



## The many woes of Wells Fargo Bank

Part 1

By Dr. John E. Warren  
Intergovernmental Affairs  
NNPA Contributing Writer

On Tuesday March 28, The Office of the Comptroller of the Currency downgraded Wells Fargo Bank's rating from an "Outstanding" to a "Needs to Improve" rating which the bank had previously enjoyed. The Office of the Comptroller of the Currency is an independent government agency within the U.S. Treasury Department that supervises all banks and federal savings associations.

Although action comes on the heels of an agreement by Wells Fargo Bank to pay \$110 million to settle a lawsuit against it by customers who filed a class action suit for the opening of fake bank accounts in their names, this is just another one of many lawsuits against the bank in recent months and years. The amount might seem small compared to the revelation last September that the bank opened over 2 million fake accounts in customer names and without their permission.

In a separate lawsuit last September, Wells Fargo agreed to pay \$185 million in fines and penalties to federal regulators and the Los Angeles City Attorney's office for "unreasonable sales practices." The two actions totaled \$295 million. This latest settlement covers at least 10 other lawsuits.

The period covered by the \$110 million settlement begins January 1, 2009 and ends upon the execution of the settlement agreement put forth Tuesday, if accepted by the court and the parties involved. These payouts are in addition to the \$3.2 million Wells Fargo has paid customers on over 130,000 potentially unau-

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## Phillip Gibbs and James Green: 47<sup>th</sup> Annual Memorial Ceremony and Wreath-Laying at JSU

By Janice K. Neal-Vincent  
Contributing Writer

The 47th Annual Memorial Ceremony and Wreath-Laying in honor of Phillip Gibbs and James Green was held on Gibbs Green Pedestrian Plaza on the campus of Jackson State University Monday, April 10.

This was the site that changed the face of what is referred to as the 'yard,' jargon among the JSU family. Present was a small crowd of students, faculty, and Gibbs' peers from the classes of 1970-72.

Student unrest at JSU paralleled with national student unrest due to protests against a number of ills that stirred emotions and gave rise to an outspoken platform, became the order of the day.

During his campaign President Richard Nixon vowed to end the Viet Nam War but he called to draft 150,000 more soldiers to fight in that war. Students, families and teachers were affected by the cry. Other issues such as women's rights, poverty and racism brought forth numerous voices of the young.

Hence, May 14 and 15, 1970 were days that then known as Jackson State College and the community were impacted as never before. On the 14th students were confronted by city and state police. On the 15th two tragic deaths occurred. Gibbs, a 21-year-old student majoring in political science



Gloria McCray, wreath holder and sister of Phillip Gibbs, is surrounded by Gibbs' peers of Jackson State's 1970- 1972 Class. PHOTO BY JANICE K. NEAL-VINCENT

and Green, a 17-year-old Jim Hill High School senior who was headed home after leaving his job, were shot and killed by police. The social upheaval resulted in pandemonium, hospitalization of 12 who were wounded, distrust of police officers, President John A. Peoples, Jr. closing JSU for the end of the school academic year, cancellation of commencement

for the class of 1970 and conflicting messages regarding the tragedy.

Later during a forum, the Student Government Association president of Kent State University, Frank Fresina, addressed the JSU family in the historical Dansby Hall Auditorium regarding his school's tragedy in which four students were killed by national guardsmen

due to protests. He reached out in identification establishment due to commonalities between the two campus' incidents.

Today many remember that JSU, as opposed to Kent State, received little national attention that links to the slogan "Black Lives Matter." Those present at the memorial ceremony echoed the slogan in their own words. Alexis Moore, SGA president-

elect 2017-2018, asserted that similar acts of violence exist today. Additionally, others gave a charge that neither the school nor the public at large should forget the tragedy.

Referencing racial slurs and attacks, James "Lap" Baker (JSU Class of 1970) said, "It is important that the students, faculty, and everyone never forget. It was the students who closed this street (Lynch Street) down, who said, 'No more!'" Baker continued, charging for all to examine themselves. "I taught out here 24 years. I asked 45 students what happened May 14th and 15th. Not one hand went up. It's been 47 years and we still forget. Four hundred sixty rounds of shots were fired. They got away with it. We weren't killing each other in the 50s and 60s, but we're doing that now."

Technical director - sound technician at JSU - Doug Stringfellow, noted: "It's very good to continue this because history is important in all aspects. In my program I investigate daily how things come into being. It's good that students are reminded. It is the responsibility of faculty to inform the students about this significant event that has impacted so much of Jackson State's legacy."

Robert Luckett, Ph.D., who directs the Margaret Walker

**Gibbs Green**  
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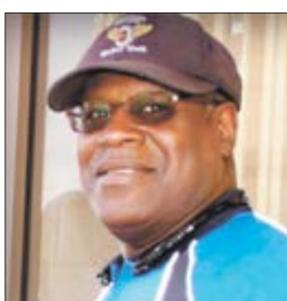
## Allen Harper lived his mission: 'To Protect and Serve'

### Downtown cop died Friday due to injuries in motorcycle accident

By Othor Cain  
Editor

Saturday, April 1, started out as a pretty normal day for Jackson police officer Cpl. Allen Harper Jr. He did chores around the house, ran errands and checked off his to-do-list as tasks were completed. Allen was off duty from his full time job with the Jackson Police Department, a job he did well and loved, a job he held for 22 years.

As the sun was beginning to fade to make room for a glistening moon-light, Harper was riding his motorcycle, heading to-



Harper

wards downtown Jackson to work another job that also brought him joy - being a security officer at Underground 119.

Then the unthinkable happened. Harper collided with another vehicle at the intersection of State and High Streets.

The city paused as news began to spread about an off-duty officer being struck by another vehicle. This incident remains under investigation. Preliminary results showed the vehicle made a turn in front of Harper.

Fast forward to Friday, April 7. What a difference a week makes. Harper's family decided to remove him from life support and

**Harper**  
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### IN MEMORIAM

## Pamela Parice Curry

The Mississippi Link Newswire

Pamela Parice Curry is the oldest daughter of Laura Curry Hough and Chester Curry. She was born in Jackson Mississippi September 18, 1956. She transitioned from pain and suffering on earth to her heavenly home Tuesday, April 4, 2017, where she joined her father Chester Curry, sister Paula Hannah, grandmother Hannah Smith, and uncle Spiegel McCallum.

Pam is a product of the Jackson Public School System where she was always very creative and could make something not so great into something beautiful. She was no stranger to hard work. For



Curry

25 years she worked for Service Masters and served as a home health care provider. She also worked for the Mississippi Crime Lab for 10 years.

Each holiday, especially Easter, she prepared baskets

and gave stuffed animals and other treats to family and friends. She always had her hand out, not to receive, but to give to others. Pam had great shopping skills; she could always find bargains and she shared those bargains.

Pam was a member of College Hill Missionary Baptist Church under the leadership of Rev. R.E. Willis and later Rev. Hosea Hines and Rev. Michael T. Williams. She continued her membership at College Hill until 2012 when she became a founding member of Crossroads Missionary Baptist Church, pastored by

**Curry**  
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Verdi's timeless classic  
**"RIGOLETTO"**  
A grand 71st season finale for MS Opera  
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**Eighteenth Annual Crossroads Film Society/Film Festival**  
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