Special Recognition for Culbreath Saturday at Wiregrass Market

TIFTON--A special recognition event for Wiregrass Farmers Market founder and supporter Leeann Culbreath will be held at the Georgia Museum of Agriculture and Historic Village at Abraham Baldwin Agricultural College at 11:30 a.m. on May 17.

Museum Assistant Director and Curator Polly Huff said the event in the garden adjacent to the Market Pole Barn is free to the public.

“The Wiregrass Farmers Market Board extends an invitation to current and former vendors, customers, and anyone in the community wishing to show their appreciation for the work Leeann has done to build up the local food movement and the farmers market,” Huff said.

Two other events will take place immediately before the recognition including an adult education workshop on drying foods by Bret Wagenhorst in the Market garden at 10 a.m., and a children’s workshop, also at 10 a.m.

Culbreath worked with the Museum staff in late 2011 to establish the Wiregrass Farmers Market on the grounds of the Museum. Several months later a flourishing market featuring local
producers, artisans and bakers opened its doors to hundreds of weekly customers. The new market featured a demonstration garden, a community compost bin, picnic tables, a pen for live baby animals, and a variety of weekly educational classes for children and adults.

Market vendors were carefully selected to ensure that the produce, crafts and baked goods offered were either grown or produced by that vendor. A summer canning club was established as well. Dozens of community outreach events have been attended by market volunteers since 2012.

Now in its third season, the Market continues to grow under the direction of a volunteer board of directors and with support from Museum staff and the community.

“The Market features growers who offer quality, consistency and variety,” Huff said. “It is a unique place where the customers are able to meet the farmers who grow the produce offered. The Market’s bakers and artisans are thoughtfully chosen to give all customers an authentic market experience.”

Market hours are 9 a.m. to noon every Saturday from April through October, with a summer break during the month of August.

###