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Total: \$1,723,187

#### Deerwood Expansion Continued from inside

Total gift: \$



Classes will start in the new area in time r the Spring 2009 term which begins that uary, according to Deerwood Cente xecutive Director Dr. Patty Adeeb

"The design and build has been an duous but awesome opportunity "When completed, the addition is going to be a wonderful resource for the hole community on the Southside of

Jacksonville, Florida 32202-4030 501 West State Street Florida Community College Foundation



# Gifts & Givers

Florida Community College Foundation

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# **First Coast Community Music School Expands to the North Campus**

A few years ago, Jacksonville had the distinction of being one of the largest cities in the United States without a community music school. That changed Florida Community College to establish The First Coast Community Music School. As a non-profit, community minded organization, the Music School is dedicated to providing the highest quality music instruction regardless of background, age, or

Thanks to generous supporters of the Florida Community College Foundation, the First Coast Community Music School was first established at the outh Campus. As a partnership with the Jacksonville ymphony Orchestra, the Jacksonville Symphony Youth Orchestra and Youth Chorus, and Duval County Public Schools, these organizations provide a faculty of distinguished music professionals offering quality instruction in instruments and voice.

First Coast Community Music School students include adults who always wanted to play an instrument, 4-year-olds just beginning to relate to and enjoy music, and already experienced students of music who need to be challenged to reach their fullest potential

Executive Director Jane Condon provides the eadership and expertise that makes the First Coast Music School a success. In January, thanks to the continued generosity of Foundation supporters, the School expanded to the North Campus, where a

The 8th hole at the beautiful

Deerwood Country Club

of music students is learning the joy of

First Coast of the National **Guild of Communit** Schools of the Art and has modeled its program on the standards set by organization. Aft school, evening an an impressive roster of local musicians.



First Coast Community Music School Executive Director Jane Condon

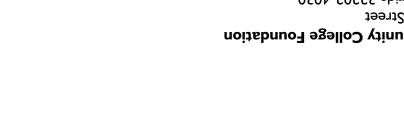
"All people need music. It just makes you have a better soul," Condon says with a smile. "Until now, there has not been a place in Jacksonville for that to happen. People are happy

Coast Community Music School through scholarship or program support, please call the Foundation at (904) 632-3237.

#### **Golf Classic Set for April 28**



To find out more about the Golf Classic, contact Director of Athletics George Sanders at 646-2205 or gsanders@fccj.edu.



# **Gwendolyn Roberts Has a Lot to Teach** With Help from Scholarships, She'll Get To berts pauses from one of her part-time jobs at the Martin Center at Florida Community College

Sometimes it takes a little longer to arrive where you wanted to be. Gwendolyn Roberts' patience — and drive — are paying off at Florida Community College.

The single parent of three children — Madison, 15; Jabarris, 16; and Herbert, 19 — originally enrolled at the College's North campus right after high school. She soon found herself with a new family and a fulltime career in data processing with the City of lacksonville.

"The needs of my home life were pulling at me," Roberts said. "I let school slip to the back and waited many years to return.

As she worked and raised her family, she never stopped thinking about her original goal to be an elementary school teacher. When her kids grew old enough, she started slowly, taking two classes per term. She also kept two part-time jobs, one as a classroom coordinator for summer and after-school programs for 3rd graders.

"They're so ready to learn and eager to find out things about the world," Roberts

A constant element in Gwen's success are the scholarships available from the College. Over the years, Roberts has applied and qualified for a variety of gifts.

"The scholarships have really been a blessing. They have come at a time in my life when I really needed help," she said. "I was encouraged by a reading teacher named Nadine Whitfield to apply the first year I was

here. I went down and got in that book they used to have in the scholarship office before everything went on computer and started

The application process takes less effort

"It's just the click of a mouse," she said. "I search the scholarship page on the College's web site regularly and see what's new. They make it real easy for you. Why not apply?"

Not having to pay back scholarship money is a big plus for a mother with three high school and college age children, Roberts said. Staying out of debt is important.

"I encourage my son to do the same thing and apply," she said.

Roberts' son, Herbert, is attending Florida Community College at the same time as his mom. But Gwen says she is not the only nontraditional aged student in her classes.

"College is getting more and more important. The bar is being raised," she said. "People need more education and they are feeling it. Even the homemakers are coming back. I have been in class with people my age

Roberts will graduate in May with an associate's degree in elementary education. She has no plans to take a break and is already applying for bachelor's programs.

"I'm ready to just keep going," Roberts said. "It's never too late."





#### **Your Support Can Build Scholarships for Minority Students**

There are many more potential students like Gwendolyn Roberts, and District Board of Trustees Chair N. Wyman Winbush II wants to make sure finances don't stand in their way. The IBM sales manager and Naval Reserves Captain is spearheading efforts to raise scholarship funds for minority students.

Tuition and other costs continue to rise and as the state budget shrinks, more of these fees must be borne by students. Your gift can help. Call the Foundation Office at (904) 632-3237 to find out more.

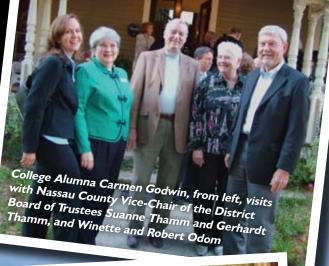
## **Friend-Raising in Nassau County's Historic Williams House**

Nassau County residents recently met with College administrators and board members, as well as staff and faculty from the Betty P. Cook Nassau Center. College President, Dr. Steven Wallace Florida Community College.

"We are going to grow right along with Nassau County," Wallace said. "And we will remain truly responsive to the needs of this growing county."

Amelia Island's Williams House in the Fernandina historic district, with its fully restored Victorian interior and gardens, provided a unique venue for the event.







# **College Approved to Offer Three New Baccalaureate Degrees**

There are new options for students in three high-demand, highwage professions, thanks to a recent ruling by the Florida Board of Education. Baccalaureate degree programs will be available at Florida economy was adversely affected by the deficiency. Community College beginning this fall in the following areas:

- Bachelor of Science in Nursing
- Bachelor of Applied Science in Computer Networking
- Bachelor of Applied Science in Supervision and Management

The College already offers a Bachelor of Applied Science in Fire Science Management.

All three new programs answer the needs of regional and national employers. Assessments conducted since 2004 showed the need for highly skilled information technology, nursing and management employees were not being met, and the region's

While the new baccalaureate programs available through the College will help more people attain bachelor's degrees and solid professions, they are also more expensive to administer, according to Florida Community College President Dr. Steven Wallace.

"Our college continues to grow, innovate and expand its mission despite Florida's financial challenges," he said. "This is one of the most significant events in our college's history -- and our future."

Please call the Foundation Office at (904) 632-3237 to find out how you can help.

### **Cruise Postponed Due to Deerwood Center Expansion**

Like the old joke, there is good news and bad news. The bad news is the virtual cruise, "Set Sail to Achieve the Dream," has been postponed. The good news is the Deerwood Center is

The College's flagship fund-raiser has a new date: Saturday, March 7, 2009. Mark your calendar now for the virtual cruise to romantic Venice, Italy.

Meanwhile, the Deerwood Center is being expanded by 80,000-square-feet, as the \$3.5 million addition of the former Jacobson Department Store is integrated into the Center. Included in the new space:

- New classrooms and six new science and clinical labs for the new satellite nursing program
- The Information Learning Commons, a new concept library and technology facility
- A physical fitness center for students, faculty, and staff
- Relocated and expanded bookstore
- The Coffee Cafe
- The Disabled Student Services office
- A large lecture and performance hall
- Expanded advising and enrollment services, including a testing and assessment center in the former library

The first floor of the transformed Deerwood Center will offer the Main Street concept, with storefronts and park benches in addition to the Coffee Cafe. Outside, a tiered amphitheater seating area will allow outdoor lectures.

