

# People

Community Calendar, Close-Up, Social Notes, Community News

## Close-Up

### Parks sees art as a challenge

By IRENE PERRY  
Chronicle Staff Writer

The artistic works of a genius were brought to Winston-Salem last week when the Urban Arts Council sponsored "A Weekend with Gordon Parks."

Last Friday evening, a reception was held at the Sawtooth Center to launch the showing of Parks' photographs, which were on display at Gallery 214 at Winston-Square. The show, entitled "Gordon

*"I have so much to say that I can spend another lifetime saying it."*

-- Gordon Parks

Parks Retrospective Exhibition of Photography," was viewed by more than 250 persons during the opening night festivities.

The exhibit has been shown worldwide and spans Parks' entire career, reflecting the eventful life of an extraordinary man.

Anthony Brett, chairman of the Urban Arts Advisory Board, presented Parks with a commemorative plaque and read a proclamation from Mayor Wayne Corpening declaring Nov. 30 as Gordon Parks' Appreciation Day.

"Parks is an outstanding role model," Brett said. "He demonstrated through achievements that one can reach beyond his circumstances."

Linwood Oglesby, the master of ceremonies, lauded Parks for his accomplishments, despite the

photographer's humble beginnings.

Parks, born in a small Kansas town to a poor farming family, became a director of major motion pictures and won an Oscar. Although he never graduated from college, he has received 15 honorary doctorate degrees and numerous awards for his writing, photography and musical compositions.

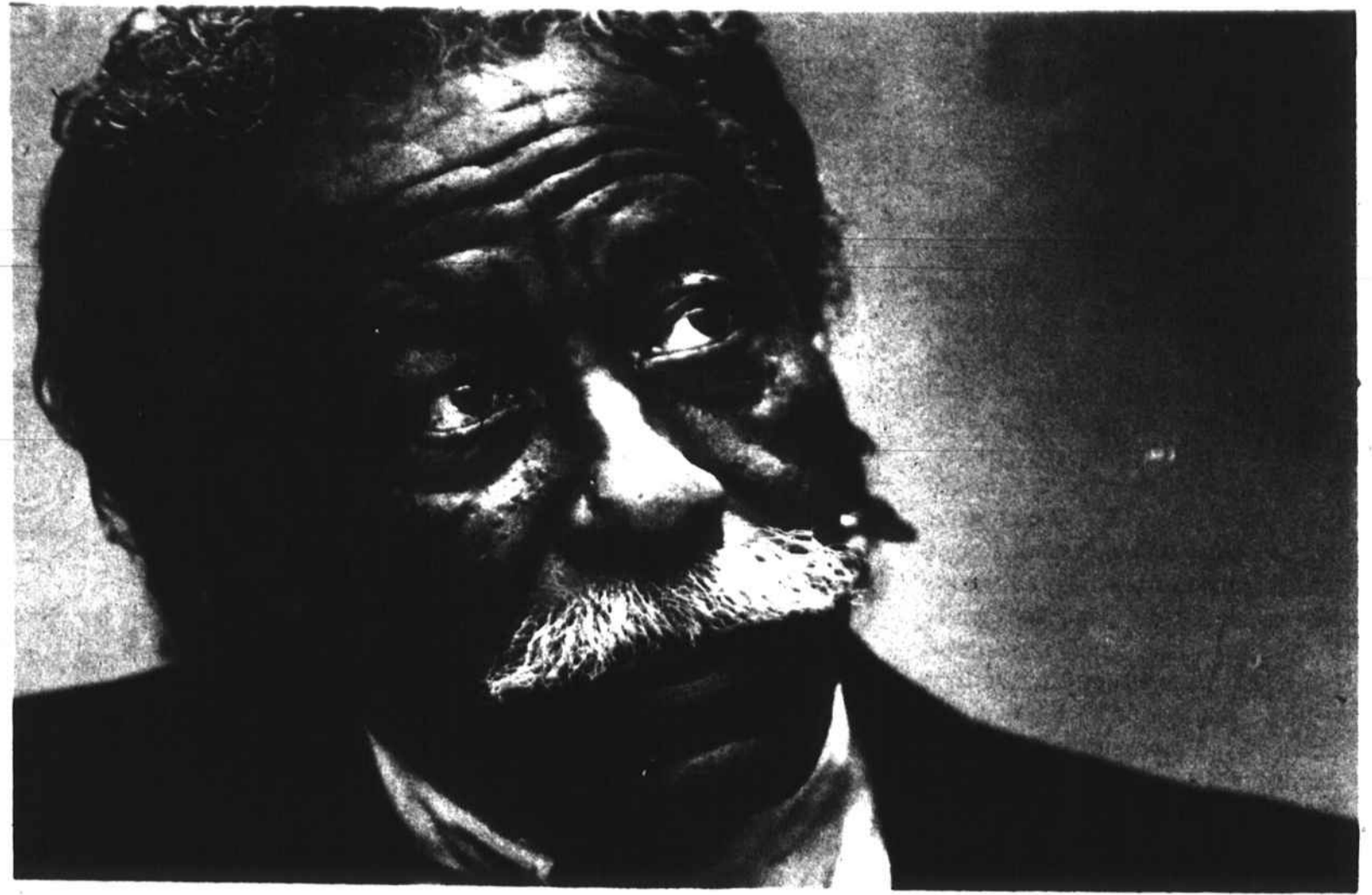
He first received recognition for his photography, which became well known during his 20 years with *Life* magazine.

He was the first black man to win a Julius Rosenwald Fellowship to study photography -- an event that changed his life. He used the fellowship to go to Washington in 1942 and work with Roy Stryker on the Farm Security Administration's program to photograph America during World War II.

Parks photographed piercing, exceptional scenes of America and other parts of the world -- from Bessie Fontenelleh in the welfare office to Bettina modeling Paris fashions. His photographs have portrayed Harlem Street gangs, the American civil rights movement and personalities such as Gloria Vanderbilt and Muhammad Ali.

Parks said he thoroughly enjoys writing poetry and presently considers writing to be the most important thing in his life. When he decides to write a book, Parks said he first writes several volumes of poems.

"I don't want to be remembered as the name of Gordon Parks," he said. "I want to be remembered in books, music, writing or painting ... writing is most important to me. It is my greatest thrill."



Modern-day Renaissance man Gordon Parks: A writer, composer, director and photographer whose photographs are the subject of a local Sawtooth Center exhibit (through Dec. 22) and who graced us with his presence last week (photo by James Parker).

"I find it kind of a challenge to write, but I think that my rush to the typewriter says something ... If I had not lived and suffered, there would not be anything to write about. I have so much to say that I can spend another lifetime saying it."

Maya Angelou eloquently recited several poems that Parks had written, calling him "my hero and

friend."

After the reading, Parks told the his audience, "Whatever I have done ... I did it because I wanted to be somebody and I set out to do it."

He has not developed a single, basic theme during the many years of his illustrious career. But if there

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Mr. and Mrs. Claude Cuthrell Sr. of Welcome celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary with a Dec. 1 banquet at the Winston-Salem Hilton Inn and a Dec. 2 reception at Goodwill Baptist Church. The festivities were hosted by the couple's children, Bertha Jones, Betty Hairston, Joan Crawford, Willie Cuthrell Sr., Claude Cuthrell Jr., David Cuthrell and Larry Cuthrell, as well as the children's spouses and the couple's 27 grandchildren. Mr. and Mrs. Cuthrell also have 16 great-grandchildren.

### Hamilton celebrates first birthday

Richard Vance Hamilton celebrated his first birthday on Saturday, Nov. 17, at the home of his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Richard Hamilton.

Guests feasted on ice cream, cake and other refreshments. The guests included M.J. Stephney, India K. Brim, Marcus Jordan, Corie and Bersetta Hamilton.

### Carver High to present concerts

The Carver Music Department will present a Christmas concert at 7:30 p.m. on Monday, Dec. 17, sponsored by the school's PTA.

Mrs. Frances S. Weaver is the choral director.

The department also will perform at South Park High School

at Ashley Middle School and before Carver's students and faculty.

The Carver High School Honors Chorus will appear on TV station WXII on Christmas Day at a time yet to be announced. The performance was taped on Friday, Nov. 30.

### Funding symposium set for A&TSU

GREENSBORO -- More than a dozen federal and state agencies with millions of dollars to award for research were expected to participate in the 11th annual Extramural Funding Symposium at N.C. A&T State University, which started yesterday and will conclude today.

More than 50 representatives and area university and college faculty members were expected to participate in the symposium.

Marvin Watkins, director of the Office of Research Administration at A&T, which sponsored the meeting, said the symposium would provide faculty members a chance to discuss research ideas with representatives of the agencies.

Mendy L. Gragg, manager of contract support for Battelle-Pacific Northwest Laboratories in Richland, Washington, was to

make a special presentation at the meeting.

Agencies represented in the symposium were to include the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, the National Cancer Institute, the Water Resources Research Institute of the University of North Carolina, the National Institute of Health, the National Institute of Environmental Health Services, the N.C. Board of Science and Technology, the U.S. Department of Transportation, the National Science Foundation, the N.C. Arts Council, the National Endowment for the Arts, the U.S. Army Research Office, the Federal Aviation Administration, the Environmental Protection Agency and the N.C. Biotechnology Center.

## Social Notes

### APAs to note Founders' Day

The Winston-Salem Brothers of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, the oldest predominantly black Greek-letter fraternity, will celebrate the fraternity's Founders' Day on Sunday, Dec. 9.

Participants will include the graduate brothers of Alpha Pi Lambda Chapter and the college brothers of Winston-Salem State and Wake Forest.

As part of the celebrations, the Alphas, their families and guests will attend the 11 a.m. worship service at St. Paul United

Methodist Church. At 5 p.m., the Alpha brothers, their wives and guests will gather in the Red Room at Winston-Salem State's Kennedy Dining Hall for a Founders' Day banquet.

Brother Rudolph Hendricks, the state director of Alpha Phi Alpha, will be the guest speaker. The college brothers will commemorate the fraternity's founders, and the brothers of Alpha Pi Lambda will memorialize the chapter's deceased brothers. It is anticipated that 60 to 75 brothers, wives and guests will attend the banquet.



The historic, antique-laden J.H. Hairston home on East 14th Street will be featured by the Fourth District Garden Council as its annual "Holiday House" and will be open for tours on Sunday, Dec. 9.

### Garden Council plans Holiday House tour

The Fourth District Garden Council will sponsor its annual Christmas Holiday House tour on Sunday, Dec. 9, from 2 p.m. until 6 p.m.

This year's tour will feature the historic J.H. Hairston home at 1412 East 14th St.

The home is a 10-room, two-story house built more than 62 years ago and is filled with antique furnishings. The oval-shaped, glass, front door is the original one, as are the chandeliers in each room.

Other antiques are the old, wood-burning, cook stove in the kitchen, high-posted beds and high-back rocking chairs.

The Hairston home is one of only a few historic homes left on 14th Street.

Before 1965, East Winston was filled with historic homes that since have been torn down by urban renewal programs.

J.H. Hairston was an officer of the Safe Bus Co., which was owned and operated by blacks.

Each year, the 12-club council sponsors a Christmas Holiday House tour featuring decorated homes in the community. The theme for the Hairston house is "An Old-Fashioned Christmas."

Children of the J.H. Hairston family are Mrs. Clara Camp, Mrs. Elsie McKoy, Mr. William Hairston, Mr. Marshall Hairston and Miss Gwendolyn Hairston. All of the children and their families plan to attend the tour.

Mrs. Kenneth R. Williams is president of the Fourth District Garden Council.

## COMMUNITY CALENDAR

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 6

\* A representative from the office of U.S. Rep. Steve Neal will be at the East Winston Branch Library from 9:30 a.m. until 1 p.m. Any residents of the Fifth Congressional District having problems with a federal agency or who have an opinion about pending legislation before the Congress are invited to voice their concerns at this time.

\* The Polo Park Recreation Center will sponsor duplicate bridge games at 7:30 p.m. in the center through Monday, Dec. 17. All players and interested persons are invited. A fee will be charged. For more information, call Walt Flory at 722-7758.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 7

\* A representative from the office of U.S. Rep. Steve Neal will be at the East Winston Library from 9:30 a.m. until 1 p.m. Any residents having problems with a federal agency or who have an opinion about pending legislation before the Congress are invited to voice their concerns at this time.

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 9

\* "Christmas Old and New" will be presented in the Forsyth County Public Library at 3 p.m. The program will feature songs, stories and dramas from various times and places, ending with an English Mummer's play. Refreshments and Christmas carols will follow.

MONDAY, DECEMBER 10

\* The Forsyth County Public Library at 660 West Fifth St. will sponsor "Discovery," a one-on-one enrichment program for children ages two through five years, from 10 a.m. until 2 p.m. in the library storyroom. Parents can pre-register for the half-hour session by calling the library at 727-2214.

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 11

\* The East Winston Restoration Association will hold its community meeting at 7 p.m. in the Experiment in Self-Reliance Community House at 1318 North Jackson Ave.

The Chronicle welcomes Community Calendar notices. Announcements should be concise and typed or neatly printed. They should include the day, time, place and sponsors of the event, plus a number to call for additional information. Announcements should be addressed to the Winston-Salem Chronicle Community Calendar, P.O. Box 3154, Winston-Salem, N.C. 27102. The deadline for announcements is Monday at 3:30 p.m.