The Ozarka College Foundation Board announced in August an upcoming fundraiser at the John E. Miller Auditorium in Melbourne. Emerson Drive, nominated for various Country Music Awards, and Dove Awards this past year, will be performing at Ozarka College on Friday, September 26, 2008 at 7:00 p.m.

Foundation Special Events Chair Son Lamb expects the concert to be an exciting event for all who attend, much like the popular group two years ago, Little Big Town. Lamb said “We want people to come out to enjoy a fun evening of entertainment while supporting an important cause of helping Ozarka College build their scholarship program. Emerson Drive is an emerging country group and we are excited to bring them to Melbourne.”

Emerson Drive is comprised of five musicians originally from Canada, who have the distinction of being one of the very few bands playing their own instruments on all of their records – a rarity in the music industry. Some of their more popular hits include: “Moments”, “A Good Man”, and “Fall Into Me”. Check out Emerson Drive on their official website www.emersondrive.com.

According to Suellen Davidson, development officer, several corporate sponsors are helping to make the event possible, including: Mark’s Pharmacy, Arkansas 103 KWOZ, Hometown Radio KSAR 92.3 True KKountry 95, Tom Cone and Son Lamb, Mark Martin Chevrolet, North Arkansas Electric Cooperative, GH Miller & Sons, First Community Bank, Skeeter Beene’s Car Care, and BancorpSouth.

Tickets for the concert are $30 and $40 with all seating assigned in advance. Tickets will be available for purchase beginning Monday, August 18, at Ozarka College locations in Ash Flat, Melbourne, or Mountain View; and at all First National Banking Company locations in Ash Flat, Batesville, Cherokee Village, Hardy, Highland, Horseshoe Bend, Mammoth Spring, Melbourne, Mountain Home, Salem, and Wal-Mart in Ash Flat. Tickets can also be purchased online at www.ozarka.edu, under the Foundation page.

Proceeds from this event will benefit the Ozarka College Foundation Endowment for scholarships. For more information contact the Development office of Ozarka College at 870-368-7371.
Equine Management Class Added

- The Continuing Education Department at Ozarka College will offer an eight-week class this fall for persons interested in learning "how to live with a horse."

Tom Sauer will teach this beginner level class at the Melbourne campus on Tuesday evenings beginning October 7th. Sauer's experience in equine management includes over 40 years as owner of a horse ranch, horse trainer and instructor.

“How to Live with a Horse” will meet from 5-7 pm on October 7, 14, 21 and 28 as well as November 4, 11, 18 and 25. Topics to be covered during this class include: how to select a horse, basic horse handling and safety, grooming, loading and driving the horse, horse nutritional needs, equine balance, determining age, heredity and breeding, and physical facilities to accommodate horses.

Cost for this course is $60.00 per student. To pre-register call Karla Rush at 870-368-7371 or email karla@ozarka.edu before October 1st.

Ash Flat Open House Planned for September 8

Ozarka College will host a ribbon cutting and grand opening for September 8th to officially celebrate completion of the new facility in Ash Flat.

Ozarka College Culinary Arts will provide hors d’oeuvres department from Noon until 2 PM and the new student center/nursing building will be open for tours until 6 PM. President, Dr. Dusty R. Johnston expressed his excitement about opening the state-of-the-art facility designed by Rico Harris of Harris Architecture in Hot Springs and built by Tate General Contractors of Jonesboro. “This new 9,200 square foot facility houses a nursing lab and classroom, a study center; two general classrooms, office space, a conference room, a spacious student center, and the cyber café, which was funded by a generous donation from CenturyTel to the Ozarka College Foundation.”

With increased number of students and the expanding LPN program to Ash Flat, the support of the local sales tax base in the City of Ash Flat, and the passing of statewide bond reissue last year, the Ozarka College Board of Trustees and administration began planning the new construction earlier this year.

College officials will be on hand to participate in the dedication of the new building and to provide tours on September 8th.
First Money Management Fairs Deemed Successful

More than 200 students attended the Money Management Fairs last week at Ozarka College. The event, a first for the institution, was held at each Ozarka location in Ash Flat, Melbourne and Mountain View. Student Services, which includes Financial Aid, Career Pathways, and TRiO sponsored the fairs.

The Money Management Fairs began with short presentations which included Director of Career Pathways, Kim Lovelace, offering tips for budgeting; Sandy Beaty from the Student Loan Guarantee Foundation of Arkansas who presented student loan information; Sharp County Sheriff, Dale Weaver, who provided information and tips to avoid identity theft and other "get rich quick" online schemes; and TRiO Transfer Specialist, John Petersen, who ended the presentations with some additional money management tips.

Students were then able to browse the many financial institutions’ booths to learn more about their services. Most offered giveaways and door prizes and students had the opportunity to open new accounts at most of the banks. Career Pathways also sponsored a free hot dog lunch for students and guests.


The feedback from students was positive. In fact, according to Director of Financial Aid and co-chair of the event, Joyce Goff, the feedback was 99% positive. “Some of the comments we received was: ‘This was great – very helpful! I loved it! It was very educational and I look forward to the next one. Very good presentations, and this was very informative.’”

Goff adds, “We hope this event will help our students, the majority of whom are on some kind of financial aid, make their money stretch further. With the feedback we received, we anticipate another Money Management Fair again next year. Planning is already underway to make any adjustments needed so we can provide as much beneficial information to students as possible and make this an annual event for the college.”

Various Pictures from all three events.
Applications Accepted Now for Spring 09 LPN Program

Ozarka College is currently accepting applications for the Spring 2009 Practical Nursing program at Melbourne. Students interested in applying may do so until November 1 by logging on to the Ozarka College website at www.ozarka.edu and completing an online application for admissions and selecting LPN as the program of study.

To be eligible for the nursing program, students must be currently enrolled at Ozarka College or have previously completed the required pre-requisites. Students must also take the NET and Wonderlic exams offered either on November 10th or 11th at the Melbourne campus. Beginning on October 1st students may schedule assessment with the testing coordinator.

In addition, letters of work experience should be submitted directly to the nursing department. For more information about the LPN programs offered at Ozarka College or if you have any questions please contact either Nursing or Admissions at 870-368-7371.

Ozarka College Foundation Presents: Emerson Drive September 26th at 7PM
John E Miller Auditorium
Tickets are on sale now with proceeds to benefit the scholarship program through the Ozarka Foundation Board.
Call the Development Office for details: 368-7371.