The 20th anniversary year at SouthArk was filled with activity. As we welcome 2013, we continue to implement our Build 2016 Strategic Plan focused on student success and completion, and strive to achieve our vision of being the leading resource for accessible education, workforce training, partnerships and economic development for our region.

Our enrollment has remained stable, our number of graduates has increased and our faculty and staff have been engaged in implementing innovative changes to benefit our students. We are updating curriculum and devising methods to expedite delivery of courses. A new performing and media arts program has been approved. Partnering with the city, the state and local industries, a state-of-the-art industrial training center is being developed. We continue to strengthen relationships with business, industry and other educational institutions in the region to assure that south Arkansas has an educated and well-trained workforce.

The college is updating campuses to ensure that they are conducive to learning, safe, clean and visually-appealing for our students.

The SouthArk Foundation is an integral partner in the ongoing success and progress of the college. Gifts will benefit students, faculty and programs for future generations. We are grateful that the Foundation is leading the campaign to build Heritage Plaza. It will be a tangible reminder of more than 150 years of educational history. The Foundation’s goal is to raise $700,000 for the project.

Our continued growth and advancement is dependent upon the interest, support and generosity of donors and benefactors like you. Thank you! You are making a difference for our students, college and community.

Barbara Jones.

In an era of uncertainty in our general economy both locally and nationally, El Dorado has chosen to take responsibility for its own economic future. The SouthArk Foundation is a part of this positive movement.

The Festivals and Events organization is moving forward with the development of the theatre and arts district. SouthArk is adjacent to this exciting development and one way the college is participating in the development is by building Heritage Plaza, a park-like setting that truly will give our college that campus feel. The Foundation will be funding this project and has raised approximately $250,000 to date. We plan to complete fundraising in the coming year.

The college also received a contribution that will allow us to begin a performing arts program, further cultivating the college’s commitment to El Dorado’s new arts and entertainment direction.

This year included other positives for the Foundation. The Evening With the Stars fundraiser had incredible attendance and raised more than $25,000 for the Foundation’s many programs. The Outdoor Expo has become a major fall season event in our city, and took in more than $70,000.

OUR college, right here in OUR community, is a wonderful asset to all of us. Each of you should be very proud of this school and its impact on the citizens of El Dorado and the surrounding area. Leave a legacy in El Dorado and please keep giving to SouthArk.

Terry Norman.
Heritage Plaza

Heritage Plaza is a proposed open-air quad at the center of SouthArk’s West Campus. The project was announced at SouthArk’s An Evening With the Stars gala on Saturday, April 28, with a presentation and remarks by SouthArk president Dr. Barbara Jones and SouthArk Foundation Gifts Committee Chair Greg Withrow. Fundraising for the project began immediately, with construction planned for 2013.

Heritage Plaza was inspired by the classic image that many students entertain of the traditional college experience: studying under a shade tree in the midst of a bustling campus center. Designed by Polk Stanley Wilcox Architects, the plaza will include a large central water feature that can be converted into a stage for special events, surrounded by a sprawling courtyard, green lawns and lush landscaping.

By establishing the atmosphere of a traditional college campus, according to Foundation representatives, it will become a natural oasis and a central gathering space for students and faculty, while also raising the profile of SouthArk as a leader in education.

A testament to both El Dorado and SouthArk’s commitment to education, Heritage Plaza will make huge strides in creating a sense of community among SouthArk students.

The proposed location of Heritage Plaza is a site that has been continuously occupied by educational institutions since 1843.

Connecting the Administration Building and the Library, Heritage Plaza will link the Computer Technology Building to the north and the Health Science Center to the south with paved walkways, the idea is to increase campus beauty, walking navigability and to bring together students, faculty and visitors.

We consider it an honor to recognize our benefactors who invest in our vision. Your name, or the name of someone whom you wish to honor, will be recognized for your support. Take this opportunity to pay tribute to this special place in the center of our community by making a gift to make Heritage Plaza a reality.

To learn more, call (870) 864-7130 or visit www.southark.edu/heritageplaza.
An Evening With the Stars

An Evening With the Stars, held in April, recognized two Friends of the College and two Distinguished Alumni.

Held at the El Dorado Conference Center, the formal affair included cocktails, dinner and dancing.

Lauded were the years of support and contributions of former hotel franchisees D.R. Jr. and Jane James, who are members of the Pathway Society level of financial giving to the SouthArk Foundation.

Also honored were alumni Union County Sheriff Mike McGough and Great Lakes Solutions public relations manager Patty Cardin.

Included in the night’s festivities were recognition of SouthArk’s Outstanding Employees.

A regular event, this An Evening With the Stars generated in excess of $25,000 following the fundraising launch for Heritage Plaza.
CORPORATE SUPPORT

First Financial Bank donated $60,000 to Heritage Plaza.

El Dorado Chemical donated $30,000 to Heritage Plaza.

BancorpSouth donated $15,000 to Heritage Plaza.

Simmons First Bank donated $15,000 to Heritage Plaza.

Deltic Timber donated $15,000 to Heritage Plaza.

TETRA Technologies donated $5,000 to the process technology program.

Georgia-Pacific Crossett Paper Operations donated $10,000 to the process technology program.
The SouthArk Outdoor Expo, an annual major fundraiser for the SouthArk Foundation, brought in $72,000 this year—setting a record for a second consecutive time.

Held each September, the Expo attracts visitors, as well as sponsors, vendors and contest participants, from a large area around El Dorado.

This year the event featured a photography contest, cooking contest, duck-calling contest and for the first time a 5K race.

As has become tradition, reflections of the terrorist attacks of 2001 also were a part of the day’s events, centered around the Arkansas 9.11 Memorial on the lawn of the El Dorado Conference Center where the Expo is held.
Deena Burnett Bailey, widow of 9-11 victim Tom Burnett, speaks in front of the Arkansas 9.11 Memorial.

A duck-calling contest is a part of the Outdoor Expo.

Student groups sell items at the Expo to raise money for trips and other expenses.

Children always are drawn to the many attractions that the Expo has to offer.
Regan Carlton is halfway through the occupational therapy assistant program at SouthArk, and program director Dr. Sandra Pugh calls Carlton one of her best students.

The Magnolia resident and Columbia Christian graduate came to SouthArk directly out of high school in 2011, and is on track to complete an associate’s degree in August of next year. She likely will be a professional in the field before the age of 21.

“I chose SouthArk because of the great opportunities it has to offer. SouthArk is known for awesome health and science programs, and I strongly desired a degree in occupational therapy,” she said. “I met with my adviser and explained my goals, and she got me on the right path. I started at SouthArk the summer after I graduated high school, finished all of my prerequisite classes in three semesters, applied for the occupational therapy assistant program in the spring semester and was selected.”

As soon as Carlton arrived at the college, she got involved in student activities, including Student Ambassadors. She became a familiar smiling face on campus.

“Being a Student Ambassador was great: It opened up a lot of doors and provided connections to professional people,” Carlton said. “As a Student Ambassador I gave tours; helped organize and set up events; said the Pledge of Allegiance at several events, which was an honor; worked in the financial-aid office; and most importantly, was a liaison between the students and administration.”

Carlton also was a Student Government Association senator in 2011-2012, as the new organization began to grow.

“The things I like about SouthArk are the friendly staff, inspirational instructors and the small environment, which provides a close relationship between students,” Carlton said.

The teen was this year’s recipient of the SouthArk Foundation’s Health Sciences Scholarship, and she spoke highly of what philanthropic giving has meant to her educational journey so far.

“It has truly been a blessing. Receiving this scholarship has given me funding for tuition, which is always appreciated during my college career; it is also a great honor that out of all the students in health science programs I was chosen,” Carlton said. “I have not met any of the donors, but I would definitely love to in the future to be able to thank them for helping me further my education.”

Carlton said that her desire upon getting a degree is to work in occupational therapy at a public school system. Long-term, she wants to further her education with a master’s degree in OT, and eventually open her own outpatient therapy facility.

“My goals are to specialize in sensory integration and provide therapy to children in need, helping them to be more successful in their educations,” the student said. “I am receiving my degree in an awesome profession, the main goal of which is helping people; and if I can help people for the rest of my life doing a job I love, all my life goals will have been met.”
Scholarships
Alpha Xi Endowed
Dr. Kenneth Bridges
Robert R. Brown Jr.
Choral
Charles E. Cowger Endowed
El Dorado Civitan Golden Door Endowed
El Dorado Jaycees Endowed
General
Health Sciences
Island Memorial
James Family Endowed
Langston Endowed
Omazel Lawson Endowed
Jodie Mahony Endowed
Mabel and Emon Mahony Endowed
Michael Mahony/BancorpSouth Endowed
MCSA/Betty White Endowed
James M. Moore Jr. Endowed
Neely Endowed
Dr. Kermit Parks Public Service Endowed
E.W. Pickering Endowed
Mabel Stratton Powell Endowed
ProMed Ambulance
REACH
Lucy Ring Academic Excellence Endowed
Lucy Ring Fine Arts Endowed
Simmons First Bank Endowed
Single Parent Fund of Union County
Jo An and Charles T. Skinner Endowed
Melba Tatom Nursing Endowed
William Jammilous (Jay) Terry
Trade and Industry
Jonathan M. Warren Memorial
Dr. Ben T. Whitfield Endowed

Other Funds
Innovation Mini-Grant
Student Crisis
SouthArk Library
Student Vision Care
South Arkansas Arboretum
SouthArk Lecture Series
Fine Arts
President’s Circle
LIFETIME GIVING

You can help make a difference in the lives of students through your generous giving. We recognize the cumulative gifts of our lifetime giving supporters through these Giving Societies. Each time that donors make gifts to the Foundation, the gifts are applied toward their giving records, qualifying them for one of these Giving Societies.

Based on fiscal year ending on June 30, 2012.

**Heritage Society**
$250,000 or more
Estate of Norris C. Taylor, Jr.

**Pathway Society**
$100,000 - $250,000
Anonymous Donor
First Financial Bank
James Family
Dr. Carolyn and Ralph Langston
Murphy Oil Corporation
Lucy Anne Ring Trust
Simmons First Bank
Charlie and Camilla Thomas

**Vanguard Society**
$50,000 - $99,999
AR Single Parent Scholarship Fund
BancorpSouth
El Dorado Chemical Company
BancorpSouth
AR Single Parent Scholarship Fund

**Cornerstone Society**
$25,000 - $49,999
City of El Dorado
Cooper Standard Automotive
Corporation for National and Community Service
El Dorado Advertising and Promotion Commission
Encore Arkansas
Lanatter and Herb Fox
Georgia-Pacific Corporation
Great Lakes Solutions
Phil and Donna Herring/Herring Furniture
Lion Oil Company
Medical Center of South Arkansas
Deborah and William C. Nolan, Jr.
Union County Department of Human Services
Union Power Partners

**President’s Society**
$10,000 - $24,999
Alpha Xi Chapter, ESA
Anonymous Foundation
Anonymous Family Foundation
Edwin and Diane Alderson
James and Edith Baine
John S. and Martha Beebe
Cleve Blagg Pickering Trust
Mrs. Charles E. Cowger
Delectric Corporation
El Dorado Civicans Club

**Keystone Society**
$2,500 - $9,999
AT&T
Charlotte and John Abbott
Alltel Corporation
Aeps Real-Mixed Concrete Company
BFS, Inc.
John and Jennifer Baine
Phillip Ballard
Jeanne and Tom Baumgarten
Dr. Ken Bridges
Dr. Lara and James Brown
Steve and Celeste Cameron
Dr. Val Cantu
Robin and Leslie Carroll
Clean Harbors Environmental Services
Walter Compton
Walter and Susan Cowger
Cross Roofing and Sheet Metal
Del-Tin Fiber
Elaine and Claiborne Deming
Beverly and John Dew
Diploma Nurses of Arkansas
Elizabeth and Dwayne Dugal
DuPont
Evers, Cox and Gober P.L.L.C.
Dessie Ford
Frac-N-Vac Tanks, Inc.
Mr. and Mrs. George Haefner
Raymond and Patsy Higgins
Ideal Management Co., Inc.
Gwenda Island
Dr. Ben and Sherrel Johnson
Dr. Barbara Jones
Dr. Tim Kirk
Tom and Mary Ann Loftin/Loftin Construction Co.
Joffie and Pat Long
Nick and Virginia Macchirollo

**Platinum Society**
$1,000 - $2,499
Alice-Sidney Oil Company
All-Star Recycling
Carl Amason
Anthony Forest Products
B & B Contractors
Rodney Bartchy
Patricia Bates
Carol Benson
Oliver Borden
Robert R. Brown, Jr.
Pete and Cherie Buletza
Burns & McDonnell Engineering Company, Inc.
C. A. Duncan, Inc.
Becky and Ernie Eagle
Mr. and Mrs. Claude Calahan
Dr. J. C. and Pat Callaway
C.E.S. Construction
Sam Chamberlain
Adam Choate
Steve and Janet Cousins
C&P Construction
Veronica Creer
Cross Oil Refining & Marketing
Henry Culbreth
Keitha Davidson
Delta Press

Developmental Disabilities Provider Association
Diamond Agency
DMC Carter Chambers
Ted and Lyn Drake
Robert and Jane Dudley
Dr. Kristi Elia
El Dorado Kiwanis Club
El Dorado Water
ESCo Electrical
Kevin and Claudia Fitzgerald
Melinda Hays Gatheright
Connie and Wanye Gibson
Glenn Mechanical
Helen Griffith
Jim and Doris Hackney
Victoria and Shilton Harden
Randy Haynie
Chris and Anne Hegi
Donna Hendricks
Randy and Glenda Jerry
Ken Kelley/Pro Med Ambulance
Mr. and Mrs. Robert F. Kelley
Mrs. Curtis A. Kirand
Francis Kuykendall
Helen Landes
Roger Landes
Scott Larkin
John and Susan Lowery
Alice Mahony
Jodie and Bette Anne Mahony
Michael E. Mahony
Mangum Contracting, Inc.
Richard and Vertis Mason
Madelynne M. and Edward C. McCarty
Mrs. H.C. McKinney
Jerry and Jack McNutt
Melvin’s Discount Pharmacy
Cynthia Meyer
Gordene and John Ed Moore
Murphy Motors
Dr. and Mrs. Robert M. Murfee
Tamara O’Gwin
Dr. Marc and Patti Parnell
Dr. Lynn Persyn
Pilgrim’s Pride
George W. Price
Dr. Terry Puckett
Robert Ragdale
Dr. Alan Racao
Cynthia Reyna
Robert and Paula Reynolds
Michael Roberts
M. Maurice Rogers
Dr. Janet and Jack Ryan
Securities Security, Inc.
Shuler Drilling Company, Inc.
David Skinner
South Arkansas Human Resources Association
South Arkansas Oil Company
South Arkansas Telephone Company, Inc.
June Southall
Southern Bancorp
Story Floor and Carpet, Inc.
SWAPDD, INC.
Kyle Swift
Linda and Stan Sweeney
Mr. and Mrs. John Talpas
Veronda Tatum
Thomas, Hickey & Shepherd, LLP
Trotter Nissan Chrysler Dodge Jeep
Tyson Foods, Inc.
Linda and Mike Warren
Mary Ellen Wilson

Gold Society
$500 - $999
4R Marketing
Dr. Elaine Allen
Larry W. Andrews
Beryl Anthony
Arkansas Blue Cross Blue Shield
Aurelle Water Association
Mike Beebe
 Sue Bowman
Jay Bradford
Jeanette Brown
Jerry Bullard
Beth Burns
Natalie Callaway
Carol & Witt Stephens Charitable Foundation
Dr. Susan K. Chappell
Columbian Chemicals Company
Compton, Prewett, Thomas, & Hickey
Margaret Compton
Mary Pat Cook
W. L. Cook
Frank DiCristina
Bobby J. Edmonds
El Dorado Forward
Jason Ellen
Scott Ellen
Wayne Elliott
Evers Electric, Inc.
First Bank of South Arkansas
Amy E. Garner
Bert Giller
Jay Glass
Grace Railroad Contractors
Donna and Lathan Hainston
Caroline and John Hays
Dr. and Mrs. Ed Henley
Gretchen Henry
Heico, Inc.
Barbara Hogg
Brenda Holmes
Dean G. Inman
Susan Jordan
Corbet Lamkin
Lawrence Electric
Luther Lewis
Long’s Roofing & Sheet Metal
Charles Lovett
Magnolia Specialized Services, Inc.
Martin Transport
James W. Matheney
Denny McNamara
Carroll McGarity
Tammi McKinnon
McLarty Companies
Tandy Menefee
Debra Mock
Pamela A. Mulligan
Brenda Murphee
Mustard Seed Financial
Roslyn Nipper
Betty Linda Nolan
Charles “Ricky” Palmer
Charles Pepper
Dr. Allan and Janey Pirnique
Brian Price
Puska’s Machine Shop
John G. Ragdale
Mary Kathryn Reavis
Anita F. Reisdorf
Bob Risor
Robert L. Robinson IV
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David Ross
Leslie J. Sauer
Sewell Oil Company
Dennis Shackleford
Sherman Brothers Trucking
Dr. John Simpson
Dr. and Mrs. Scott Simpson
Teresa C. Smith
Southern Bancorp
Sports Alley
TDS Erectors
Randall M. and Sylvia Thompson
Judy and Randle Tomlinson
TopCor Services
Trio Production Company, LLC
Kimberly Vaughn
Dr. Susanne Wache
Kevlin Waldrum
Paul Waschka
Lawrence Waschka
Bob Watson
Steve Wells
John White
Sheri Whitehead
William P. Cook and Associates
Mary Jo Williams
David Wilson
Lauren Wilson
Don Zimmerman

Silver Society
$250 - $499
David Alphin
Dr. Carlos Anaya
Scott Andrews
Arkansas Farm Bureau Federation
Berry and Associates
Karen Boykin
Jay Brooks
Jeffery T. Brown
Dr. D’Orsay and Karen Bryant
Janice Bush
Bruce Butterfield
James A. Buttry
Sterling Claypoole
Venie Craig
Edward Crowe
Jay Dickey
Kerlin Drake
Deborah Edney
Erwin & Company, P.A.
Fairview Community Development Association
Dr. Daniel G. Ford
Jo Ellen Frost
James W. Garson
Garner and Dunham, CPA
Janis K. Givens
David Griffith
Louis J. Hall, III
Charlie Hanks
Susan Hanson
Catherine Harrell
Jo Harrison
Carolyn Hart
The Honorable Susan and Joe Hickey
Dr. Curtis Hill
Mark Hudson
Dr. Edwina Hunter
John Ingram, Inc.
Sheila Jones
Alvin Kelly
Tonya Kendrix
Mrs. Frances Landers
Rodney Landes, Jr.
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James B. Larsen
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Mike Loflin
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Tim Massanelli
Ellen J. McGowan
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Jesse McWilliams
Dottie Medlin
Rudy Moore
Debra Moring
David Murphy
Lonnie Nelson
Bobby and Joanne Newman
Allen Newton
Betty Owen
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Benny C. Petrus
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Dan Redmond
Gray Richardson
Lynda Richardson
Sheila Risher
Johnnie Roebuck
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Dr. Jim Sheppard
Alma Slatten
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Betty Stinson
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Melba Tatum
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J.D. Trimble, Jr.
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Mary Lou Whitfield
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Doyle Williams
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Benny Wilson
Christy Wilson
Al Witte
Rose M. Young
Young’s Funeral Directors

2012 Annual Report 10
Students in South Arkansas Community College’s physical-science classes now have the use of computer technology in their laboratory thanks to an $850 Innovation Mini-Grant awarded by the SouthArk Foundation.

Instructor Linda Bates proposed the grant, which paid for a digital probe and computer software for the purposes of investigating experimental phenomena.

The Innovation awards seek to encourage classroom enhancement for the purpose of improving student learning that falls outside of the college’s operational budget.

Instructor Linda Bates, far right, guides Physical Science student Addison Preston in utilizing the new laboratory equipment paid for by the Innovation Mini-Grant that Bates was awarded.
Joseph Agbeko

His students describe him as “thoughtful,” “encouraging” and “extremely helpful,” traits that math instructors need to have in order to help their students succeed in an area that many find to be difficult. Joseph Agbeko has built a reputation as a smart, smiling faculty member at South Arkansas Community College, and students selected him to receive the 2012 G. Thomas Baumgardner Students’ Choice Faculty Award.

The Ghana, West Africa, native began teaching at SouthArk in 2010 after graduating with a master’s degree in mathematics and computer science at Youngstown (Ohio) State University. He did undergraduate work in his native land, graduating with a bachelor’s degree in physics and mathematics from the University of Cape Coast and a certificate in general science from Ghana Secondary School.

As a graduate teaching assistant at Youngstown, Agbeko demonstrated skill in teaching developmental and college mathematics to an ethnically-diverse population and developed a variety of techniques aimed at creating a strong, interactive learning environment for his students.

At SouthArk, Abeko has been tasked with helping phase in a newer and much more successful delivery system for developmental math courses. In the classroom, he has endeared himself to his students with his passion for teaching, his willingness to individualize instruction and his exceptional teaching skills.

“He always makes sure to take time out to help a student between classes if they stop him in the hall,” wrote one student in recommending Agbeko for the award. “It clearly shows me and other students that he truly cares about not only his profession, but he cares for the students. Most important of all he smiles all the time and he enjoys what he does.”

The award’s namesake is a long-time resident of El Dorado and former SouthArk instructor himself, as well as a former trustee. He retired from Con-Agra Foods in 1992. Active in community affairs, Baumgardner has served on numerous boards, including those of the South Arkansas Regional Health Center, Campfire Girls, South Arkansas Arts Center, Union County Community Foundation, El Dorado Airport Commission, El Dorado Civil Service Commission, YWCA and El Dorado Little Theater. He taught classes at the college in 1981–95.

The Baumgardner Award is presented annually to a faculty member teaching at least three semester hours during the academic year and who has been voted by students as the most helpful and supportive. The winner receives a $500 check to be used for faculty development activities such as purchase of material to enhance classroom teaching and attending conferences or seminars.

The award fund was established by Dr. Kermit Parks through the SouthArk Foundation.
The first leg of Dr. Greg Taylor’s higher-education journey was through South Arkansas Community College, something that the alumnus recommends to other forward-focused students.

A Parkers Chapel native, the Hot Springs veterinarian and SouthArk’s Alumnus of the Year said that his selection of SouthArk was wise on a number of levels.

“I ended up attending SouthArk initially for financial reasons,” he said. “First, the cost of tuition was minimal in comparison to that of a four-year university. Secondly, by attending SouthArk I was able to live at home with my parents, thus avoiding any added expenses for room and board. Third, I was able to continue working and save money to use for my future education expenses due to the cost savings of staying at home.”

Taylor went on to graduate from the University of Central Arkansas in Conway in 1997, and from Mississippi State University’s College of Veterinary Medicine in Starkville, Miss., in 2004.

He began his professional work in veterinary medicine as an associate veterinarian in Hot Springs that year, and in January of 2012, Taylor purchased a veterinary clinic in Hot Springs, Temperance Hill Animal Hospital.

But Taylor easily points out that the foundation was set right here at SouthArk.

“My education at SouthArk helped pave the way to my eventual role as a veterinarian by allowing me to get some of my core courses completed in a more controlled environment,” he said. “I didn’t have to deal with the stresses or distractions of living on my own away from home and was able to focus on my coursework. I made good grades, got some core classes out of the way and saved a lot of money.”

Other students could benefit greatly from doing the same thing, Taylor said.

“Choosing a community college might be a wise choice for many students. It allows you to get a solid foundation for a fraction of the price of a four-year college. Also, you can save money if the community college is close enough to home that you can commute daily instead of moving,” he said. “In my particular experience, the class sizes were very small compared to that of a four-year university, which was great.”

Taylor had some words of advice to students who are considering South Arkansas Community College.

“The cost of college is rising rapidly each year. If you can get a solid education at a community college and save money in the process, that’s a win-win situation,” he said.

Taylor has been married to his wife Jennifer Taylor for six years. They have two children, Nash Taylor and Gune Taylor.
Foundation receives quarter-million-dollar surprise

Leaders at South Arkansas Community College were both overjoyed and astonished upon receiving the surprise announcement in January that a wealthy philanthropist—one with no apparent connections to the school—provided the largest single charitable donation in the institution’s history.

Norris Cunningham Taylor Jr., who had been an accountant in Fort Smith before his death in October of last year, left nearly a quarter of a million dollars to SouthArk in his will. He has no known ties with the school or even with the area. It was just one of 40 such gifts, totaling more than $11 million, that Taylor bequeathed to institutions and organizations throughout Arkansas.

The donation will filter through the SouthArk Foundation. Vice president Lisa Sagely of the Bank of Fayetteville called Foundation director Cynthia Reyna to disclose the $247,550 donation.

“I was incredulous, ecstatic and a little breathless (a little dramatic, but true),” Reyna said. “I was immediately very humbled and grateful that a person unknown to me and, from all accounts, unknown to our board leadership and college leaders, would have the faith in our college to give us a gift of any size, and particularly in the amount of almost a quarter million dollars.”

Taylor’s obituary indicated he died at age 84 and was “productive and prosperous.” He was raised in Trumann and was a graduate of the University of Arkansas in Fayetteville. He had no children or spouse.

A letter from Rick Watkins, the nephew of Taylor and his estate administrator, indicated that Taylor’s donation is “a token of the respect he had for your fine institution and its mission” and that it may be used in any way that the recipient sees fit.

“I suspect that unrestricted gifts from unfamiliar benefactors are somewhat rare but extraordinarily welcomed these days,” Watkins wrote.

SouthArk president Dr. Barbara Jones expressed appreciation, saying that the money will touch many lives in the future.

“When learning of the bequest of Mr. Taylor, I was thrilled and excited but also humbled that he chose to leave SouthArk a planned gift in his will,” Jones said. “This generous gift leaves a legacy that will impact the college for years to come.”

Foundation Board President Terry Norman said that, while precisely why Taylor selected SouthArk might remain a mystery, it is an honor that he did.

“Many other organizations or institutions could have been chosen by Mr. Taylor, but he saw fit to select SouthArk,” Norman said. “The funds from this donation will be used in the Foundation’s ongoing mission to support the educational efforts of the college—certainly a worthy mission, and one that will benefit El Dorado and the surrounding area.”

The donation will support college initiatives and priorities.

A donation like Taylor’s is an example of a “planned gift”—a bequest, trust, life insurance, or real estate.

“Planned gifts are a new focus for us to seek from donors so that they can make a lasting impact on students, faculty and academic programs,” Reyna said.

Planned giving is an effective way to make a charitable gift through the SouthArk Foundation that will provide tax benefits and often a stream of income to the giver. This type of major gifting is a versatile investment because it allows the giver the opportunity to support South Arkansas Community College programs of the giver’s choice while, in many cases, reducing tax obligations.

Your personalized gift plan can support your financial goals while providing the maximum tax benefits. For additional information contact Cynthia Reyna at creyna@southark.edu or talk to your financial advisor.
At SouthArk, we are humbled by the opportunity to provide a great education to our students. We are also honored to provide scholarships and other types of support so that students may attend college, lifting their financial burdens.

Many of our students must work full time and others have families to support while they are in college. Pursuit of their studies at SouthArk is possible with financial gifts from our generous donors. We are grateful for your continued support and want you to know that it is you who are changing lives and helping students get an education, achieve gainful employment and become self-supporting.

The past few years have been tough economic times, but our students have persevered, our enrollment has grown, and graduates have received a record number of degrees and certificates. What does this mean to our community? Because a majority of our students stay in south Arkansas upon completion of their education, we have a productive workforce and proud citizens who are making an impact on our local economy.

On behalf of our Foundation Board of Directors, thank you for your interest in and generosity for our programs and students. Together, we are creating invaluable learning opportunities and truly touching lives across south Arkansas.

Thank you for believing in SouthArk!

Cynthia Reyna.
You can make a difference

You can make a difference in the lives of students through a charitable gift to the SouthArk Foundation, plus be rewarded with significant tax benefits.

Your contribution can turn dreams into reality. The gift of knowledge is one of the most valuable gifts you can give because you help people open the door to greater innovation, imagination, and career success. There are many ways to contribute:

- Cash, checks, money orders, VISA, MasterCard, Discover and American Express
- Marketable securities or stocks
- Real estate
- Life insurance
- Charitable remainder trust
- Gift annuity
- Will (bequest)
- Corporate matching gift

Gifts to support student scholarships
While tuition remains reasonable, the combined cost of educational and living expenses means that many students require financial aid. The Foundation’s privately funded scholarship program provides that aid for hundreds of students each year.

Memorial and tribute gifts
You may provide these gifts in loving memory of a friend or family member or to mark a special occasion. They are a unique way to pay tribute to those who are dear to you. Be sure to give us the names and contact information of friends and loved ones as we will send a special card recognizing your generosity.

Planned gifts
We hope you will remember SouthArk in your gift planning process. There are many ways to make a lasting commitment and leave a legacy to the college and its students. Planned gifts can provide tremendous benefit to the college while helping you save taxes, increase your income and pass your estate to your heirs. All gifts to the SouthArk Foundation are tax-deductible to the fullest extent of the law.

Online donations
Now you can make your gift online at www.southark.edu/foundation. Click on “Giving.” Or you can fill out the enclosed pledge card and mail it back to us with your donation using the enclosed self-addressed envelope.

For more information, contact Cynthia Reyna at (870) 864-7130 or creyna@southark.edu.

Your support changes lives and strengthens our community.
## FINANCIAL POSITION

### Assets

#### Current Assets
- Cash and cash equivalents: $810,212
- Pledges receivable, current portion: $57,858
- Accrued interest receivable: $240
- Prepaid expenses: $2,962
- Investments: $1,009,932

**Total Current Assets**: $1,881,204

#### Fixed Assets, at cost
- Computer software: $6,365
- Property and equipment: $99,548

**Less: accumulated depreciation and amortization**: $85,873

**Total Fixed Assets**: $20,040

#### Other Assets
- Antique furniture: $2,410
- Pledges receivable, non-current portion: $6,712

**Total Other Assets**: $9,122

**$ 1,910,366**

### Liabilities and net assets

#### Current Liabilities
- Accounts payable: $1,027
- Scholarships payable: $10,080
- Refundable advances: $11,425

**Total Current Liabilities**: $22,532

#### Net Assets
- Unrestricted: $1,258,483
- Unrestricted – Board designated: $30,000
- Temporarily restricted: $599,351

**Total Net Assets**: $1,887,834

**$ 1,910,366**

The independent audit of the SouthArk Foundation Inc. was prepared by the firm of Evers, Cox and Gober, P.L.L.C. The complete audit for the fiscal year ending on June 30, 2012, is available for review in the Foundation office.
**FOUNDATION ASSET GROWTH**  
*Fiscal years ending June 30*

- 2002: $0
- 2003: $10,000
- 2004: $20,000
- 2005: $30,000
- 2006: $40,000
- 2007: $50,000
- 2008: $60,000
- 2009: $70,000
- 2010: $80,000
- 2011: $90,000
- 2012: $100,000

**FOUNDATION SCHOLARSHIP DISTRIBUTION**  
*Fiscal years ending June 30*

- 2007: 38 scholarships
- 2008: 94 scholarships
- 2009: 105 scholarships
- 2010: 104 scholarships
- 2011: 127 scholarships

**COLLEGE DEGREES AND CERTIFICATES AWARDED**

- 2008: 277
d - 2009: 411
- 2010: 478
- 2011: 585
d - 2012: 606

**Student enrollment**  
*Fall 2012*
- Headcount: 1,757
- Full-time: 839
- Part-time: 918
- Female: 1,269
- Male: 488
- Average age: 28.8
- HS receiving college credit: 305

**Tuition per credit hour**
- In-district: $76
- Out-of-district: $88
- Out-of-state: $160

**Estimated cost per year**
- Average full-time student
  - In-state: $2,370
  - Out-of-state: $3,952

**College revenue sources**
*Fiscal year 2012-2013*
- Educational and general
  - Tuition and fees: 39.31%
  - State: 58.51%
  - Federal: 0.73%
  - Other: 1.45%
- Projected revenue: $11,796,962

**College capital investment**
*As of June 30, 2012*
- Land: $1,569,517
- Improvement and infrastructure: $856,124
- Equipment: $2,720,653
- Buildings: $25,208,798
- Construction in progress: $9,428
- Library Holdings: $620,018
- Intangibles: $215,134
- Acreage: 55
- Buildings: 24
- Square footage: 279,622
South Arkansas Community College Foundation
P.O. Box 7010
El Dorado, AR 71731

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