

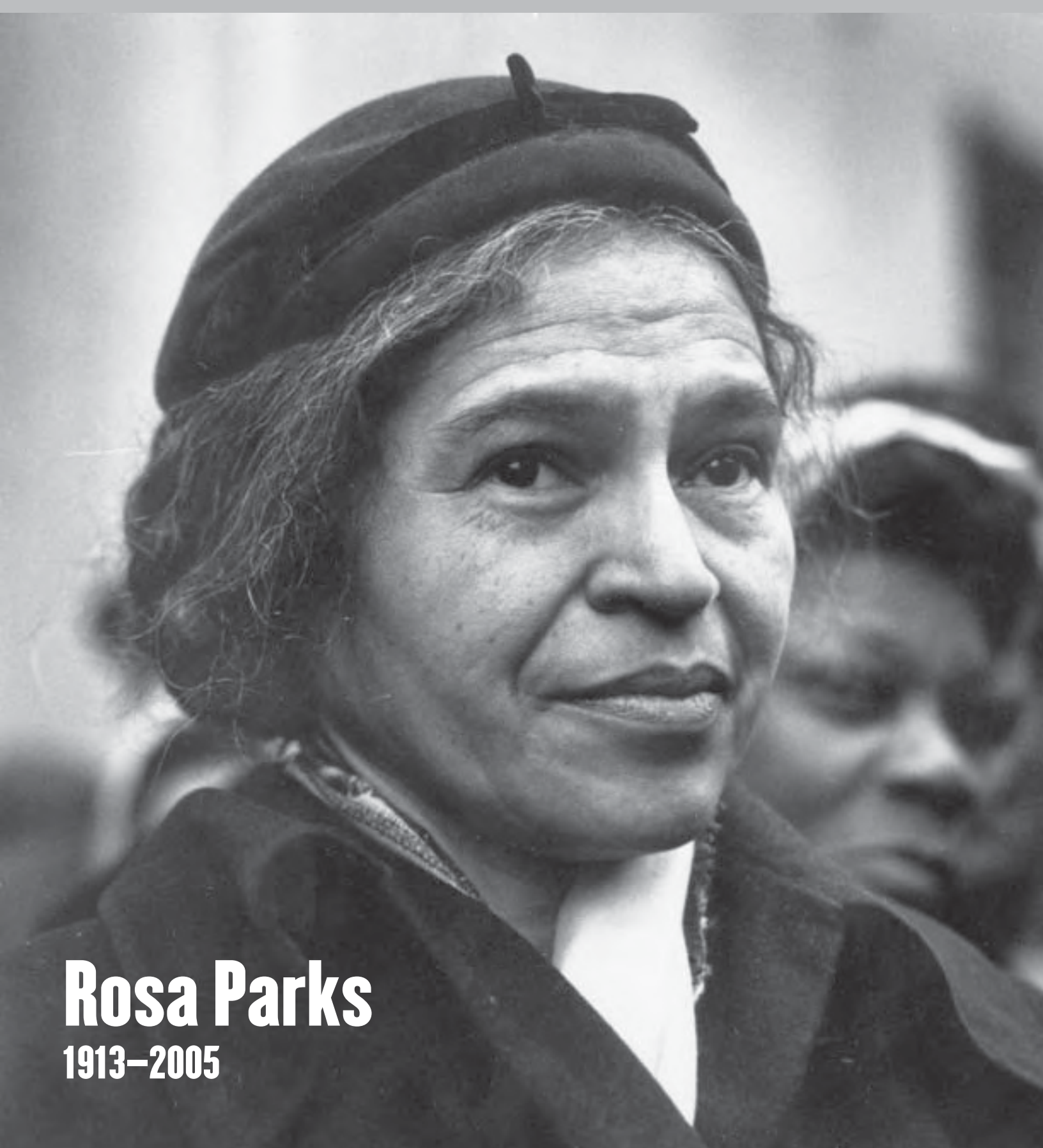
NEWSLETTER
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Rosa Parks

1913–2005

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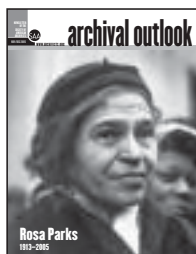
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Rosa Parks, a black seamstress whose refusal to relinquish her seat to a white man on a city bus in Montgomery, Ala., almost 50 years ago helped set in motion the civil rights movement of the 1950s and 1960s, died at her home in Detroit on October 24, 2005. She was 92 years old. Cover image of Mrs. Parks at a voter registration rally in Detroit in 1964. Courtesy Walter Reuther Library, Wayne State University. Submitted by **THOMAS FEATHERSTONE** and **LOUIS JONES**.

archival outlook

the society of american archivists
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NARA Selects Lockheed Martin to Build ERA; Advisory Committee Announced

U.S. Archivist Allen Weinstein announced on September 8 the awarding of a \$308 million, six-year contract to Lockheed Martin to build the Electronic Records Archives (ERA) system for the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA). The ERA system will capture and preserve the electronic records of the federal government, regardless of format; ensure hardware and software independence; and provide access to the American public and federal officials.

NARA said that Lockheed Martin was chosen to build the archives of the future "based on the technical merit of the solution it proposed, the excellence of their system and software engineering methodology, and the quality of their project management." The announcement came following a one-year design competition between Harris Corporation and Lockheed Martin. The system's initial operating capability is targeted for release in FY 2007.

Lockheed Martin was selected based on its ability to design a system which addresses in considerable depth NARA's business needs, on the one hand, and on the other hand, a system that entails a modern, service-oriented architecture. NARA's business needs encompass handling rapidly-growing volumes of electronic records, ensuring the authenticity of those records, preserving them for the long term, and providing public access while protecting privacy and sensitive information.

At the same press conference, ERA Program Director Kenneth Thibodeau announced the formation of a high-level

committee to advise Weinstein on issues related to development, implementation, and use of the ERA system. The Advisory Committee on the Electronic Records Archives (ACERA) will bring together experts in computer science and information technology, archival science and records management, information science, the law, history, genealogy, and education.

The 20-member committee includes David Carmicheal, state archivist of Georgia; Jerry Handfield, state archivist of Washington; Richard Pearce-Moses, director of digital government information at the Arizona State Library and Archives; Jonathan Redgrave, partner at Jones Day; Sharon Dawes, director of the Center for Technology in Government and associate professor of public administration and policy, SUNY Albany; Luciana Duranti, chair and professor of archival studies, School of Library, Archival and Information Studies, University of British Columbia, and director of the InterPARES Project; Daniel Greenstein, associate vice provost for scholarly information and university librarian, California Digital Library, University of California; Andy Maltz, director, Science and Technology Council, Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences; David Rencher, director, Records and Information Division, Family and Church History Department, The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints; and Kelly Woestman, professor and history education director, Pittsburgh State University. The committee is governed by the provisions of the Federal Advisory Committee Act.

Congress Nears Decision on NHPRC Funding

The House has approved a Transportation/Treasury appropriation bill that allots \$7.5 million—\$5.5 million in grants and \$2 million for administration—for the National Historical Publications and Records Commission (NHPRC) in FY 2005–2006. This is significantly more than the president's FY2006 budget proposal, which zeroed out all monies for NHPRC, but less than the figure (\$8 million for grants and \$2 million for administration) advanced by the archives and history communities. The Senate recommended just \$5 million for grants and no funding for administrative support. Final numbers will be decided by House and Senate conferees soon.

Implementation of Google Library Database Delayed

The on-line search company Google has announced a temporary halt in its program to make searchable, digital copies of the contents of university libraries at Harvard, Stanford, and the University of Michigan in order to grant publishers and copyright holders the chance to opt out of having their protect-

ed works copied. But a major publishing trade association deemed the program "inadequate" and stated that the Google Print Library Project is built on a foundation of "purposeful" copyright violation.

Google intended to continue focusing on digital conversion of books currently in the public domain until November 1, 2005, when it would resume scanning of copyrighted works. This delay would allow publishers to notify Google of works that they would want to exclude from the searchable database.

Google asserts the opt-out policy is consistent with the way in which the company has conducted relations with website owners. Senior product manager Adam Smith said, "This program is consistent with the principles of fair use, and it will allow authors to write more books, and allow publishers to sell more books." But Patricia Schroeder of the Association of American Publishers states, "The program still sets [a] damaging precedent that copyrighted works could be reproduced at will as long as a copyright holder had not preemptively objected." Two other central issues are yet to be adequately