

“A life that touched so many... echoes still. What a beautiful life we celebrate now. What an example of how to live and how to love.”

# EDITOR'S LETTER

## Serendipity

Offering opulent splendor at every turn, our *Gladys* team staged our Holiday Cover Shoot at the Fairy-tale Estate & Castle called Oheka, built on the highest point on Long Island, NY. Driving through the gates of this architectural French Chateau wonder, I knew we would all be in store for a breathtaking shoot. When I entered the impressive foyer, the grand staircase reminded me of the staircase from the Chateau Fountainbleu in France. I took the tour of the mansion and grounds upon my arrival with Nancy Melius who provided the luxurious accommodations for us and then I started to prepare the exquisite wardrobe that had arrived in boxes upon boxes from our designers in our Guest Suite.

I am so honored to feature Kim Alexis as our Holiday *Gladys* Cover Model! Being a Cover Girl is nothing new to Kim Alexis having graced over 500 covers including six Swimsuit Illustrated Covers in her awe-inspiring career. Having been photographed by Richard Avedon, Patrick Demarchelier and Francesco Scavullo to name just a few. To *Gladys Magazine*, she represents everything we want in a Cover Model. Values, Professionalism, Class, Beauty (Inside & Out) and most of all she is "Our Most Inspiring Person" for many reasons. Read our feature on page 56.

I grew up admiring Kim Alexis. We are the same age. She is now a 49-year-old mother of five, and host of TV Land's reality series "She's Got the Look," a modeling competition show for contestants aged 35 and up. So, I was very excited to meet her. Kim gave up her career for a short time to raise her beautiful family. And, now Kim is Back! I knew after our first conversation that she was the real deal. She said to me, "Andrea, let's play for the day and just have some fun!" She sounded like one of my girlfriends.


And, so we wanted to treat her to a day filled with fun, playing dress up, feeling like a princess and being Cinderella at her own Castle with Fadil Berisha as our Prince Charming, coming in and taking such stunning images for us to share with all of you. Everything came together so beautifully just like the well known classic folk tale that inspired us.

Some People Call it Magic. Some People Call it Destiny. I like to Say that this was Serendipity. All of us at *Gladys Magazine* feel that Kim Alexis IS a Cinderella Story! She is a Dream Come True in so many ways. As the car whisked our Cinderella away, she hadn't been gone 30 minutes when I received this message. "Thank you for today. I really enjoyed my princess day. You have a dream to help others in many ways. Blessings to you." Now, that's a Modern Day Cinderella with Class.

“Beauty is a treasure, but graciousness is priceless. Without it nothing is possible. With it, one can do anything.”  
Thank you to all.

*Andrea Patrick Forte*





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**Managing Director:** Fabian Forte  
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**Contributing Photographers:** Fadil Berisha, Anna Donovan, Daniel Du Verney, Philip Valende, Bill Streicher, Brian Wilson, Ron Newcomer, Tiffany Kyees, Harry Langdon



*Dedicated to Mom & Dad*

**Gladys Magazine**  
 PO Box 612  
 Connellsville, PA 15425  
 ph: 888-840-5448 fax: 724-626-3343  
[www.gladysmagazine.com](http://www.gladysmagazine.com)

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