The annual SouthArk Outdoor Expo, presented by the South Arkansas Community College Foundation, is set for Sept. 13 at the El Dorado Conference Center on the college’s campus.

The full-day event has activities for all ages, entertainment and competitions for cash and prizes.

“The SouthArk Outdoor Expo is a great community and college event,” event chair Greg Withrow said. “We are proud and honored that new title sponsor Apex Redi-Mixed Concrete is on board. They are dedicated to education and providing support to our community.”

The day starts as competitors contend for cash and prizes in all contests, starting early in the morning with the Nexans Americable Major Wayne Culver Hero 5K Run-Walk, while teams in the Herring Furniture-Holland Grill Rib Cook-Off begin executing their secret recipes. Top prize is $2,000 with a limit of 60 teams.

“We are expecting teams from across the state to vie for this winning prize,” Cook-Off Committee Chair Jay Helm said. “Last year, we had teams from Texas and Louisiana join us, and this year we are talking to Mississippi teams to join us, so we fully expect the competition to grow and be fun for everyone.”

Tasty ribs may be purchased online at www.southarkexpo.com. The day moves forward with the Outdoor Photo Contest and the Arkansas Game and Fish Commission Duck-Calling Contest.

The El Dorado Conference Center will be filled with vendors, and activities on the grounds will include a demonstration by chainsaw wood carver Scott Winford, the Arkansas Game and Fish Commission aquarium, hunter education, inflatables for the kids, hands-on archery with the Oak Ridge Bowhunters, the Model Aviators of South Arkansas, Taz the Alligator from Moro Bay State Park and David Joyner’s snakes.

New this year is drumming circle where instruments will be provided for people of all ages to drum or shake a rain stick to make music. Even if you’ve never drummed before you will soon be caught up in the fun of community drumming and music making, Foundation director Cynthia Reyna said.

“We will have something for everyone of all ages,” she said. “Visitors will have an opportunity to see the latest in boats, win a deer taxidermy hide, shop for hunting and fishing products, including custom made...
Donor-Scholar Luncheon  Annual luncheon to honor donors and scholarship recipients

CLOCKWISE FROM ABOVE: Student Kimberly Tucker; Foundation Board members Wayne Gibson and Charlie Thomas; student Zanna Linder and donor Melba Tatum; student Brittany Reynolds and Entergy's Bill Luther.

An Evening With the Stars  Paying tribute to Friend of the College Bill Howard, Distinguished Alumna Melissa Jerry and Distinguished Alumnus Greg Taylor

Honorees Greg Taylor, Melissa Jerry and Bill Howard, front center, with Foundation director Cynthia Reyna, college president Dr. Barbara Jones, Foundation President Greg Withrow and Foundation Board Member Robin Carroll.

Foundation Board member Terry Norman, Angie Norman, honoree Bill Howard

Foundation Board member Rob Robinson, Leigh Anne Robinson

Foundation Board member Carolane Hays, John Hays
EXPO

Continued from page 1

call lanyards, game carriers and gun flings. A variety of horn mounts will also be on display. We still have spaces available for vendors, exhibitors and cookers, so register now on the event website at www.southarkexpo.com.”

Live music will entertain the crowd throughout the day. Featured will be Emily Cole, the Cummins Prison Band and the Mighty Electric St. Jude Band.

Cole is an Arkansas-born vocalist and musician who performs everything from soul and funk to classic rock and pop. She grew up singing in El Dorado from the age of 7. She moved back to her hometown after spending several years in Fayetteville singing and recording for bands of all genres, including salsa. One of her many honors is winning the North Arkansas Music Award for best salsa band, Calle Soul.

The Mighty Electric St. Jude Band, a nine-piece group made up of St. Jude employees, was formed in 2002 and “rocks for a reason” by donating proceeds from performances to help save childrens’ lives. The band regularly plays gigs around Memphis and across various states. Its widely-praised and popular rock-and-roll music led the band to compete in the ninth annual Fortune Battle of the Corporate Bands at the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame and Museum in Cleveland.

The Cummins Prison Band plays a blend of old-style rock, blues and jazz. Popular for volunteering time at community events across Arkansas, these musicians put on a high-energy, high-powered blend of entertainment.

Proceeds from the Outdoor Expo benefit educational scholarships for students and general operations of the SouthArk Foundation.

Admission for the Outdoor Expo is one canned good or packaged food item, which will be donated to a local food pantry.

More information, including contest and vendor forms, is available at www.southarkexpo.com or by calling Cynthia Reyna at (870) 864-7130. Find out more about the SouthArk Foundation at www.fb.com/southarkfoundation.

SO MANY CONTESTS! Cash prizes!

• Outdoor Photography Contest
• Rib Cook-Off
• Duck-Calling Contest
• 5K Run-Walk

MORE INFO AND ENTRY FORMS: www.southarkexpo.com

Nexans Amercable, sponsors of 5K
**Update on Heritage Plaza from foundation President Greg Withrow and college president Dr. Barbara Jones:**

“We are pleased to announce that our long-awaited Heritage Plaza is well underway. By early fall, this vital outdoor learning center on our West Campus will be transformed into a bustling green space with landscaping and grassy lawns for students to study or gather with friends. For our community, it will serve as a place to visit and enjoy the pathways and fountain which will convert to a stage for events and performances.

“In the last 18 months, generous supporters have helped us raise over $800,000 to bring this historic property to its ultimate use as Heritage Plaza. As the construction bids came in higher than anticipated, we need approximately $75,000 to complete the plaza. We invite you to take this opportunity to place your name on our donor wall. Please consider making a tax-deductible gift. Your donation is an investment in our community’s future and a tribute to our rich history. With your support, south Arkansas will soon have another vibrant, attractive landmark, further strengthening the ties between the college and our beautiful, historic downtown area.”

**Heritage Plaza update**

**Nursing instructor wins Baumgardner Award, by students**

Nursing instructor Peg Cole was selected by a student vote for the G. Thomas Baumgardner Students’ Choice Faculty Award, established by Dr. Kermit Parks for the SouthArk Foundation.

Cole was described by students as “diligent, hard-working, caring and student-focused.”

“She spends hours tutoring students outside of the classroom,” students said. “In fact, she will often host tutoring parties.”

“I’m going to be a nurse because of her.”

Winners receive a $500 check to be used for faculty development activities such as purchase of material to enhance classroom teaching and attending conferences or seminars.

Baumgardner, who died earlier this year, was once an instructor at the college and later, a member of the SouthArk Board of Trustees.

**Buy a Brick...Leave a Legacy**

Your engraved brick will be used to make a lasting impression in the William R. and Cacilia Howard Heritage Plaza. You may inscribe your name on a brick for a contribution of $100, or you can honor or memorialize a loved one, colleague, or organization. Your tax-deductible gift will be earmarked for this wonderful green space.

For questions about Heritage Plaza, log on to www.southark.edu/heritage-plaza, email creyna@southark.edu, or call (870) 864-7106.