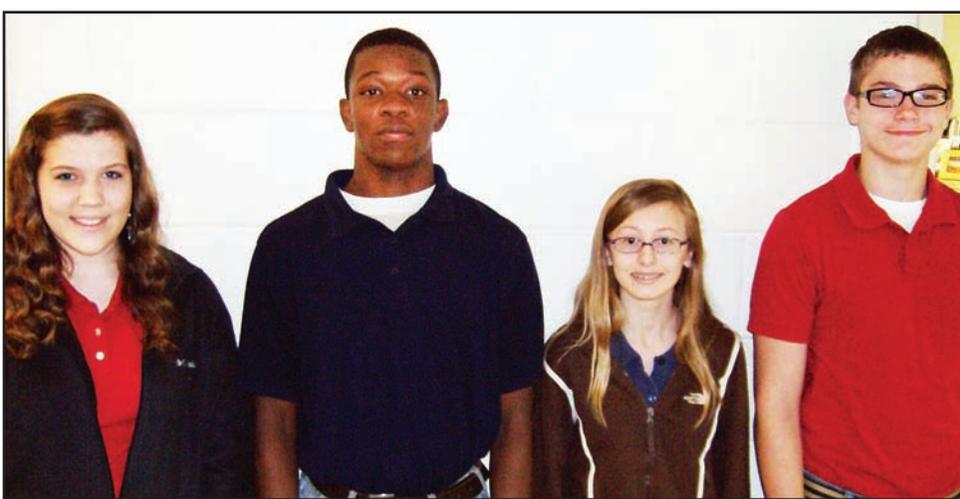


# GSD Students Participate in Dr. Joe Barry Mullins Festival



Maeci McCullough, (flute 7th grade); Quindon Pittman, (Trumpet 8th Grade); Hanna Gregg, (flute 7th grade); and Nicholas McNeer, (Trumpet 8th grade)

By Steven Hugley  
Band Director

On March 22nd Grenada High School hosted the annual Dr. Joe Barry Mullins Festival. The festival started at 11:00 a.m. and continued all day until 8:00 p.m. with 12 bands from across North Mississippi participating.

Grenada had the privilege of having four groups participate in the festival: The Grenada High School Symphonic Band, under the direction of Mr. Chris Sumrall; the Grenada High School Concert Band, under the direction of Mr. Steven Hugley; the Grenada Middle School 8th Grade Band, under the direction of Mr. Bernard Hatch; and the Grenada Middle School 7th Grade Symphonic Band, under the direction of Mr.

Joe Presley. Each performed a concert evaluation of 2-3 songs and were judged by a panel of esteemed judges.

After the concert evaluation, each band was evaluated in sight reading. Grenada Bands is proud to announce that all four bands received all superiors from every judge in concert and sight reading. These were some of the highest scores of the day, and scored better than any program represented at the festival.

Now the high school bands are preparing for their annual "Pops Concert" where the concert and jazz bands play contemporary music from the radio and movie themes. The Pops Concert will be April 25, at 7:00 at the Grenada High School auditorium. Admission will be \$5 for adults and \$3 for students.

## AmeriCorps Ready to Spring into Action



John Coleman, Jr., Dwayne Westmoreland, Luke Westmoreland and Jude Westmoreland scramble to find a seat during a game of Musical Chairs at a recent AmeriCorps event.

By Pamela Hubbard  
AmeriCorps Director

Besides their regular tutoring sessions during the school day, AmeriCorps began a busy month in April serving with several community service projects. They helped the Kiwanis at the Pancake Breakfast and K-5 Race and the Exchange Club's Child Abuse Prevention children's activities. They assisted customers at both the Career Center and Grenada Upper Elementary School Plant Sales. In partnership with the Elizabeth Jones Library, they presented an after school reading program about pets. Dr. Abernathy of Veterinarian Associates, educated the children on the proper care of pets. Community volunteers read stories and some brought their own small pets for the children to enjoy.

AmeriCorps members will continue community service by participating with Christmas in April to refurbish houses. You'll find them at the Grenada Food

Pantry helping distribute food or helping students with homework or activities at the Boys and Girls Club.

On Saturday, May 4, AmeriCorps will help sponsor an all day community event, "Spring in the Swamp." This event will be for "Join Hands Day" when youth are encouraged to learn about service and community by serving with adults. This will be an all day "clean up, fix up and keep up" the swamp so it is visitor friendly. Resident artist Robin Whitfield has championed the Chakchiuma Swamp Natural Area in Grenada. Join AmeriCorps in this environment friendly service project.

The Grenada School District AmeriCorps Program is a federal grant program administered through Volunteer Mississippi in Jackson. All ages are encouraged to "join hands" for our "Spring in the Swamp" on May 4th. For more information, call Gerry Morris at 226-1606.

# GSD Parent of the Year Selected

The Grenada School District has selected Ginger Meriwether, nominated by Grenada Elementary School, as the District-wide Parent of the Year for 2013. She has two children. Will, who will be in kindergarten next year, and a daughter, Meredith, an eight-year-old student in the second grade at GES. Ginger is a Nursing Instructor at Holmes Community College and the Coroner for Tallahatchie County. She is married to Al Meriwether of Wade, Inc. She has been actively involved with several organizations assisting our District, currently serving as President of the GES Parent/Teacher Association and the LEAP supporters (PALS), an organization supporting our gifted students.



Assistant Principal Dawn Walls states, "With every decision made, Ginger puts first the best interests of the students. She works tirelessly in her roles as president of two school organizations, personally purchasing and delivering school supplies for our students and managing financial accounts."

LEAP Teacher Muffet McPhail recognized Ginger's support by saying, "The Grenada Elementary School LEAP Programs rely on PALS to help fund materials and supplies for classrooms and projects. Ginger meets with teachers monthly to determine what is needed and immediately returns with supplies... Ginger goes far and beyond her responsibilities."

"Ginger is the kind of person anyone would want to have around," says LEAP Teacher Angie Wade. "She always has a smile on her face and is willing to go the extra mile to make sure everyone has what is essential...She exudes excellence in any project she tackles...she can be counted on to carry out any task."

Ginger has been a hard worker for GES. She held a fundraiser for the PALS organization, developing tickets and gathering donations from various businesses for the prizes. This year the LEAP students were able to attend a fully funded field trip because of her efforts.

She was also asked to help provide Science Fair judges for the GES Science Fair. She not only brought her entire class of nursing students, she made sure they accomplished everything at a professional level, checking to see that each student was judged fairly.

Ginger says, "I am so excited to be chosen! There are so many unselfish volunteers, I am humbled to be recognized! Grenada Elementary School and Grenada School District are fortunate to receive the assistance from a parent so deeply involved and willing to go the extra mile to help the students. Congratulations to the 2013 Parent of the Year Ginger Meriwether."

## Partners In Education

GUES student Chris Smith writes a thank you note to Sunset Chrysler for contributing to Grenada Upper Elementary as a Partner in Education.



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