



Some ask: Why seek pardon for Rosa Parks?

By Bob Johnson
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

MONTGOMERY, Ala. - During the 50th anniversary of the Montgomery bus boycott last year, civil rights leaders called for a pardon of Rosa Parks over her arrest for refusing to give up her seat to a white man.

But now, some - including the pastor of the church Parks attended in Montgomery - are coming out against the idea.

With a bill moving through the Alabama Legislature to pardon Parks and perhaps hundreds of others for violating segregation-era laws, they say a pardon implies she did something wrong.

"Why would brave people like this need to get a pardon from anyone? Someone needs to tell them that we treated you wrong," the Rev. Joseph Rumbert, pastor of St. Paul A.M.E. Church, said Monday. "I want my grandson to know what she did."

However, Mary Smith Ware, 69, urged passage of the pardon legislation. The black woman was arrested and fined \$10 for refusing to give up her seat on a crowded city bus about two months before Parks' arrest.

"I should be pardoned because I feel I didn't have to get up and give my seat to anyone," Ware said.

State Rep. Thad McClammy, a black Montgomery Democrat and sponsor of the bill, said the pardons will spell out that they are being issued because the Jim Crow laws were wrong. "I'm in no way trying to compromise history," McClammy said.

Parks died in October at age 92 at her home in Detroit, where she had lived since 1957. The

idea of a pardon for her and others was raised during the December celebrations in Montgomery honoring the 50th anniversary of Parks' arrest and the start of the Montgomery bus boycott.

Montgomery Mayor Bobby Bright said he would be uncomfortable pardoning Parks and others.

"They came up and resisted unethical, illegal and inhumane laws. I feel horribly inadequate to pardon someone who did nothing wrong," said Bright, who is white. "We should be asking them to pardon us for the way we treated her and others in that period."

The national president of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference, Charles Steele, said he would like to see the Legislature pardon Parks and others.

Steele, a former member of the Alabama Senate, said he fears that if the arrests remain on the books, someone in the future will look at the records and not understand the moral context of the arrest.

Lillie Mae Bradford, 75, said she was arrested in 1951 after walking to the front of a bus to ask a driver to ask for a different transfer. He said the driver used a racial slur in ordering her to the back. She said that arrest has caused her difficulties over the years.

"It caused me a lot of problems when I tried to get state, federal and city jobs because I had a police record," Bradford said.

The pardons, which would have to be applied for by those arrested or by a family member, would be available to people who were arrested for violating various segregation-era laws, like the prohibition against entering whites-only restaurants and other public places.



Parks

A Major FAMILY Event

The State Farm

Black Family Expo

Presented by Whirlpool & Radio One

Saturday March 25, 2006

**Charlotte Merchandise Mart
11am - 6pm**

ENJOY Lots of Music, Food, Entertainment, Guest Speakers and more!

Don't Miss Your Chance to Perform in the **2006 GOSPEL GET DOWN**

Enter Your Choir Now!

The Deadline is **Friday, March 3, 2006.**

Call toll free for details.

SPONSORED BY:
 State Farm Whirlpool Radio One Walgreens Lowe's Food Wells Fargo Carolina Harley-Davidson Brinks Home Security Adecco Talley's Green Grocery Cornerstone Medical Peach Auto Painting & Collision DR Horton Vision Realty Group Interim Healthcare First Citizens Bank Charlotte Post M.A.D.D

Produced by **really COOL EVENTS.com**

For Exhibitor and Sponsorship Information
Call TOLL FREE 1-866-771-6664

You have story ideas. We're listening.

Call (704) 376-0496

e-mail editorial@thecharlottepost.com

The Charlotte Post

AccuWeather.com 7-DAY FORECAST FOR CHARLOTTE, NC

Thursday	Thu. night	Friday	Saturday	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday
56°	32°	54° 32°	54° 32°	60° 36°	68° 42°	63° 39°	62° 38°
RealFeel	RealFeel	RealFeel	RealFeel	RealFeel	RealFeel	RealFeel	RealFeel

The patented RealFeel Temperature is AccuWeather's exclusive index of the effects of temperature, wind, humidity, sunshine, precipitation, and elevation on the human body.

WEATHER TRENDS THIS WEEK

Temperatures

Precipitation

Forecasts and graphics provided by AccuWeather, Inc. ©2006

IN THE SKY		
Sun	Rise	Set
Thursday	6:24 a.m.	6:36 p.m.
Friday	6:22 a.m.	6:36 p.m.
Saturday	6:21 a.m.	6:39 p.m.
Sunday	6:19 a.m.	6:40 p.m.
Monday	6:18 a.m.	6:41 p.m.
Tuesday	6:17 a.m.	6:42 p.m.
Wednesday	6:15 a.m.	6:43 p.m.

MOON PHASES		
Thursday	Friday	Saturday
2:33 a.m.	11:57 a.m.	1:09 p.m.
3:25 p.m.	1:09 p.m.	2:24 p.m.
4:10 a.m.	2:24 p.m.	3:39 p.m.
4:48 a.m.	3:39 p.m.	4:54 p.m.
5:21 a.m.	4:54 p.m.	6:07 a.m.
5:51 a.m.	6:07 a.m.	7:20 p.m.
3/22	3/29	4/5

REGIONAL CITIES															
City	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday	City	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday	City	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday	
Aiken, SC	61 34 s	59 33 pc	56 31 pc	61 32 s	Memphis, TN	51 32 c	52 33 pc	55 35 s	60 40 pc	Myrtle Beach, SC	65 39 r	59 37 r	55 35 pc	60 38 s	
Augusta, GA	62 36 s	62 36 pc	60 34 pc	65 36 s	Norfolk, VA	50 35 pc	50 36 c	49 40 pc	51 40 pc	Raleigh, NC	57 32 s	52 32 pc	52 34 pc	58 36 s	
Charleston, SC	60 38 s	61 35 r	55 35 pc	61 36 s	Richmond, VA	54 32 pc	51 32 c	49 33 pc	53 33 pc	Roanoke, VA	50 30 pc	43 31 c	44 29 r	48 34 pc	
Columbia, SC	62 36 s	57 32 pc	55 31 pc	60 33 s	Savannah, GA	62 38 s	60 33 pc	60 34 pc	68 36 s	Wilmington, NC	59 34 s	57 36 r	54 37 pc	58 34 s	
Durham, NC	57 35 s	49 30 pc	51 33 pc	54 35 s	Winston-Salem, NC	54 32 s	47 32 pc	52 32 pc	50 33 s						
Greensboro, NC	56 29 s	48 32 pc	49 32 pc	50 35 s											
Greenville, SC	63 34 s	52 32 pc	51 30 pc	54 36 s											
Knoxville, TN	54 32 pc	47 31 pc	47 33 c	51 35 pc											
Lynchburg, VA	51 29 pc	47 28 c	46 31 r	47 31 pc											

U.S. CITIES															
City	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday	City	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday	City	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday	
Atlanta	56 34 s	51 34 pc	51 33 pc	63 37 s	Miami	83 65 f	77 55 pc	73 51 pc	74 56 s	Minneapolis	34 20 pc	37 24 c	40 26 pc	45 29 pc	
Boston	42 32 pc	44 32 pc	44 34 pc	46 33 c	New Orleans	60 43 pc	60 44 s	63 46 s	72 47 r	New York City	48 36 pc	48 34 pc	48 34 pc	49 36 pc	
Chicago	40 26 sf	38 26 sf	42 28 pc	46 32 s	Pittsburgh	41 25 sf	43 27 sf	43 28 sf	45 30 pc	Portland, ME	47 52 f	72 48 pc	72 48 s	76 50 s	
Cleveland	38 27 sf	41 26 sf	41 31 sf	44 30 pc	Phoenix	81 56 s	85 58 s	84 56 pc	82 56 pc	San Francisco	64 51 c	63 52 r	61 47 sh	61 47 pc	
Dallas	52 36 pc	53 40 s	56 44 s	68 48 pc	Seattle	61 44 sh	56 42 r	52 39 c	52 39 pc	St. Louis	64 34 pc	52 36 c	52 36 pc	54 37 pc	
Denver	46 26 pc	56 30 s	58 32 pc	61 32 s	Washington, DC	54 34 pc	52 36 c	52 36 pc	54 37 pc						
Detroit	40 27 sf	40 28 sf	42 30 pc	47 31 c											
Houston	64 42 pc	66 42 s	70 46 s	76 50 pc											
Kansas City	43 20 sf	43 23 pc	48 30 pc	52 35 pc											
Los Angeles	77 52 s	77 54 s	68 54 pc	68 52 pc											

WORLD CITIES															
City	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday	City	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday	City	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday	
Amsterdam	43 34 pc	45 39 r	46 41 c	48 45 pc	Paris	48 41 pc	54 46 r	55 48 sh	55 46 r	Rio de Janeiro	86 73 pc	89 76 pc	90 76 pc	84 72 r	
Berlin	41 27 pc	43 32 pc	45 36 r	48 41 pc	Rome	63 45 pc	54 45 f	61 45 pc	64 48 pc	San Juan	86 72 s	85 72 s	85 72 s	86 72 s	
Buenos Aires	78 67 pc	67 54 pc	67 56 s	66 59 s	Sao Paulo	86 72 s	85 72 s	85 72 s	86 72 s	Sydney	79 63 pc	75 64 sh	75 63 pc	75 61 pc	
Calix	93 70 s	86 80 pc	77 61 s	83 63 pc	Tokyo	56 41 c	53 41 pc	56 46 pc	51 39 pc	Zurich	39 27 sf	36 27 sf	36 27 sf	39 23 pc	
Jerusalem	77 53 s	79 51 pc	82 46 s	87 51 pc											
Johannesburg	60 48 r	64 52 r	64 50 s	63 52 pc											
London	46 41 pc	48 45 r	52 48 pc	54 48 r											
Mexico City	70 46 pc	64 45 pc	65 47 pc	67 48 pc											
Moscow	23 13 sn	26 15 c	29 25 pc	39 29 sn											

Weather (W) = sunny; pc = partly cloudy; c = cloudy; sh = showers; h = thunderstorms; r = rain; f = fog; s = snow; h = hail.

STIHL

The Premium Brand at an Affordable Price

FS 45 Trimmer
\$139⁹⁵ MAS-ERP

Lightweight and fast cutting. Comes standard with STIHL EasySpool™ head. Also comes with a 2-year homeowner warranty.

BG 55 Blower
\$139⁹⁵ MAS-ERP

Lightweight, powerful, starts easily! Comes with a 2-year homeowner warranty.

MS 170 Chain Saw
\$159⁹⁵ MAS-ERP

Lightweight & powerful homeowner saw. Comes with a 1-year homeowner warranty.

STIHL - 8,000 Dealers Strong!

<p>Charlotte Certified Lawn Mowers 4120 Nations Crossing Road 704-527-1179</p>	<p>Charlotte Oakhurst Sales Company 4208 Monrovia Road 704-333-6788</p>	<p>Charlotte S.T.I. Turfcare Equipment 13302 York Road 704-554-0590</p>	<p>Harrisburg Town Center Hardware 4245 Main Street 704-455-7900</p>
<p>Charlotte Fauk Brothers Hardware Inc. 3744 North Tryon Street 704-586-7474</p>	<p>Charlotte S.T.I. Turfcare Equipment 9908 Albemarle Road 704-573-1005</p>	<p>Charlotte Steele Creek Lawn Equipment 13902 York Road 704-554-8838</p>	<p>Mount Holly Mount Holly Farm Supply 1120 South Main Street 704-822-4431</p>

stihlusa.com

Are you ready for a STIHL?