

In 1961, his photographs in *Life* of a poor, ailing Brazilian boy named Flavio da Silva brought donations that saved the boy and purchased a new home for him and his family.

"The Learning Tree" was Parks' first film, in 1969. It was based on his 1963 autobiographical novel of the same name, in which the young hero grapples with fear and racism as well as first love and schoolboy triumphs. Parks wrote the score as well as directed.

In 1989, "The Learning Tree" was among the first 25 American movies to be placed on the National Film Registry of the Library of Congress. The registry is intended to highlight films of particular cultural, historical or aesthetic importance.

The detective drama "Shaft," which came out in 1971 and starred Richard Roundtree, was a major hit and spawned a series of black-oriented films. Parks himself directed a sequel, "Shaft's Big Score," in 1972, and that same year his son Gordon Jr. directed "Superfly." The younger Parks was killed in a plane crash in 1979.

Roundtree said he had a "sneaking suspicion" that the Shaft character was based on Parks.

"Gordon was the ultimate cool," he said by telephone. "There's no one cooler than Gordon Parks."

Parks also published books of poetry and wrote musical compositions including "Martin," a ballet about the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr.

Parks was born Nov. 30, 1912, in Fort Scott, Kan., the youngest of 15 children. In his 1990 autobiography, "Voices in the Mirror," he remembered it as a world of racism and poverty, but also a world where his parents gave their children love, discipline and religious faith.

He went through a series of jobs as a teen and young man, including piano player and railroad dining car waiter. The breakthrough came when he was about 25, when he bought a used camera in a pawn shop for \$7.50. He became a freelance fashion photographer, went on to *Vogue* magazine and then to *Life* in 1948.

"Reflecting now, I realize that, even within the limits of my childhood vision, I was on a search for pride, meanwhile taking measurable glimpses of how certain blacks, who were fed up with racism, rebelled against it," he wrote.

When he accepted an award from Wichita State University in May 1991, he said it was "another step forward in my making peace with Kansas and Kansas making peace with me."

"I dream terrible dreams, terribly violent dreams," he said. "The doctors say it's because I suppressed so much anger and hatred from my youth. I bottled it up and used it constructively."

In his autobiography, he recalled that being *Life's* only black photographer put him in a peculiar position when he set out to cover the civil rights movement.

"Life magazine was eager to penetrate their ranks for stories, but the black movement thought of Life as just another white establishment out of tune with their cause," he wrote. He said his aim was to become "an objective reporter, but one with a subjective heart."

The story of young Flavio prompted *Life* readers to send in \$30,000, enabling his family to build a home, and Flavio received treatment for his asthma in an American clinic. By the 1970s, he had a family and a job as a security guard, but more recently the home built in 1961 has become overcrowded and run-down.

Still, Flavio stayed in touch with Parks off and on, and in 1997 Parks said, "If I saw him

tomorrow in the same conditions, I would do the whole thing over again."

Life's managing editor, Bill Shapiro, said in a statement Tuesday that it had "lost one of its dearest members."

"Gordon was one of the magazine's most accomplished shooters and one of the very greatest American photographers of the 20th century," the statement said. "He moved as easily among the glamorous figures of Hollywood and Paris as he did among the poor in Brazil and the powerful in Washington."

In addition to novels, poetry and his autobiographical writings, Parks' writing credits included nonfiction such as "Camera Portraits: Techniques and Principles of Documentary Portraiture," 1948, and a 1971 book of essays called "Born Black."

His other film credits included "The Super Cops," 1974; "Leadbelly," 1976; and "Solomon Northup's Odyssey," a TV film from 1984.

Recalling the making of "The Learning Tree," he wrote: "A lot of people of all colors were anxious about the breakthrough, and I was anxious to make the most of it. The wait had been far too long. Just remembering that no black had been given a chance to direct a motion picture in Hollywood since it was established kept me going."

Last month, health concerns had kept Parks from accepting the William Allen White Foundation National Citation in Kansas, but he said in a taped presentation that he still considered the State his home and wanted to be buried in Fort Scott.

Two years ago, Fort Scott Community College established the Gordon Parks Center for Culture and Diversity.

Jill Warford, its executive director, said Tuesday that Parks "had a very rough start in life and he overcame so much, but was such a good person and kind person that he never let the bad things that happened to him make him bitter."

Parks is survived by a son and two daughters, Young said. Funeral arrangements were pending, she said.

USA PATRIOT ACT ADDITIONAL REAUTHORIZING AMENDMENTS ACT OF 2006

SPEECH OF

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 7, 2006

Mrs. MALONEY. Madam Speaker, I rise in opposition to S. 2271, the USA PATRIOT Act Additional Reauthorizing Amendments Act of 2006.

Although this legislation makes some improvements to the version of the bill I voted against in December, it still does not do enough to protect the civil liberties of innocent Americans—civil liberty protections that I tried to include by seeking permission to offer an amendment that would have strengthened the Privacy and Civil Liberties Oversight Board. Unfortunately, the Rules Committee refused to even allow this amendment to be debated when the House first considered this legislation last year.

Despite these revisions, libraries, businesses, and doctor's offices still could be forced to turn over the records of patrons with insufficient judicial oversight or independent review. This lack of oversight by the courts extends to the recipients of Section 215 orders and National Security Letters who were unable to force a review until a year had passed. Fi-

nally, this bill does not force government agents to inform the owners of homes subject to "sneak and peek" searches within seven days.

I continue to have strong concerns that Congress is relinquishing its oversight duties by making permanent fourteen of sixteen provisions included in the original PATRIOT Act passed in 2001. We all want to prevent terrorist attacks by apprehending suspected leaders and participants before they have the chance to act on their plans. However, we should not cast aside the Constitution in the process. I do not think it is too much for our constituents to expect their elected representatives to be diligent in protecting their rights.

I urge my colleagues to vote against this legislation.

USA PATRIOT ACT ADDITIONAL REAUTHORIZING AMENDMENTS ACT OF 2006

SPEECH OF

HON. DONALD M. PAYNE

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 7, 2006

Mr. PAYNE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to express my dismay at the passage of the unwise and unsound provisions contained in S. 2271, the USA PATRIOT Act Reauthorizing Amendments Act of 2006. Unfortunately, I was unavoidably detained during the vote and could not cast my strong opposition to the reauthorization of this act.

I am deeply concerned about this flawed piece of legislation that purports to protect our country against future terrorist acts while still preserving our civil liberties. I do not agree that both objectives are mutually exclusive. However, as was evident during its rash passage in 2001, this bill forsakes one aim in favor of another. While this version of the Patriot Act, with Senator JOHN SUNUNU's amendments, adds some civil liberty protections, these changes are only cosmetic and are still an infringement upon many of our constitutional rights including the First, Fourth and Fifth Amendments. A reauthorization process should be a time in which legislators analyze how a law has impacted society and works towards its improvement. I even saw a slight glimmer of hope when many Senators from both sides of the aisle exemplified patriotism and questioned how this law is contradictory to what this nation stands for and upon which it prides itself. I applaud their courage and their effort. Unfortunately, the debate surrounding this bill was met with stern opposition from the White House and many Members of Congress.

It is never wise to pass knee-jerk legislation. In the wake of 9/11, the US Congress quickly passed the Patriot Act without fully understanding its implications and how its infringements upon the Constitution could lead to abuses. It essentially gave the Executive Branch carte blanche to pursue whatever actions it thought appropriate in the fight against terrorism. As evidenced by the Bush administration's warrantless domestic surveillance program, it is quite evident that civil liberties must be safeguarded not stripped. The government will still have the ability to employ National Security Letters and Section 215 court orders to

go on fishing expeditions and obtain private and confidential records on the basis that there is "reasonable grounds to believe" that these records are "relevant" to an investigation. Furthermore, the government will still be able to delay notifying individuals that their private property has been searched. While there is an initial leeway of 30-days, the government can seek an indefinite amount of 90-day extensions. Where will the encroachments end?

Through the passage of this legislation, we have done our country a great disservice. At this juncture, we could have sought true and meaningful reform that not only protected this great nation from terrorists but also from the improper intrusions that are inherent in this bill.

Madam Speaker, I would like to again voice my opposition to the passage of S. 2271.

A TRIBUTE TO THOMAS JAY
HARRIS

HON. RANDY NEUGEBAUER

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 8, 2006

Mr. NEUGEBAUER. Mr. Speaker, today, I rise to honor Thomas Jay Harris, the former editor of the leading newspaper in Lubbock, Texas who passed away on Sunday, February

26. During the course of his 87 years, Jay could call many people his friend and could point to many achievements. He was a war veteran, a community leader, and a proud newspaperman.

Jay began his 53-year journalism career in 1938 working for the Lubbock Avalanche-Journal while still an undergraduate student at Texas Tech University. He then spent 3 years serving his country in the Air Force during World War II. Following the war, he returned to the newspaper. He would remain at the A-J for the rest of his professional career, the last 22 years of which were spent as the newspaper's editor.

As editor, Jay deftly balanced the need to report on issues of importance to the local community while still pursuing stories of national and international significance. It was this thirst for foreign affairs that led him to support the International Cultural Center at Texas Tech. This center introduced students and aspiring journalists to the cultures of foreign countries.

I had the privilege of knowing Jay. Almost every time I spoke with him, he had an idea on how to make Lubbock or Texas Tech better. Jay was persistent and always stuck with an issue until he got results.

Jay lived his life with passion. I will miss Jay and his enthusiasm for his work, for his community, and for his country.

TRIBUTE TO ETHIOPIAN WOMEN
FOR PEACE

HON. MICHAEL M. HONDA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 8, 2006

Mr. HONDA. Mr. Speaker, I rise to applaud the efforts of Ethiopian Women for Peace, Democracy, and Humanitarian Aid in calling attention to the current political situation in Ethiopia, particularly to the status of women. Today, they will hold a candlelight vigil at the White House to show solidarity with all Ethiopian women who continue to fight for their basic human rights, and who seek freedom and peace for all Ethiopians in the broadest sense. I am truly inspired by their commitment, and hope that I can be helpful to their cause as Chair of the Congressional Ethiopia and Ethiopian American Caucus. I am proud to see Ethiopian American women take part in commemorating International Women's Day and Women's History Month to demand recognition of how far women have come, and how much more there is left to fight for. It is my hope that all Americans, and the international community as a whole, will join us.