



Roosevelt Junior College

First Reunion Luncheon

in association with Palm Beach Community College

11:30 a.m.

Saturday, December 3, 2005

National Croquet Center

West Palm Beach, Florida



ROOSEVELT
JUNIOR
COLLEGE

HISTORY OF ROOSEVELT

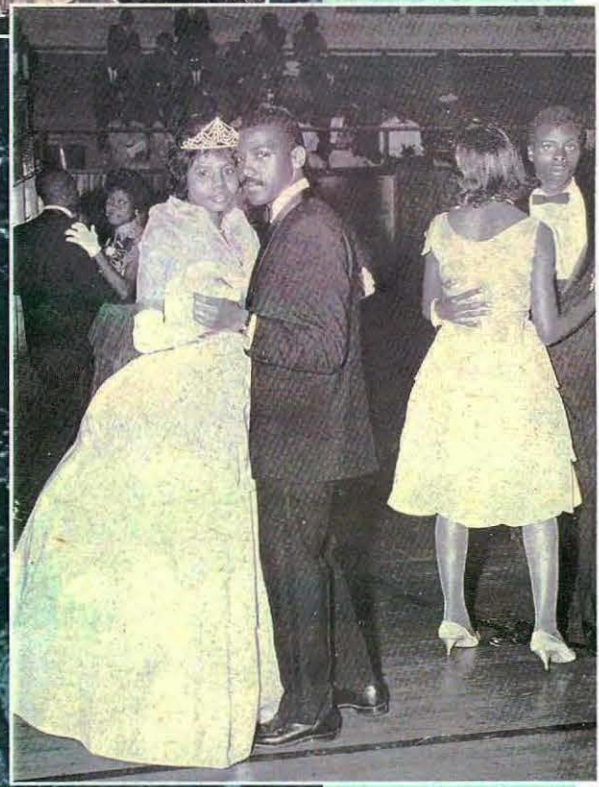
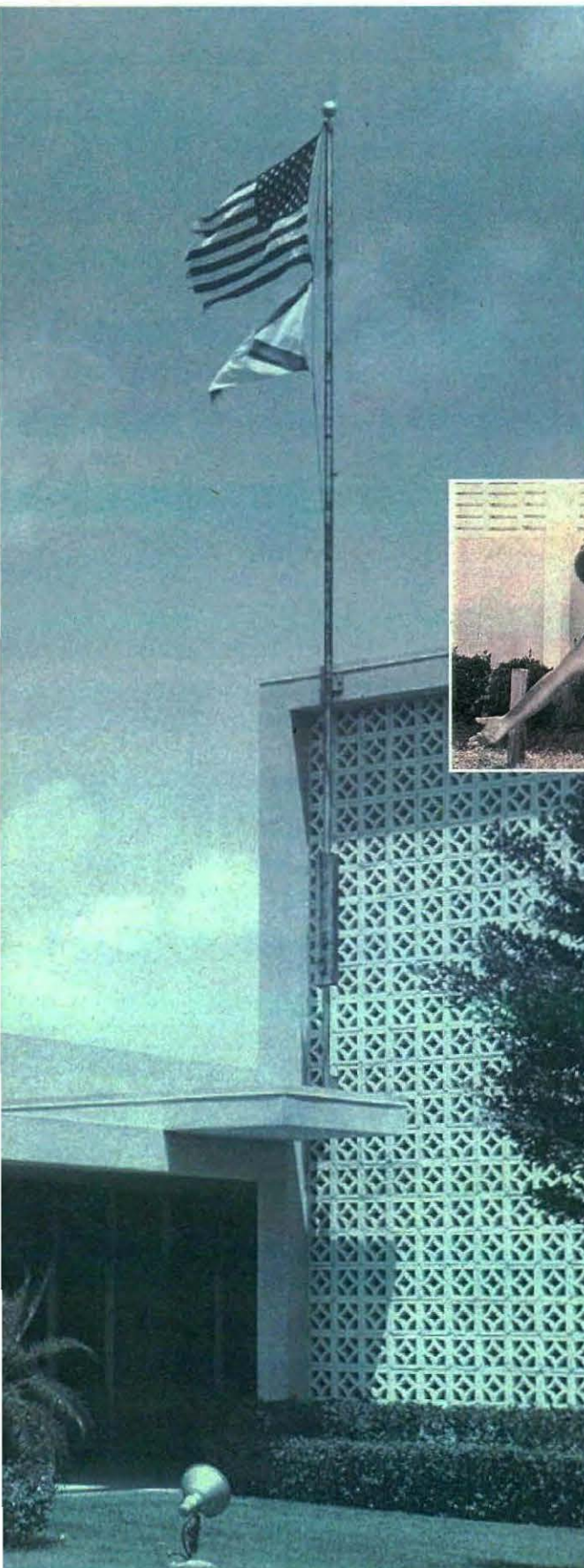
1958 - 1965

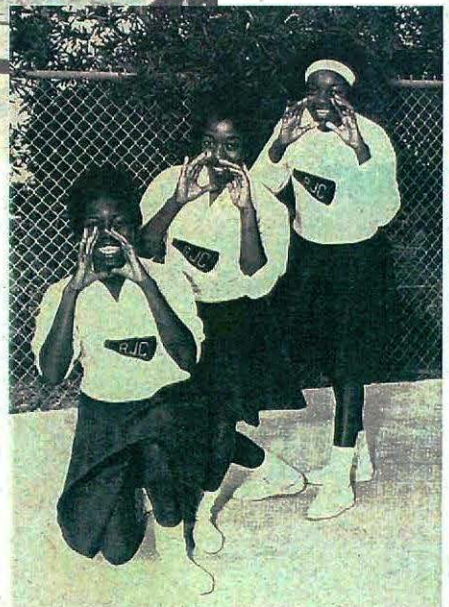
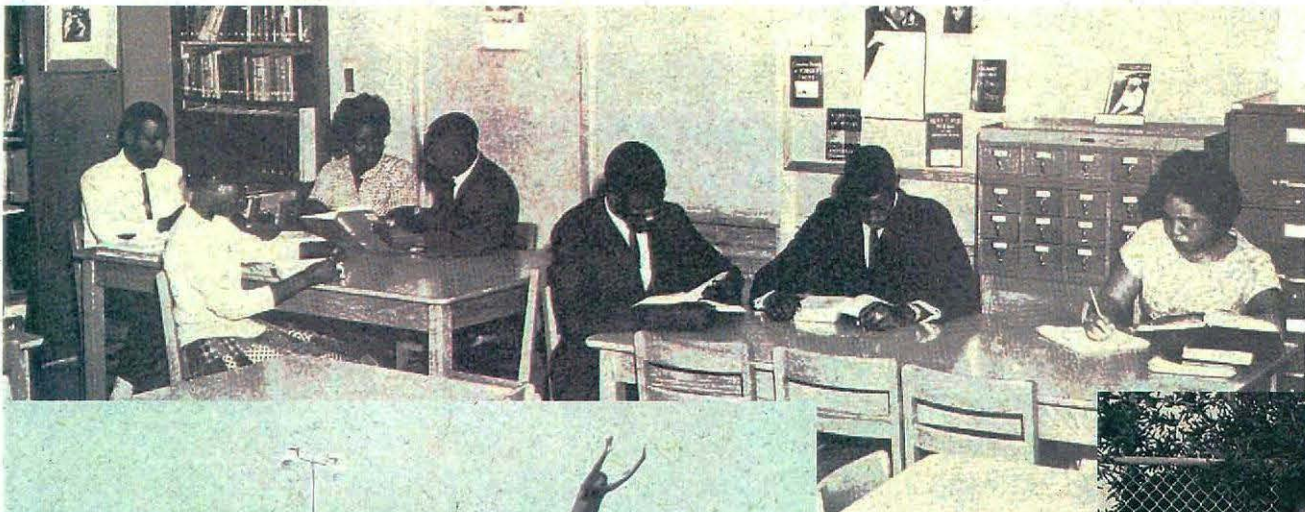
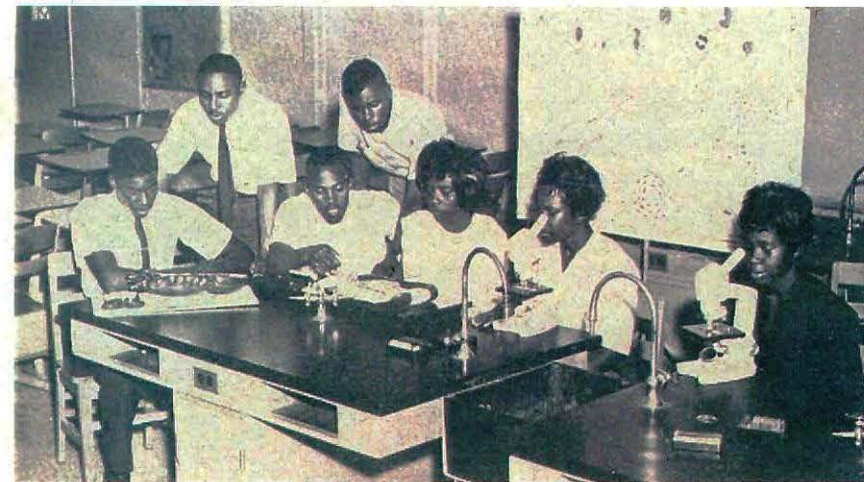
Roosevelt Junior College, Palm Beach County's first institution of higher education for African-Americans, opened its doors to students in the fall of 1958. Britton G. Sayles served as the president of the college as well as the principal of the all-black Roosevelt High School, which shared its campus with the junior college for the first year. Over its seven-year history, the college grew in stature and in size, gaining accreditation from the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools and membership in the American Association of Junior Colleges. The college became an educational and cultural pillar in the community, creating opportunities for black students to advance their education and enrich their lives.

The push for integration prompted the Board of Public Instruction to close the school in 1965 and send its students and some faculty to Palm Beach Junior College (now Palm Beach Community College). Forty years later, Roosevelt Junior College lives on in the hearts and minds of its alumni, employees and the community.



JUNIOR COLLEGE





Program

- Presiding* *Bettye T. Dawson*
- Prelude* *Mrs. Eunice Locke*
- Song* *"Lift Every Voice and Sing"*
- Invocation/Blessing* *The Rev. Roosevelt Cooper*
Pastor, Mt. Calvary Baptist Church, South Bay
- Welcome/Occasion* *Dr. Dennis P. Gallon*
President, Palm Beach Community College
- Solo* *Mrs. Barbara Bergman Wilson*

Luncheon

- Presentation* *"RJC Memories"*
Brian Kelley and PBCC Media Technology & Instructional Services
- Introduction of Speaker* *Mr. Paul Butler*
Dean/Registrar, Roosevelt Junior College & Counselor, Palm Beach Junior College
- Speaker* *Dr. Walter L. Smith*
Author, "The Magnificent 12: Florida's Black Junior Colleges"
- Solo* *Mrs. Ruth F. Dorsey*

Introduction of Roosevelt Junior College Faculty and Staff

- Roll Call of Classes*
- 1960* *Mr. Alfred Newbold*
- 1961* *Mrs. Lillie C. Wilson*
- 1962* *Mr. John Foster*
- 1963* *Mrs. Mary Edge McGee*
- 1964* *(To be announced)*
- 1965* *Mr. Willie Miller, Sr.*

- Presentations* *Mrs. Ardease Johnson*
- Closing* *RJC Alma Mater*

Deceased RJC Faculty Members

- Ms. Ruby Leola Bullock* *Math*
- Mr. Samuel H. Cooke* *Science*
- Mrs. Rachel Perry-Jerry* *English*
- Ms. Ana Maria Gonzalez* .. *Foreign Language*
- Mr. Earley Lee Vessell* *Business*
- Mr. Warren R. Hawkins* ... *Health & Physical Education*
- Dr. Walter T. Locke* *Music*
- Mr. Carl W. McLendon* *Social Science*
- Mrs. Novik M. Stubbs* *Physical Education*
- Mr. B. Carlton Bryant* *Social Science*



Roosevelt Junior College *Memories!*

I enjoyed my working years and the personal contact. There was a close relationship between faculty and students.

Mrs. Margaret Richardson – Faculty Reference Librarian



Roosevelt Junior College motivated me to continue pursuing my education, and I went on to earn a master's degree.

My favorite memories are being with close friends, the support system, the social activities, homecoming and Bid Whist challenges.

Mrs. Annie Ruth Wilburn Nelson - Student



Roosevelt Junior College gave me the foundation for getting my first job, in addition to continuing my education at Barry University. I made honor roll for two years.

It was a family-

like atmosphere. Instructors were dedicated to teaching us to learn.

Dr. Walter Locke made each of us in class sing individually and play a song on the piano (hilarious).

Mr. Hawkins made sure he pushed everyone into 6 feet of water in the pool and said, "Swim." It was truly funny to see students fighting to get to the top of the pool for air.

Dr. Carlton Bryant was certainly a unique instructor.

Mrs. Mary Edge McGee - Student



Ever since graduating from RJC, success has been my friend.

My favorite memory of RJC is having fun while learning.

Mrs. Lillie Clemons Wilson - Student



"Ever since graduating from RJC, success has been my friend."

Please add to the memories page
online at www.pbcc.edu/Roosevelt

The five years that I worked at Roosevelt Junior College were a very exciting time in my life. Specifically, in August of 1960, I received a Bachelor of Science degree in Library Science from FAMU. In September 1960, I was hired by President Britton G. Sayles as an Assistant Librarian. Most importantly, this job afforded me a chance to execute everything that I had been taught in library school. In addition, at Roosevelt we were a very close knit faculty who worked with recent high school graduates to grandparents that were really hungry and excited about getting a college education.

*Mrs. Idella B. Wade – Faculty Librarian
1960 - 1965*



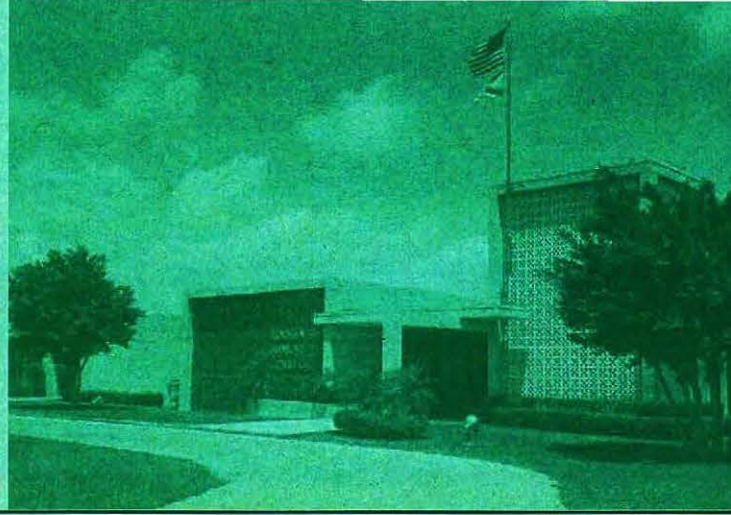
*“...we were a very close
knit faculty...”*

Roosevelt Jr. College enhanced and embellished the high school education I received at Carver High School in Delray Beach FL. The courses that were offered were of very high quality and taught by teachers that were very excellent in what they taught. One class in particular, my speech class, prepared me for impromptu speaking that I would be called upon to do many times in the years that lay ahead of me from 1965. I believe that I got a first rate AA degree and am very proud of having received it at Roosevelt Jr. College.

While at Roosevelt Jr. College (my sophomore year), I was privileged to serve as Student Body President. During this time, representatives from the Social Security Administration came to campus and administered a federal examination for employment. I took the test and apparently did well on it and was subsequently offered a job after graduation. I began working for the Social Security Administration in 12/1965. Though I took a sabbatical for 8 years from 5/1983 to 9/1991, I am proud to say that I enjoyed a long and distinguished career and recently retired from Social Security (12/24/2004) after 31 years. I do not believe this would have been possible had I not been a student at Roosevelt Jr. College. This College provided the stage for my life's work and I shall be eternally grateful.

My favorite memories would be the time that I had with special friends and even some family members who also attended the school the same time that I did. It was a carefree time. A time when I was fresh out of high school and attending college and making decisions on a higher level than when in high school. I shall cherish this special time in my life from 1963 to 1965. I was honored to graduate in the class of 1965 as the salutatorian. My education at Roosevelt Jr. College did indeed serve me well.

*Mrs. Carolyn Burgess Holloman - Student
9/1963 - 6/1965*



Luncheon Program Committee

Mrs. Geneva B. Boynton

Mrs. Jacquelyn Cotman

Mrs. Bettye Dawson

Dr. Stafford Ferguson

Mrs. Annie R. Harrison-Nelson

Mrs. Margaret B. Richardson

Mrs. Emerald Smith

Mrs. Idella B. Wade

Mrs. Lillie C. Wilson

*Where do we go
from here?*



We need your ideas and suggestions. Please send to:

Steering Committee

Terri Chambers

Antoinette Diaz

Dr. Helen Franke

Cheryl Hare

Ardease G. Johnson

Brian Kelley

Diane Lester

Dr. Grace Truman

Office of the President

Attn: Roosevelt Junior College Committee

Palm Beach Community College

4200 Congress Ave.

Lake Worth, FL 33461-4796

Roosevelt Junior College Display

Mrs. Ineria E. Hadley-Hudnell

561-868-3502

www.pbcc.edu/Roosevelt

Music

Mrs. Eunice Locke