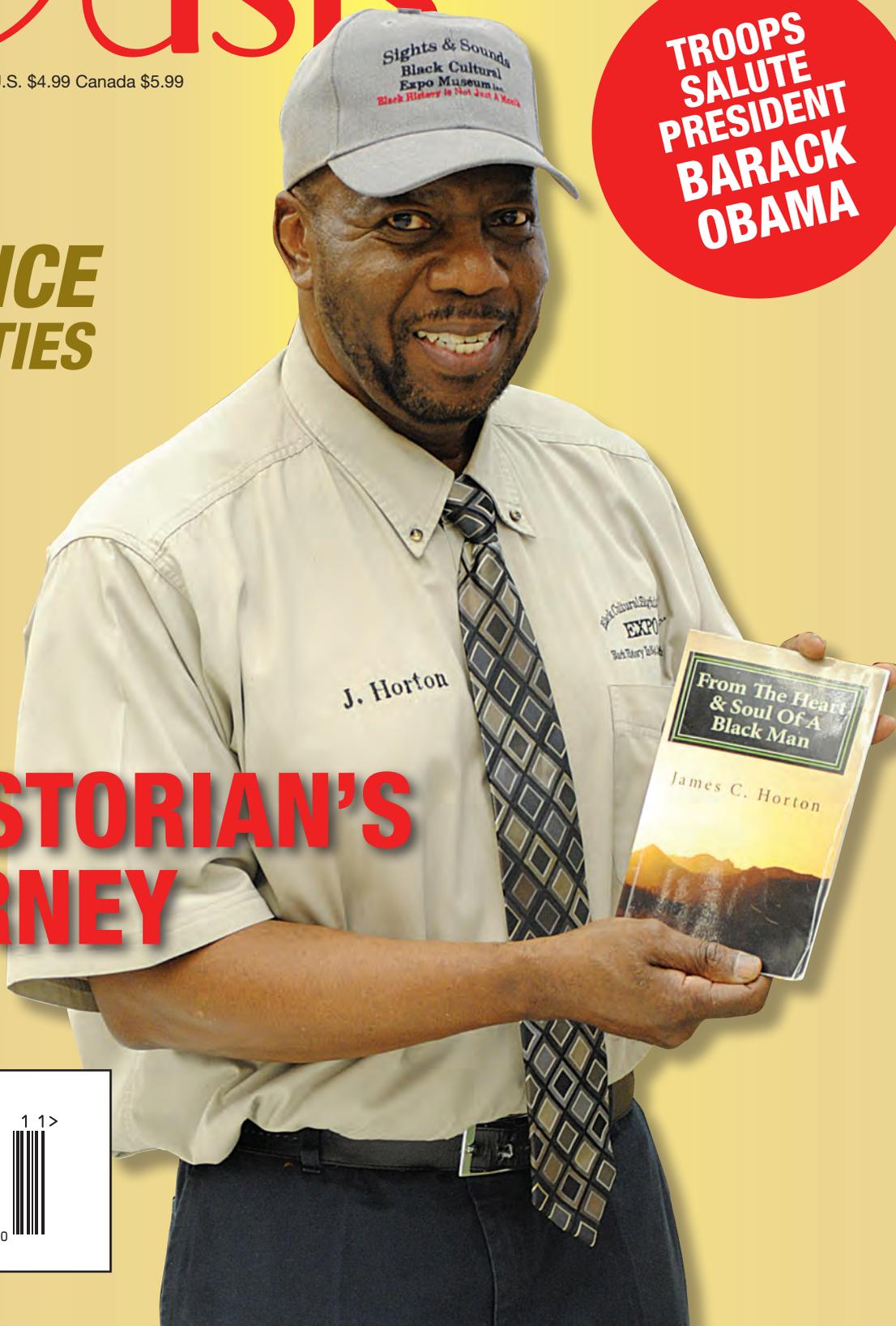
MARCH/APRIL 2017

**TROOPS
SALUTE
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**ESSENCE
FESTIVITIES**

**FUN AT
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GRAS**

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Montagé Oasis

The magazine of Fashion, Arts, Entertainment, Religion, Health Beauty, Fitness, Life

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FOUNDER'S PAGE

as I look back at the 2016 year, I am grateful and thankful that God has retired my family into a beauty community that has allowed me to plant my feet and grow with a multitude of blessings. I am also thankful to NAACP President Terry Williams, the NAACP has voted me in as Chief of Communications for Fayette County. My work is cut out for me, but I'm ready to make a difference. I look forward to upholding the work and the mission of Fayette County NAACP.

In this issue, *Oasis Montage Magazine* has added a new look called Shades of Sistas. In this section we will feature women of all nationalities and cultures. They will give their testimonies and accomplishments.

Oasis Montage staff traveled to several events and interviewed celebrities at the Essence Festival in New Orleans. It was a fabulous event and people came from all over the world to hear their favorite artist like Maxwell, New Edition, Baby Face, Mariah Carey and Johnny Gill. The surprise visit was with Oprah Winfrey. She dazzled the audience with grace and glamour as she spoke with amazing words of wisdom. The tour of the Mardigras warehouse was fabulous to watch how they create parade props.

Oasis Montage Magazine sponsored two major events, the Christmas stage play, *The Gift of Giving*, and the Non Profit Trinity Awards along with Coca-Cola. At the Christmas play, *Oasis Montage* distributed hundreds of toys to children. At the awards, they featured the X-Factor finalist, Lillie Nicole McCloud and she rocked the house in an amazing award-winning gold gown.

Lets us always remember our feature story of James Horton. An honorary historical celebrity of Tuscaloosa, Alabama. Horton is a man that has trail blazed through our history with so many African-American memories of our



roots. He takes the black culture back with history lessons of all the inventions of the Black community to an unbelievable victory of the first United States President, Barack Obama.

The United States still has a lot of obstacles to face in the upcoming years with a new President, but we honor and say thank you to President Barrack Obama. May God continually bless you and keep your family President Barack Obama.



C.O.O. *Terrence Jackson*

Terrence Jackson is the new Corporate Operations Officer of *Oasis Montage*. Because of his many gifts and talents, Terrence holds the title of the Director of Arts and manages the Fine Arts department. Most of his life has been spent in church ministering in the Arts department helping and performing in plays. Terrence passion is in music and teaching our young people as they learn their gifts.

Terrence is married to wife Chrystal Tolbert Jackson of 11 years. They are blessed with 10 beautiful artistic children. Terrence is a gifted celebrity performer that is very humble. His stardom includes playing lead comedic roles as well as opening for performers. Terrence singing career as a minister of music has allotted him to be a mentor for community youth and travel nationwide.

You can find Terrence film work from acting in movies, *Motives 1&2*, *The Walking Dead*, *The Conquer*, *Fast & Furious*, *The Protocol*, *Switching Lanes*, *Baby Talk*, and *Burn Notice*. You can also catch Terrence on sitcom shows like Tyler Perry's, "House of Pain." Terrence has also performed with artist such as: Fred Hammond, Tommy Ford, Keke Wyatt, Jasmine Guy, J Furlough, Little G of group Silk, Big G, R&B Group112 etc.

In ministry, Terrence has served as an Adjective to Bishop Kenneth Bacon, Bishop T.D Jakes, Pastor Beverly Hunt, Dr. Myles Monroe, Bishop Torrey Mosley, Bishop Jeffery Billingsley, and his mentor Dr. Stan Harris. Terrence is a talented musician and plays various instruments as well as a professional that does voice overs, voice impersonations. Terrence is a man with sense of humor and is loved by many.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR



Missing Prince

I truly loved the feature story on Prince. I have loved Prince my entire life. His death is very sad, but his life left a lasting legacy. Prince music is one of a kind and no one can mimic or sing like him. I am going to miss him but I remember my favorite song, *Do Me Baby*.

Shelly Taylor, Kansas

The Deep Dark Secret

One of the most things I love about Oasis Montage Magazine is that the articles keep you guessing and you don't want to put the book down because it grabs your attention. The celebrities at the awards on the Red Carpet has the most amazing dresses not to mention I so enjoyed seeing Who's with Who? One of the articles called Secrets really had me glued. I was disappointed that there was not more to the story. It was like a cliff hanger. I so hope the article continues because everyone has a deep dark secret, but that secret had somewhat of a happy ending..

Leanne Smith, Baltimore, MD

THE FAYETTE COUNTY NAACP BRANCH

PRESENTS

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the First African American Mayor *of Fayetteville, Georgia*



Edward Johnson, pastor of Flat Rock AME Church in Fayetteville, Georgia was elected mayor of Fayetteville, Georgia in 2015. He is the first African American to be elected in this position. Fayetteville was not the only African American elected in 2015; several small cities in Georgia

also elected mayors. Edward Johnson is a retired US Naval Commander as well as the pastor of Flatrock church of Fayette County. In 2011, Johnson was elected as the first black member of the Fayette city council. Johnson served as president of the NAACP for 3 terms.

NAACP

Fayette County Branch

The NAACP Fayette County Branch of Georgia had their 2017 installation for new officers.

The Fayette County Branch was organized and chartered in February 1997 at Olivet Church, Fayetteville, Georgia. The purpose and aim of the Fayette County Branch of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People is to continue



to make a positive impact on the quality of life for the citizens of Fayette County. The NAACP strengthens and encourages excellence in the Youth Council and they fight against injustices of any kind. They not only contribute to cultural,

educational, social and political programs, but the NAACP also gets involved in the development of a socially healthy community. President Terrance Williamson President of the NAACP Fayette County branch stands to promote education, social, political and economic equality and opportunities.



Montage Man



REGISTRATION FORM

THE **Montage** MAN CONTEST IS FOR THE MAN THAT CAN IDENTIFY HIMSELF AS TO WHAT MAKES HIM A REAL MAN. HE WILL WRITE ABOUT WHAT MAKES HIM THE MONTAGE MAN. HE WILL ALSO WRITE ABOUT THE TYPE OF WOMAN HE CONSIDERS A REAL MONTAGE WOMAN. A WOMAN THAT IS SPECIAL TO HIM.

MEN MAY SUBMIT THEMSELVES, OR OTHERS MAY SUBMIT YOU. YOU MUST SUBMIT \$75.00, THE ATTACHED FORM, AND A HEAD- SHOT IN JPEG FORMAT.

THE JUDGES ARE READERS OF OASIS Montage MAGAZINE. THE READERS OF OASIS Montage MAGAZINE, WILL DECIDE WHO AND WHAT MAKES A Montage MAN. THEY WILL EMAIL THEIR VOTE, AND THE WINNER WILL RECEIVE A DINNER FOR 2, AND A FULL PHOTOSHOOT, STORY AND LAY-OUT. THE WINNER WILL BE ANNOUNCED IN JULY, 2017

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Lemtrada

By Carolyn Moore



Relapsing multiple sclerosis (MS) is a disease that affects the central nervous system (CNS), which consists of the brain and the spinal cord. It is sometimes mistaken for other illnesses, and it can take time to confirm the diagnosis. However, an early diagnosis can help with managing symptoms and the impact of the disease. It's important to learn all you can about relapsing MS, its symptoms, and the treatment options that are available.

If you're thinking about a new treatment for your relapsing multiple sclerosis (MS), talk to your doctor about ZINBRYTA—a prescription medicine used to treat adults with relapsing forms

of MS. It is the only once-a-month subcutaneous (under the skin) injection for relapsing MS.

ZINBRYTA is a prescription medicine used to treat adults with relapsing forms of multiple sclerosis (MS). Because of its risks, ZINBRYTA is generally used in people who have tried 2 or more MS medicines that have not worked well enough. It is not known if ZINBRYTA is safe and effective for use in children under 18 years of age.

Michelle was diagnosed with MS when she was in her early twenties. She has had several relapses and had several medications that failed so her doctor prescribed the medication Lemtrada.

Carolyn was diagnosed when she was 47 years

old. She did not know why her vision was blurred or why she couldn't feel her left side. She had suffered paralysis a few times until her doctor gave her an MRI. Carolyn says, "having MS has had a major impact on my life. One minute I was a successful cosmetologist and case worker and the next I could no longer move my fingers. I thought I had carpal tunnel syndrome but the doctor said I was wrong. When I could not see, the eye doctor kept changing my prescription, then my sight would go back to normal after 2 weeks. I later found out I had optical neuritis caused by MS. It was not until we moved from Colorado to North Carolina that I was diagnosed. I never had evident symptoms until we moved. I had been in the cold most of my life and the North Carolina heat took a toll on my whole life. I had to stay inside the air conditioner more than half of the year because I would not be able to walk in the heat. I started losing my memory and was no longer able to drive after getting lost so many times.

“After several relapses, my neurologist found an MS center in Tampa, FL and that’s when they gave me a miracle drug called Tisobri.”

After several relapses, my neurologist found an MS center in Tampa, FL and that’s when they gave me a miracle drug called Tisobri. It was great. I went from being in a wheelchair to being able to finish college. After a year on Tisobri, my JVC levels got too high and I had to stop taking it because my fatality rate was escalated. I am now on the Lemtrada medication. It has only been 3 months, but I feel like my old self again. No more falling, walking like I’m drunk, mumbling when I talk and pain in my joints. I was at the Emory MS center taking the Lemtrada for a week. Several patients were in the room getting the same treatment. Your immune system is down and have to wait 6 months before the meds are totally in your system and your immune system to be back to normal. I have to take Lemtrada for 3-5 years. After the 5th year, I won’t have to ever take anymore MS medication. They send a nurse to my



house every month to check my blood insuring my organs are doing well on the medication. It is wonderful to not have to take daily medication. No I’m not 100%, but I am 100% better than I have been in 6 years. Lemtrada is a very expensive medication but I highly recommend MS patients to try it especially if their MS meds have failed. My doctors said 48% of my lifespan is gone and I have several legions on my brain, but I am grateful God has left me alive to share my story with patients like me that have MS. It’s important for MS patients to know that this medication is available so they can live a healthier life.”

If you cannot afford your medications, Biogen and AbbVie may be able to help. Contact 1-800-456-2255 for more information.

Lemtrada and MS information in this article can be found on website: <https://www.lemtradahcp.com/>

The Gift of Giving

The Gift of Giving
is a true story of a mother written
by Carolyn Moore.

T **THIS 1970'S STAGE PLAY SIMULATES** the television show "Good-times." It is about a poor family that lives in the ghetto of Chicago. The mother and father have 5 children. The older son and daughter rob, gamble and drink boones farm wine while hang out with gang members. One daughter thinks that her daddy is the milkman because she looks different. Her hair is long and straight and she is teased by her siblings because they have kinky afro's. The milkman comes by delivers milk and a dollar for that one child that is rebelliously disrespectful to her mother. This child thinks mama is cheating on daddy with the milkman.

Mom is angry with God because her daughter was killed robbing a liquor store. She is also angry with her husband because he gives all his hard earned steel mill money to the slick hair Mercedes driving pastor. Pastor eats steak and the family eat beans for every meal. Mom won't go to church but the dad says, "a family that prays together stays together."

EssenceFest



The 22nd year, ESSENCE Fest was full of exciting exhibits, fun, food, and festive cultural events. The concerts featured an array of hip-hop and R&B stars to include Kendrick Lamar to Mariah Carey, Maxwell to Lion Babe. The New Edition concert featured Johnny Gill as they took you back to all their old school hit songs. Maxwell sung and mesmerized the audience with soothing voice. The fest had several shows in different locations as well as interviews with celebrities like Bernadette Stanis of 1970's T.V.

show, "Goodtimes" and Morris Chestnut who was their for the viewing of his movie, "When the Bough Breaks." The Gospel concert featured Kelly Price and Tamela Mann who sang, "Take me to the King."

ESSENCE Fest received a first time appearance with a visit from Oprah Winfrey. Security was heavy, but the audience gave her a warm welcome on this 4th of July weekend.

Look for the 2017 celebrity Line-up to include Mary J. Blige and Diana Ross.





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Portrait of Doris Wells



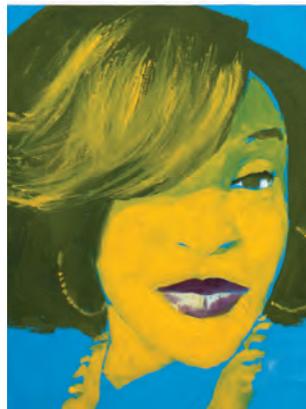
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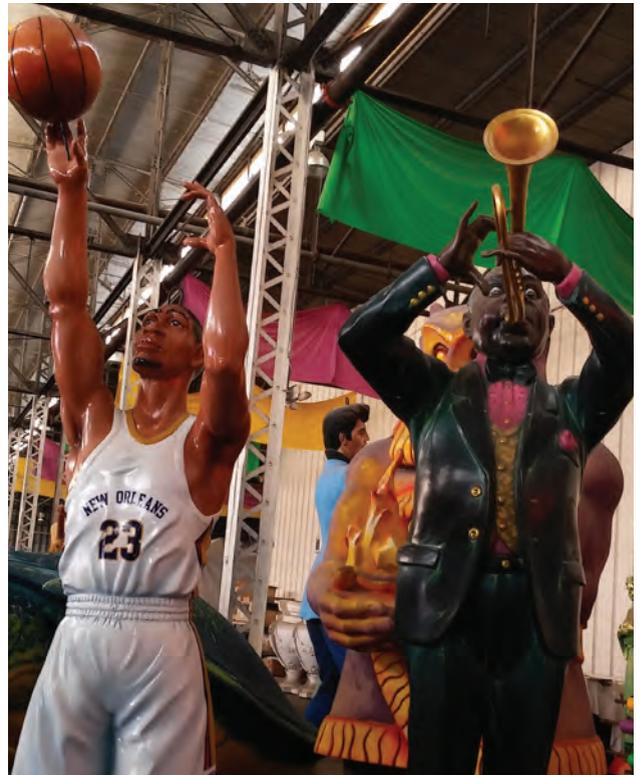


Ashley's Moods

Mardi Gras

MMARDI GRAS A CHRISTIAN HOLIDAY, is a popular cultural celebration. It takes place every February on the day before Lent; also known as "Fat Tuesday." The holiday is celebrated by throwing beads, wearing mask and decorating floats as well as eating King Cake. New Orleans, Louisiana is the only state that has made Mardi Gras legal. People travel from all over the world to New Orleans for this festive occasion. The carnival props are figurines of characters that are hand carved and created in a big warehouse.

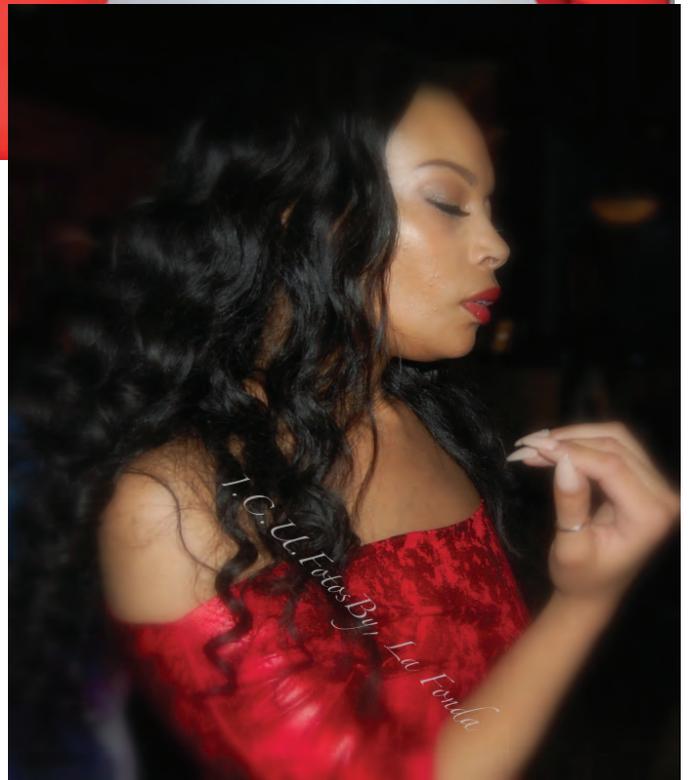
Mardi Gras, 2017 is celebrated on February 28th.





Fashion

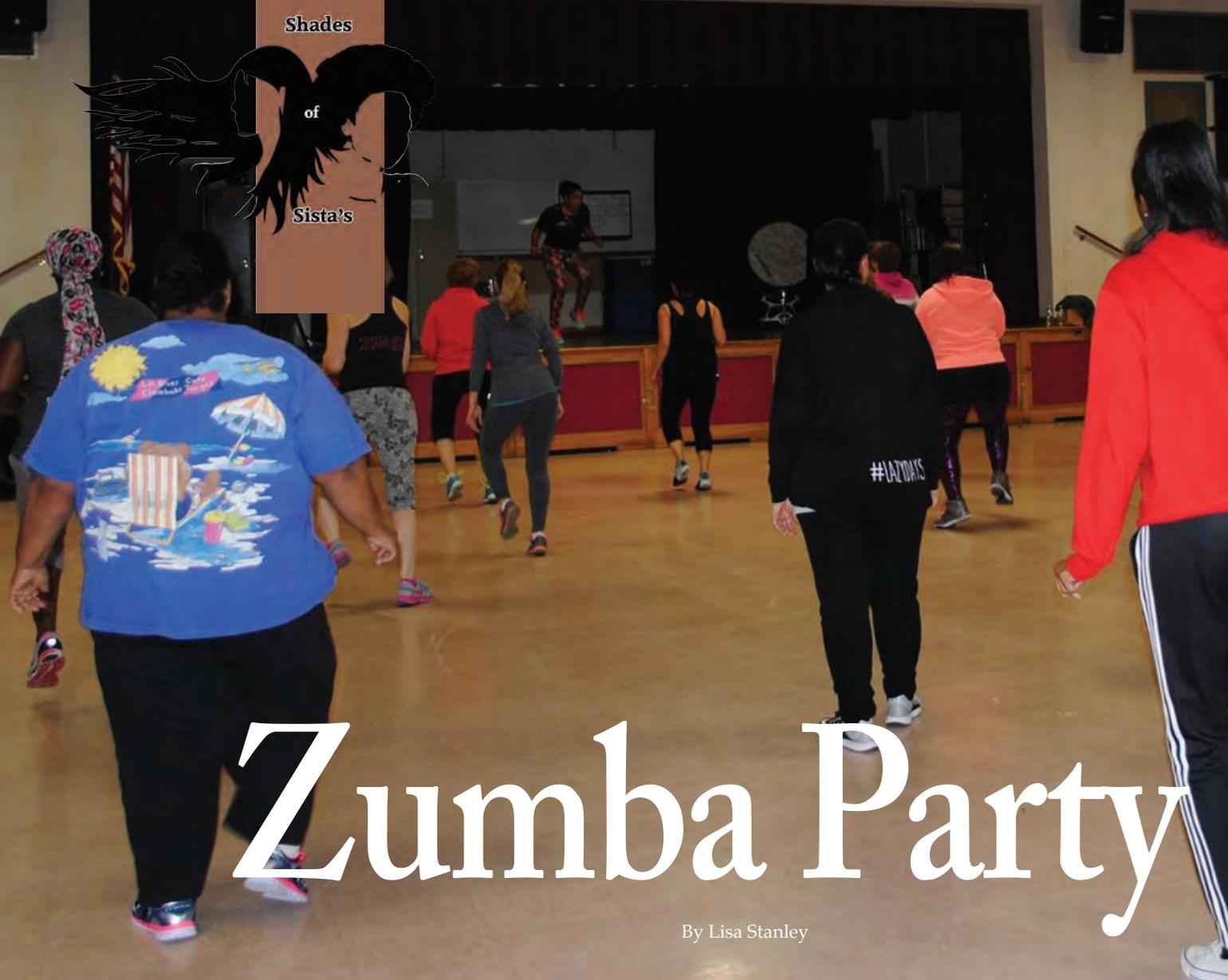
Photos by **LaFonda**











Zumba Party

By Lisa Stanley

What attracts people to Zumba? For me, it was curiosity. About 7 years ago, the gym introduced a “great new workout” – a Latin-inspired dance class. That day, the Zumba class began. By the end of the class everyone was hooked. It was amazing that dancing would make you sweat so much, and it was so much fun! The class participants couldn’t stop smiling. Jennifer, a participant says, “After attending classes regularly for many years, I decided to be an instructor. Teaching Zumba was a great decision. It was the best decision I have ever made.”

Zumba is a fitness program like no other. It was started by a Colombian trainer, Alberto “Beto” Perez, in the 1990s. Today, Zumba is the largest – and most successful – dance-fitness program with locations in over 125 countries around the world. CEO of Zumba, Alberto Perlman, said, “Zumba is not about burning calories. Zumba is about changing lives!”

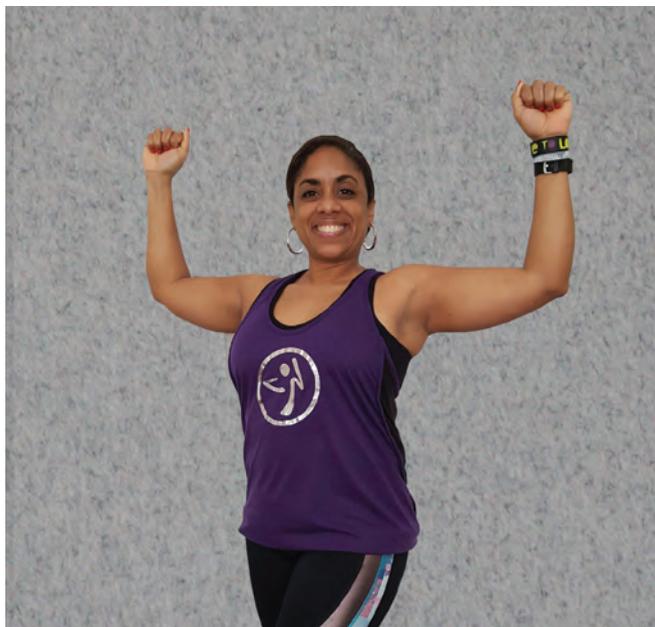


Zumba changes people's lives. Jennifer adds, "I enjoyed one hour every week 'letting loose' and feeling the music." Jennifer an Instructor says, "As an instructor, My Zumba community developed and the participants kept me coming back for more and more. I looked forward to instructing and working out for the first time in a long time. I now have the privilege of being a part of people's fitness journey, and I am a part of a worldwide Zumba family that has embraced me, and supports me wherever I go. I've met incredible people from all walks of life and developed lifelong friendships over the years."

Zumba may feel like a party, but it's actually a highly effective high-energy aerobic workout, with some strength training and core strengthening too. Once the infectious music starts, everyone is united and dance as one. Enthusiasm and an amazing positive energy radiates throughout the room. With easy to follow choreography, this workout appeals to people of every shape, size, age, ability and color, allowing both beginner and advanced participants to be in the same class. And it's non-judgmental. You don't have to move exactly like the instructor. For one hour, participants can enter a safe zone and leave the day's negativity behind. Jennifer goes on to say, "I have seen anxious "I can't dance!" People come out of their shells, children build confidence, and its wonderful to see families working out together. We celebrate each other, we encourage each other and we sweat while laughing together. My participants often say that I look like I'm having a great time in class. I truly am having a blast. I can't help but to just smile. When I look out and see the smiling faces looking back at me, it gives me joy to know they are loving the class as much as I love instructing it."

Allow Zumba to change your life too. Join me weekly at Tyrone Recreation Center where every class is always free, and every class is a party. For your next Zumba party, contact:

Tyrone Recreation Center
145 Commerce Drive
Tyrone, GA 30290
609-326-3621



Resilient Beauty

by Melody Martin
Photography by LaFonda



The last thing anyone wants to be is battered and beaten. To be made to feel unworthy and humiliated are things victims deal with. Here I was, a beautiful mother working to take care of her children. I had just realized I was being victimized and needed to go on the run.

Growing up I had Domestic Violence all around me and as a young child you don't really understand what was going on. My parents argued fussed and fought all night, but the next day it seemed as though everything was ok.

The day that sticks clear to me is the day I almost lost my life. Things happened so fast, my kids and I were immediately moved from New York City to Atlanta, Ga and within the next 24 hours, we were on a flight holding only one suitcase. We only had enough clothes for me, and my 2 daughters. My girls were only age 1 and 10 years old. After arriving in Atlanta, I later

checked into the S.H.A.R.E House, a Domestic Violence Organization. At the organization, I started counseling and began to rebuild my life. The opportunity to pursue entertainment was a dream come true. As a survivor, I created The Resilient Beauty Organization. I wanted women to look and feel beautiful and no longer hide behind a mask of shame, they now have a resilient beauty.

In honor of Domestic Violence Awareness Month in October, The Resilient Beauty Organization of the Purple Rain Drops Project, recognizes individuals, businesses, corporations, and non-profit organizations. They are recognized for their outstanding services, resources and support to victims of domestic violence. For 2016, Jennifer Blue has been chosen along with a few other amazing Honorees from across the USA.







Melody Martin, Founder of Resilient Beauty Organization
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Sisters

By "Leslie"

WITHIN FOUR YEARS, two of my sisters passed away from cancer and my father passed away from pulmonary fibrosis. While they were fighting for their life, I remember always being sad and randomly crying in public places. I couldn't focus, couldn't sleep, was constantly stressed, and lived in fear of receiving more bad news.

God brought me to the realization that the fear and sadness I was experiencing were not going to change my circumstances. I couldn't carry the burden on my own – I needed to give it to Him. Through witnessing my sisters' unwavering faith and positive attitudes, I was able to follow their example, begin to rely on Him, and put my trust in **Him**.



My sister, Lisa, told me that she welcomed adversity because she “saw and heard” God more during those periods of her life. From her perspective she was a winner if she “beat the cancer” but also a winner if God took her home. She absorbed herself in God’s Word daily by reading the Bible and listening to Christian sermons and music.

My other sister, Cheryl, told me how God is creating something beautiful using all things – good and bad. She told me to picture God weaving a tapestry using beautiful, vibrant colors as well as dark, unattractive ones. Under this tapestry is where all the tangled, messy, leftover threads hang and the final product is on the other side. God sees the beautiful creation – the top of the tapestry – but we only see underneath it – the mess of tangled threads that doesn’t make sense until we are able to see it from the other side. I learned to trust that God has a perfect purpose for our lives even though we may not understand exactly what that purpose is.

“Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding.” Proverbs 3:5

Days before Lisa passed away she shared a vision where she saw God. At that time her lungs were filling with fluid and she had great difficulty breathing. During her “visit” with God, she was able to breathe effortlessly! She emphasized to us that she was not dying, but going from life to life! This vision was a gift from God that confirmed everlasting life for those who believe in Him.

God continued to bless me during this difficult time by giving me my husband and the birth of my son. He enabled me to experience joy amidst my sadness and allow happiness to shine over what was a dark time in my life. God showed me it was okay for joy and sorrow to co-exist.

I have learned to trust that God will handle my circumstances - I just need to seek Him and listen for His voice. My favorite way to hear God’s voice is through song lyrics. “If My People Pray” by Avalon resonated with me during this difficult time.

I still experience worry and stress, but I have learned to rely on God by giving Him my stresses and asking for His guidance. He gives me confirmations by allowing me to hear a message repeatedly through devotional readings, sermons, songs, or just private thoughts. God is good! He wants us to have joy in times of sorrow and lean on Him when we are worried and weak. He assures us that He will make something beautiful out of the broken areas in our lives.

Shades of



We are sistas from another mother but we share a genuine love for one another.

There is nothing like knowing someone that is a friend for life because I can't imagine us being apart.

We keep one another close to our heart.

Life is too short and we cherish the fun, laughter

and the joy we have.

Without these things our life would be sad.

Although we are of different shades of colors, we share the beauty of love and unity and that's all that matters.

Our friendship and sisterly bond is what we love most, at our gathers.

Little Sistas



Journey of Ourstorian

By MaSu

"History is a feeling; a journey absent of words rising up from our ancestor's soul through the stories of our griots."

—from a Wednesday's Child





I have always believed that museums are havens for a people meandering adrift, like a lighthouse is to a ship lost at sea. Museums are our guiding and distant light that leads us into a brighter future. But more vital is the Lighthouse Keeper than the lighthouse; he maintains the machines and communication between the lost and the safe passage. A Keeper of all sorts of things is what I call Mr. James Horton, the founder and curator of the Sights and *Sounds Black Cultural Expo Museum*.

In the United States, museums outnumber Starbucks and McDonalds combined. More than 35,000 strong, they are the fabric of our nation's education and inspire the economic and social change in our communities. Museums find their home in some of the strangest places; barns, abandoned gas stations and even airplane hangars. So, to be nestled off the main corridor in a brightly lit, once-upon-a-time clothing store in North DeKalb Mall outside of metro Atlanta is just right. As my photographer and I approached Mr. Horton sitting on a mall bench, his glow of contentment could not be contained. He peered onto the sea of barely half of his collection of more than 8,000 pictures, artifacts and memorabilia that has clung to him for more than half a century. It is hardly the haven I had imagined for Black America and the

world's most historic and sacred memorabilia, but it was in no better home than with Mr. Horton.

Mr. Horton's view of Black history is not like most of us that obligate ourselves to watch the selective programming during those 28 cold days in February. Nor is his journey peppered with hate from the saltiness of injustice and sometimes absent equality. For more than three hours my photographer and I listened to his personal stories that intertwine with America's most historical moments.

A long way from his birthplace in Tuscaloosa Alabama, Mr. Horton's travels around the world have staged his personal memories from Alabama to China and finally resting in Atlanta, Georgia.

What began as an assignment to cover a story about another Black American museum's struggle quickly transformed into a personal awakening and rededication to why I became a writer, photographer and passionate about preserving history. Mr. Horton took me through 'his-story'; an emotional, determined and at times humorous accounts of what makes us a proud and rich people.

Mr. Horton's personal accolades are displayed on 'The Collector's Corner' that consumes more than three thick and richly stuffed notebooks,



trophies and dozens of plaques. Among them my favorite, appointed as the first and only Lieutenant of Martial Law for the state of Alabama by Governor George C. Wallace. It was during the country's racial divide in the 1960's and 70's that Mr. Horton was instrumental in maintaining peace and order in the community and state that was the podium for blatant hate. He later was awarded a Proclamation Day of Recognition by the City of Tuscaloosa.

His colorful and at times, humorous personal accounts of modern-day events are part of the tour that you will receive free of charge when you go to the museum.

His story of what happened on the Edmund Pettus Bridge in Selma Alabama on that 'Bloody Sunday' in 1965 is like none other. While the rest of the world looked on with political and racial eyes, Mr. Horton's reason to go to the bridge that day was not political or racial, but will remind you that love is infused in even the worst experiences. (So, you'll have to visit the museum to get this beautiful story for his test of love) He'll tell you the story of his childhood friend that was the son of the Grand Wizard of the Ku Klux Klan; where they came together as children on an open field across from his home to play stickball and marbles. It was the agenda of each of their parents that he

would witness that same childish playground be transformed into separate platforms to demand their definition of equality. One gathering would be for civil rights and racial equality, while the other for white supremacy. I did see a spark in his eyes when I asked him. "From those days of unrest and uncertainties what would be your proudest moment? His face lit up and that reverent smile burst through as he said, "My years as the coach with the Fast Breakers." Mr. Horton founded and coached the Tuscaloosa's community center multi-year championship basketball team.

Mr. Horton, unquestionably is that Lighthouse Keeper that a people rely on that may wander adrift when they need to find a haven and a positive attitude for us as a people, a community and a nation.

Sights and Sounds Black Cultural Expo Museum is a collection that Mr. Horton began more than 27 years ago, from his desire to encourage with an optimistic impact to learn the positive Black history through the sights and sounds of the stories that have significant value of a people. He also has created a mobile museum that he travels to various schools, colleges, universities and recreation centers. The museum is open Monday-Saturday 10a.m.—5p.m. and Sunday 12p.m.—5 p.m. The museum is free and welcomes donations.

Salute Our Troops



Every year our nation salutes our troops. Our first black President, **Barack Obama** has given honor to the troops and as he leaves office of the United States of America, we honor and give thanks to him as well as all the men and women who have served our country.



The Nonprofit Lady

The One With A Heart For The Community

A Helping Heart

By Carolyn Moore

Photos by Sharon B. Dowdell and Bob Glickman

Imagine not having any food, being homeless, no clothes on your back, and not being able to afford an education. Who do you turn to, where do you go? There are non profit organizations that genuinely care with a helping heart.

Linda Brooks Horton, otherwise known as “The Nonprofit Lady,” is a Certified Nonprofit Consultant, the Executive Director of the Nonprofit **Trinity Awards**, Inc., and business owner of “The Nonprofit Lady, LLC.” Linda and her agency specialize in the area of nonprofit development.

Linda has been in the nonprofit leadership and administrative capacity for over 35 years. She has organized several community outreach programs, and has helped individuals nationwide establish their nonprofit organizations. Helping small businesses obtain their nonprofit status is Linda’s passion.

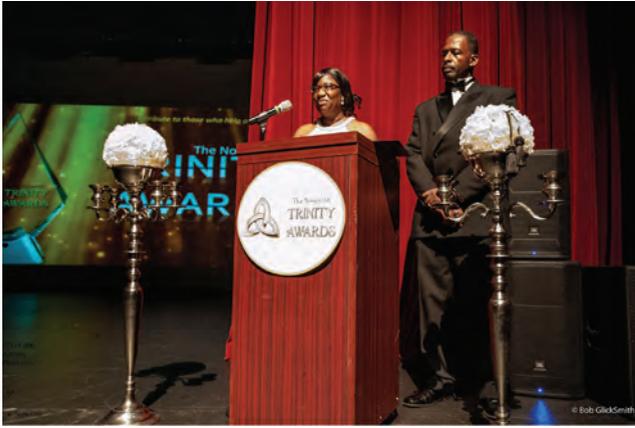
One of the recipients of the 2016 Trinity Awards is the owner of the Sights and Sounds Black Museum in North Dekalb Mall, Atlanta, James Horton. Ourstorian, Mr. Horton, historically educates and stimulates the mind with a wealth of educational information. His multitude of efforts to keep at risk youth out of the streets of violence has been a major contribution to not only to Atlanta, but also to Tuscaloosa, Alabama; his birthplace. You hear Horton’s heart when hundreds of men, women and children flood Horton’s museum asking a multitude of questions. He delivers and enlightens them with stories only he can recite through his life changing historical experiences that endured conflict and racism.

Although James and Linda Horton have 2 separate non profit organizations, its no surprise that this couple, are unified and give with a helping heart.









For the success of the upcoming prestigious red carpet Trumpet Awards event, please help and make a tax deducted donation online at: www.trinityawards.com or call 404-936-0090



Expatriate Living in Saudi Arabia

By Connie Robinson

I have found living in Saudi Arabia to be one of the best experiences of my life. The city really lights up at night and it is beautiful. Only in Riyadh will you see signs like this. You can actually go to the very top of the building and look down from the observation deck. The architecture of the building are amazing. It's normal to see camels on the side of the road or the back of a truck while driving. Some of the building here are made with mud and straw just like in the biblical days.

WESTERNERS WHO COME TO live in KSA have a number of different attitudes, there are those who wish to explore the local culture and try to mix with the locals and visit historical sites (those that are open to non-Muslims), and there are others like a couple of American friends of mine who refuse to leave the safety of their compound! Shopping is amazing here if you like to shop. They have more shopping malls than I've ever seen in one place. They have the same stores as the United States for the most part. It is very normal to see the high end stores in every mall and along the shopping districts. This is definitely the

shopping capital of the world.

Driving in Riyadh Saudi Arabia can be challenging. To go 15 minutes down the road may take 45 mins to an hour. Most do not follow the rules of the road and everyday you can expect to see an accident. In general living in Saudi Arabia I have felt safer on the streets than living in my own country. For the most part I look just like them. The people are very friendly and they are just as interested in our culture as we are in theirs. One challenge with being a women is that women are not allowed to drive. If going off the American compound, we are provided a driver to take

us everywhere we want to go if our husbands are not available. This has made me extremely spoiled.

Living by the Rules in KSA

If you are living within Saudi Arabia you will be aware of the many rules that you have to abide by, restrictions that would be challenged in any court in the west. But this is Saudi Arabia, the birth place of the Muslim religion and the Saudi interpretation of the rules is extreme. Prayers are observed 5 times per day and everything stops, I mean everything; stores close, businesses stop and everyone goes to pray in the mosque, in the office

or even in the street. If you time your visit to the supermarket wrongly you will find yourself with a full trolley and a 30 to 40 minute wait before the checkout staff return. However, we do have a church right here in the birth place of the Muslim country. Grace Outreach Riyadh is founded by Apostle Olusegun Aigbogun and his wife Pastor Mope Aigbogun. Pastor Mope Aigbogun has written an awesome book about their experience in Riyadh Saudi Arabia titled “Do You Know Why You Can’t Feel My Pain” which she has done a book signing tour all over the United States. They currently live in Cairo Egypt. Her book can be found on amazon.



The Inutero Foundation

By A.C.L. McQueen

T**TERRY MOUTON** (donation recipient The Inutero Foundation) standing along with owners of Haske Adult Daycare Center, a client and A.C.L. McQueen all of Kansas City, Mo. Thanks to A.C.L. McQueen (far right) founder of The Inutero Foundation, Terry Mouton was hired by Haske Adult Daycare as a driver. She is pregnant and happy to secure financial and healthy stability for she and her unborn child.



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