

AG Hood launches lawsuit against student loan lenders

Attorney General Jim Hood and the Mississippi Center for Justice are fighting in court for thousands of Mississippians who were financially affected by deceptive student loan lender Navient Corporation from 2000 to present. The pair filed a lawsuit last week against the company and its subsidiaries, Navient Solutions, LLC, and Sallie Mae Bank, alleging widespread abuses across all aspects of its student loan business, including misleading borrowers about payment options that resulted in higher monthly payments that many could not afford.

The complaint, which was filed in Hinds County Chancery Court, asks the court to order Navient to stop its unfair and deceptive practices targeting Mississippi students, reform its loan servicing practices, give up unlawfully gained profits, and provide damages to the state. Specifically, General Hood believes the company pushed risky and expensive subprime loans, which were designed to fail, to student loan borrowers, specifically targeting low-income borrowers. The complaint alleges Navient charged excessively high interest rates and

fees, despite evidence that these loans would likely default at extraordinarily high rates, potentially destroying the livelihoods and futures of many student loan borrowers.

The complaint also alleges that when borrowers contacted Navient because they could not make their monthly federal student loan payments, Navient disregarded the many available borrower-friendly income based repayment plans and instead, steered borrowers into successive and costly forbearance periods, neglecting to provide information necessary to receive or maintain enrollment in these income-based plans.

This conduct is alleged to have harmed thousands of Mississippi student loan borrowers, in violation of the Mississippi Consumer Protection Act, as well as millions of student loan borrowers across the country.

“Navient’s conduct is estimated to have added \$4 billion to the national student loan debt,” said General Hood. “Students are the future of our state, and the presence of companies in Mississippi that knowingly take advantage of students

who need the money to continue their education will not

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-Attorney General Hood

be allowed under my watch.” “Sixty percent of Missis-

issippi student loan borrowers are in debt due to student loans, and this debt is crippling to those who are trying to be financially independent,” said Mississippi Center for Justice Consumer Protection Director Charles O. Lee. “Having their loan servicer increase the difficulty of repayment is unconscionable.”

The Mississippi Center for Justice wants to know if you are a victim of Navient’s deceptive business practices. Fill out this form at: (<http://www.mscenterforjustice.org/resources/was-your-student-loan-originated-or-serviced-navient-or-sallie-mae>) if you have experienced what is described above, and an MCJ representative may contact you for further information.

Almost \$67,500 in tax-forfeited revenue released to 15 counties

The Secretary of State’s Office is releasing \$67,452.08 today to 15 counties across the State, and cities and schools within those counties, representing proceeds from recent tax-forfeited property sales. The amounts are as follows:

Adams County—\$1,320.99 (2 parcels); Desoto—\$426.60 (3); Forrest—\$280.82 (1); Harrison—\$1,353.03 (3); Holmes—\$400.98 (2); Jackson—\$678.89 (2); Jefferson Davis—\$146.08 (2); Lauderdale—\$52,931.57 (130); Lowndes—\$310.45 (1); Marion—\$492.91 (3); Panola—\$262.95 (1); Pearl River—\$1,894.66 (9); Pike—\$2,480.38 (3); Rankin—\$603.35 (1); and Warren—\$3,868.42 (4).

“These amounts represent more than dozens of parcels which are now back on the tax rolls in these counties. We are grateful for the partnerships we have with local government officials who help us get the word out and increase sales to decrease the State’s inventory,” Secretary of State Delbert Hosemann

said. In recent years, successful auctions in Bay St. Louis, Hinds County, Jackson, Leflore County, McComb, Meridian, Pearl River County, Rankin County, Washington County, Waveland, Vicksburg, and Yazoo City have raised hundreds of thousands of dollars for Mississippi schools, municipalities, and counties.

Any member of the public may view details about available properties throughout the State, including parcel numbers, legal descriptions, and market value information, on the Secretary of State’s website at www.sos.ms.gov/Public-Lands/Pages/Tax-Forfeited-Lands.aspx. For more information, call the Public Lands Division at (601) 359-5156.

*Murder

(Continued from page 1.) March added that gambling may have been a factor in the shooting. Wise was seen on security video footage before the shooting leaving and entering the building several times before finally dropping to the ground outside after being shot. March said the alleged shooter was outside the camera’s range. The case remains under investigation.

If anyone has information on this case they can call anonymously to Holmes County Crime Stoppers at 662-834-0099 for the chance to receive up to \$1,000 for information.

Dr. Brady Self, MSU Extension Forestry Specialist, will conduct the workshop. Classroom work will be done in the county office. Field work will be on Black Creek Outfitters property on Bowling Green Road. CLE and CFE hours will be offered for this workshop.

Call Betsy for more information at 834 2795.

State fair concert line-up announced

State of Mississippi MS Fair Commission

The 159th Mississippi State Fair will kick off Wednesday, October 3, and run through Sunday, October 14.

You will find 105 acres of fun and a mile long midway providing entertainment, fun and food sure to please folks of all ages.

One of the fair’s biggest draws is its annual concert series, on the Budweiser Stage.

Steve Hutton, Mississippi State Fairground Executive Director is pleased to announce five great national acts included with your admission to the fair.

Headlining acts for the 2018 Mississippi State Fair include:

- Wednesday, October 3, 2018 7:30 p.m. Chris Janson;
- Thursday, October 4, 2018 7:30 p.m. Hinder;
- Monday, October 8, 2018 7:30 p.m. En Vogue;
- Tuesday, October 9, 2018 7:30 p.m. The Marshall Tucker Band;
- Wednesday, October 10, 2018 7:30 p.m. Colt Ford;

In addition to these great acts, Mercy Me will perform inside the Mississippi Coliseum on October 11 at 7:00

p.m. Tickets for this performance are available at Ticketmaster.com or the Coliseum Box Office.

Mercy Me will feature their hit song from the movie “I Can Only Imagine.”

Sit and enjoy local entertainment at the Trustmark Hospitality Tent on the midway while enjoying food from some of the great vendors.

The MS Beef Celebrity Cook-off will be October 9 at 11:00 a.m. in the Trustmark Hospitality Tent.

In addition to the great musical talent, make sure to visit the Farm Bureau Petting Zoo Area and Pig Races.

Be wowed by the circus performers of Joseph D Bauer’s Great American Thrill Show located on the midway.

Enjoy the Fetch and Fish Performance in front of the Mississippi Trade Mart and visit the dozens of vendors located in the Mississippi Trade Mart.

In the Mississippi Trade Mart, you will also find 4-H Exhibits, Arts & Crafts Competition, Food Preservation, Floral Exhibits and Antique Car Show.



By Betsy Padgett Holmes County Extension

Holmes County Extension will be hosting a Game Camera Survey Workshop on Friday, August 17. If you would like to know more about performing game camera surveys using a science-based approach to estimate your deer herd or learn more about forest management practices that will improve your wildlife habitat and maintain a profitable timber

production, this workshop will be one you won’t want to miss. Space may be limited so we are urging pre-registration to secure your spot. Registration is \$30. per person or \$45 for couples. The fee is to cover refreshments, lunch and materials. Come by or call the Holmes County Extension office for registration. Checks should be made out to Holmes County Forestry Association for the cost of the workshop.

DURANT NEWS

Correction: In last week’s column, it was reported that there was a big black hole in the Durant National Guard Armory Building floor. It should have read, “big backhoe (machine).”

*I was up town on front street last Friday, standing over there in front of Liberty Garden looking down the rub board (bumpy) street. In my opinion, I think all of the businesses on front street should come together an pay for Depot Street to be repaved, starting from Sta-Home to Beauty Mart. The businesses look good, not the streets. It is a way for the businesses to give back to the city. The businesses could get the city to hire a paving company.

I don’t understand why they put the ATM machine on the front street, It freaks me out when I go to the ATM machine. Last Friday I needed to use it and there was a young guy at the ATM machine. I was standing across the street in front of the Liberty Garden waiting for him to leave because it looks like he was messing with the ATM machine. The

young guy left and went inside the bank, then I went inside. I overheard the guy tell one of the ladies that his bank card got stuck in the ATM machine. I was glad I went in the bank, I was thinking you could get robbed at the ATM machine on front street.

When we get older sometimes the words we say or write do not come from our mind right. Like what President Trump said at the Helsinki Summit with Putin. He said he should have said “wouldn’t” but he said “would.” Sometimes you have the word on your mind or what you are thinking. When the word comes out of your mouth it can be different. With President Trump, the news reports and others jumped crazy on him about the word would and wouldn’t. Sometimes our mind, our brain just don’t connect. It is a shame that if you say the wrong word people jump all over you. Sometimes I think you can look at the word or writing and just say one thing and mean another.

*By Frances Patterson

Crop	CBOT Month	Delivery Period	Futures Price	EGT Basis	Net Price	Change
Wheat	Jul 19	2019 Jun	5.61	-0.32	5.29	0.00
Corn	Sep 18	2018 Jul	3.57	-0.07	3.50	0.02
Corn	Sep 18	2018 Aug	3.57	0.00	3.57	0.02
Soybeans Sidon	Nov 18	2018 Aug-Sep	8.63	-0.35	8.28	-0.02
Soybeans G'wood	Aug 18	2018 Jul	8.48	-0.12	8.36	-0.02
Soybeans G'wood	Nov 18	2018 Aug-Sep	8.63	-0.26	8.37	-0.02
Soybeans Minter City	Nov 18	2018 Aug-Sep	8.63	-0.27	8.36	-0.02
Rice	Sep 18		11.90			0.060
Rice	Nov 18		11.855			0.070
Cotton	Oct 18		87.47			-0.270
Cotton	Dec 18		86.81			-0.270

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