



The Power of One:

A Celebration of Black History Month and the Unsung Heroes of Thomasville, GA.

Black History is American History

Mrs. Gertrude Horne is the First Black Woman to open a Beauty Culture School in Thomasville, Georgia in the late 1940's. She was president of the Thomasville Beauty Culturist League in 1954. She was a pioneer that insured to all her students that they would pass the State Board test after the completion of her school and would receive their State License.

Posted on Feb 16, 2018

As part of the City of Thomasville's celebration of Black History Month, we'd like to announce our next unsung community hero...Dr. Gertrude Horne.

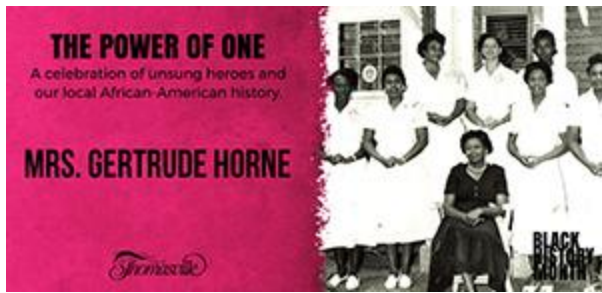
Dr. Horne was a trained cosmetologist and the owner/operator of LaCharme Beauty School located on Railroad Avenue. LaCharme was the first beauty school to be established in Thomasville. Dr. Horne received her Bachelor of Science degree from State Rite Beauty School in Tallahassee, FL and her Master's degree and Ph.D. in Cosmetology from the National Beauty Institute of Cosmetology.

Andre' Hadley Marria is Dr. Horne's great niece- though she was more like a beloved granddaughter than a niece. She recalls Dr. Horne's home and beauty school being the center of the Black cultural community. Morria says that Dr. Horne was quite the disciplinarian, not only at home but at her Beauty School as well. She was very particular about how her students dressed and expected all of them to bring their own equipment to class and to maintain that equipment to the highest standards.

Dr. Horne served in all capacities of the Beauty Cultural League on the local, state and national levels. Marria recalls the Beauty Cultural League having fashion shows at The Ritz Theater on West Jackson St.

In addition to the Beauty Cultural League, Dr. Horne was also a member of the American Beauty Chapter 214 EOS, the Business and Civic League, Kelly Rose Temple #1005 and NAACP.

More about this amazing woman and how her "Power of One" made a lasting impact on our community.



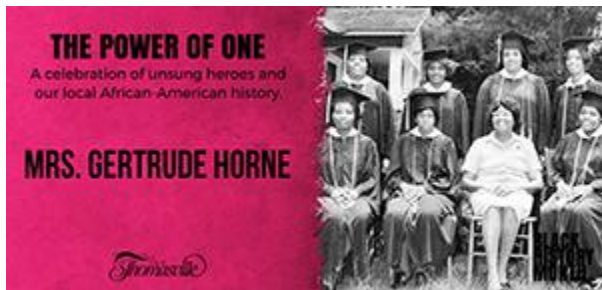
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Posted on Feb 19, 2018

Our second post about this community unsung heroes, Dr. Gertrude Horne. In addition to owning the first beauty school in Thomasville and holding a Masters and PhD in Cosmetology, Dr. Horne was also a published poet, author and playwright. One of her popular books was entitled “They Gave Me My Flowers – Poems, Essays and Prayers.” Dr. Horne was also a popular columnist for the Thomasville News.

Dr. Horne was the founder of First Unity Missionary Baptist Church, with the first service of the church being held in her beauty school. She served on the Mothers and Deaconess Board at First Unity MB Church. She later became a member of Providence Missionary Baptist Church where she organized and directed the church’s first Junior Choir. Dr. Horne’s great niece, Andre’ Marria said she loved to speak in church and wrote several plays for the congregation.

We will continue to share how this remarkable woman’s “Power of One” made a lasting impact on our community.



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Posted on Feb 22, 2018

This is our final post honoring this week’s unsung hero, Dr. Gertrude Horne. Dr. Horne was very progressive in her thinking and was, in many ways, very much ahead of her time. Her niece, Andre’ Marria recalls that she was loved by the whole community, both the African American and the white communities. Before integration, it was rare for an African American woman to receive a loan from the bank, but because she was so well respected, she did just that and was able to build her own beauty school. When asked what people should know about Dr. Horne, Marria said that to Dr. Horne, there was no such thing as “no.” Her philosophy was that anything you speak life into will happen. Dr. Horne’s life is the perfect example of that belief.

Thank you, Dr. Horne, for the lasting impact your “Power of One” has made on our community.