

Tulare County Office of Education

Jim Vidak, County Superintendent of Schools

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For Immediate Release

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Tulare County Office of Education Announces:

45th Annual SCICON Barbecue & Wildflower Festival Scheduled April 17

Clemmie Gill School of Science and Conservation, Springville, CA

The 45th annual SCICON Barbecue and Wildflower Festival is scheduled for Sunday, April 17, 2005.

This is a day when families and individuals are invited to tour and enjoy the SCICON campus. The festivities will begin at 11 a.m. and last until 4 p.m. The SCICON staff will be on hand to lead wildflower walks and nature hikes. The SCICON museum of natural history, the planetarium, and observatory will be open all day. There will be wildlife shows in the SCICON Raptor Center. Resource agencies such as Sequoia National Forest, California Department of Fish & Game, the California Department of Forestry and the California Department of Conservation will have educational displays and activities. There will be special activities just for children including meeting "Smokey the Bear." Entertainment will be continuous throughout the day with such outstanding acts as the TCOE Performing Troupe and country music Hall of Fame fiddler, Del Baker.

Approximately 3,000 pounds of beef will simmer underground for 24 hours and will be served with the famous SCICON Barbecue sauce. Meal tickets are \$8 for adults, \$5 for seniors (60 and over) and \$3 for

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children (12 and under.) All proceeds from the meals will go to the “Friends of SCICON” to benefit the SCICON program. There is no charge to participate in the day’s activities.

“The SCICON Barbecue is a perfect time for the public to experience the beauty of the campus and gain an appreciation of the unique educational opportunities that exist at SCICON,” says Tulare County Superintendent of Schools Jim Vidak.

SCICON is the outdoor school of science and conservation operated by Tulare County Office of Education. Over 15,000 fifth and sixth grade students visit this 1,100-acre campus located in the foothills above Springville each year. The SCICON Barbecue and Wildflower Festival is sponsored by the Tulare County Office of Education and the Friends of SCICON. For more information on the SCICON Barbecue, please call (559) 539-2642.

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