

Announcements

- The **Cotton Blossom Singers** will perform at the following venues:
April 16 for the **Roots Reunion** and a live radio recording
April 28 for the **West Jackson Rotary Club**
May 1 at **Greater Saint Matthew Church** in **Canton, MS**
- If juniors and seniors are attending the **prom**, which will be held **Friday** night, **April 29, 2011**, a fee of **\$35.00 per person** is required and needs to be **paid immediately**. All fees are to be paid through the **Business Office**.
- **Dr. Reginald T.W. Nichols**, president of The Piney Woods School, will deliver the message on **Sunday, April 17, 2011**, at the worship services at the school in the **Zilpha Chandler Auditorium**. Services begin at **10:45 a.m.** Sunday School begins at **9:30 a.m.**

Food Services Lunch Menu for the Week*

Mon., 4/11	Tues., 4/12	Wed., 4/13	Thurs., 4/14	Fri., 4/15	Sat., 4/16	Sun., 4/17
Fish Nuggets Grilled Chicken Sandwich French Fries Scallop Potatoes Fresh Plum Hush Puppies Cookie Milk	Chili Dog Cheese Pizza French Fries California Veggies Tossed Salad Fruit Cocktail Cookie Milk	Spicy Chicken Sandwich Meatloaf Green Peas Mashed Potatoes Roll Yellow Cake Milk	Spaghetti & Meat Sauce Ham & Turkey w/ Cheese Sub Green Beans Corn on the Cob Garden Salad Garlic Bread Milk	Cheesy Chicken w/Rice Beef Steak w/Gravy Mixed Vegetables Tossed Salad Brownie Roll Peaches Milk	Hamburger French Fries Corn on the Cob Salad Fruit Tea	BBQ Chicken Ribs Scalloped Potatoes Carrots Peas Salad Rolls Cake Tea

*Menu subject to change.

Happy Birthday!

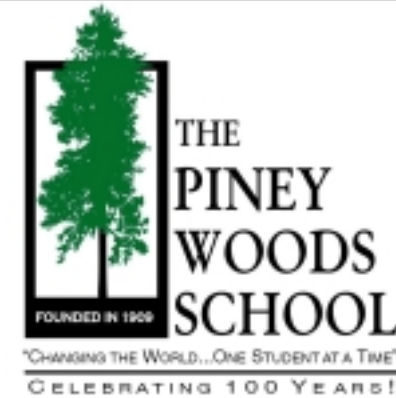
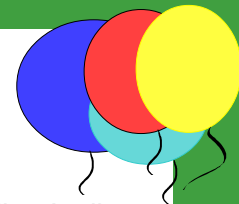
Staff Birthdays

Charlene Skiffer - April 2
 Jacqueline Tripp - April 5
 Ephraim Calhoun - April 11
 Clistia Smith - April 13
 Renee' Tillman - April 14
 Geraldine Watkins - April 16

Student Birthdays

Fredrick Thurman - April 5
 Misha Shavers - April 6
 Cheyenne Bridgewater - April 13
 Roslyn Horton - April 15
 Samuel Crawford - April 18
 Justin McKee - April 19
 Octavia Michael - April 19
 Jameria Hawkins - April 20

Jah-Gamba Felix - April 22
 Tavon Kenton - April 22
 Alahjah Franklin - April 25
 Obsidian LaRoche'-Balkum - April 26
 Khadijah Hubbard - April 29



THE E-TORCH

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Stepping Into Tomorrow

Psalm 1

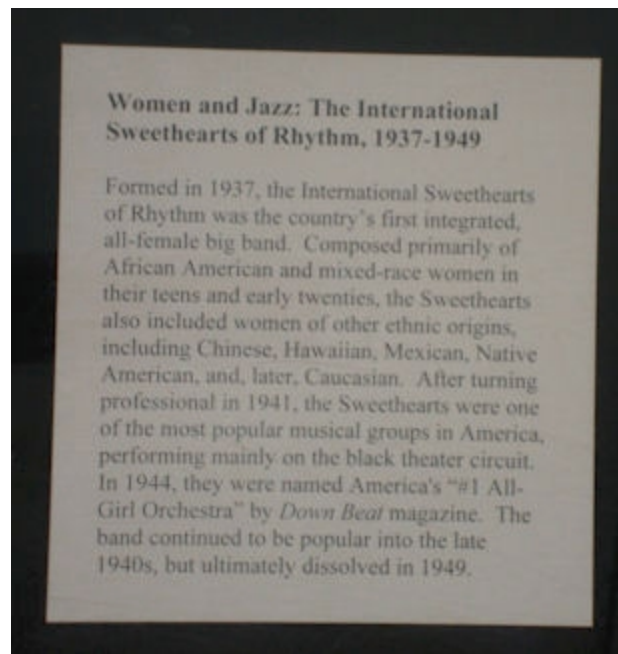
SWEETHEARTS HONORED



President Reginald T.W. Nichols presented the legendary **Sweethearts of Rhythm** with and honorary diploma from **The Piney Woods School** at the **Smithsonian Institution's Jazz Appreciation Month** launch last week at the **Museum of National History**. Here, they are receiving the diplomas on stage beneath a photo from their **USO** tours when they entertained American troops in Europe during WWII. They are (from left to right): **Johnnie Mae Rice, Willie Mae Wong, Lillie Keeler Sims, Helen Jones Woods, Roz Cron, and Sadye Pankey.**

International Sweethearts of Rhythm

On **March 28-April 1**, the **Smithsonian Institution** honored the **International Sweethearts of Rhythm** (the nation's first all girl, integrated jazz band which was formed in **1937** at **The Piney Woods School** and went on to receive national acclaim). **Dr. Laurence C. Jones** formed the band, which included girls of Chinese, Hispanic, Indian, and Caucasian backgrounds, to raise money for the school. The Sweethearts battled racism and sexism to become the hottest all-women's jazz band of the 1940's, playing venues like the **Apollo Theater**, the **Cotton Club**, and the **Olympia Theatre** in Paris. Out of the six remaining Sweethearts who attended the week-long events, five started their careers at The Piney Woods School. **President Reginald Nichols** presented each with an honorary diploma, and hosted (along with the **Mississippi Congressional Delegation**) an event honoring the band at the Library of Congress where **Senator Thad Cochran** and **Congressman Gregg Harper** were among the dignitaries who paid tribute to the Sweethearts and The Piney Woods School. PWS board member (and daughter of Sweetheart **Helen Jones Woods**) **Cathy Hughes** moderated a panel discussion with the ladies. Other board member in attendance were **Leonard Goldstein**, **William Coleman** and **Laurence C. Jones III**. The Smithsonian exhibit detailing the rich legacy of this historic group is on display on the first floor of the **National Museum of American History**.



Board of Directors' Meeting Held

The Piney Woods School **Board of Directors** met on **The Piney Woods School** campus last week. The group toured the school's **radio station** (104.3 FM), the farm's **Bureau of Land Management** operation, and the new **greenhouse** where students will be involved in **bio-agriculture experimentation**.



Upcoming AmeriCorps Projects

The Changing the World Team –AmeriCorps program will travel to **D'Lo, MS**, for a **Keep Simpson County Beautiful Project** on **Wednesday, April 13th**, from **3:30-5:00 p.m.** Members will provide storm relief clean-up at the **D'Lo Water Park** during this project. Volunteers are needed to assist with this project.

The Changing the World Team –AmeriCorps program will lead a clean-up project on The Piney Woods School campus on **Friday, April 15th**. This project is needed as a result of the wind and rain damage caused by the storm on Monday, April 4. The project is scheduled from **9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon**. Volunteers are needed to assist with this project.

On **Friday, April 15th**, the AmeriCorps team will participate in a **Global Youth Service Day Project** at **McLaurin Elementary School Center** in **Star, MS**, from **12:30 to 2:30 p.m.** Global Youth Service Day is a national day of service dedicated to engaging children in community service and service learning. It is the world's largest and longest running youth campaign. The day will begin with members introducing the students to this environmental project with a PowerPoint presentation and sharing ways how they can help their families make this world environmentally friendly. The event will end with students, faculty, staff and members planting a community garden. Volunteers are needed for this event.

On **Saturday, April 16th**, the AmeriCorps team will participate in a unique community service/service learning event to be held at the **Lynn Meadows Discovery Center**. We're calling it "**Love Your Beach**". We're joining the **Mississippi Commission for Volunteer Services** who teamed up with the Lynn Meadows Discovery Center and **United Way of South Mississippi** to host "Love Your Beach Day". This event is aimed at middle school aged children and their families and will supply volunteer opportunities to serve areas or organizations affected by the **Deepwater Horizon Oil Spill Disaster**. During this event three service projects will be completed: a beach clean up, a food drive to benefit a local Food Bank that has seen increased usage since the oil spill disaster and a service project to benefit the Lynn Meadows Discovery Center. Members will also learn about the effects of oil in our sensitive ecosystems, the effects the oil had on birds and other environmental education about the oil spill disaster. The community service projects and service learning portion of the day is centered on the Deepwater Horizon Oil Spill Disaster as the one year anniversary is only a few days after Global Youth Service Day. The corps will depart the campus at **5:00 a.m.** and return around **4:30 p.m.**