

# 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: 44th Annual SCICON Barbecue Scheduled April 18 Clemmie Gill School of Science and Conservation, Springville, CA**

The 44th annual SCICON Barbecue and Wildflower Festival will be held Sunday, April 18, 2004, at the SCICON Campus northeast of Springville. The festivities will begin at 11:00 a.m. and last until 4:00 p.m.

The entire SCICON campus will be open to the public with many nature-related activities available for children and adults. SCICON staff will lead wildflower walks and nature hikes throughout the day. The SCICON museum of natural history, the planetarium and observatory will be open as well. There will be wildlife shows in the SCICON Raptor Center. Resource agencies such as Sequoia National Forest and California's Departments of Fish and Game, Forestry and Conservation will all have educational displays and activities.

There will be many conservation displays and educational activities on hand that are specifically designed for children. Smokey the Bear and Recycle Rex, the recycling dinosaur, will be on hand to greet and entertain children. There will be a wildflower and nature art show in the recently remodeled John Muir

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Dining Lodge at SCICON. Live entertainment including award-winning country music, folk artistry and student performances is scheduled throughout the day.

“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.

The famous SCICON deep-pit barbecue lunch will be served in the picnic area. Approximately 3,000 pounds of beef will be simmered underground and served with the SCICON barbecue sauce, ranch beans, rolls, Cole slaw and ice cream. Meal tickets are \$8.00 for adults, \$5.00 for seniors (60 years and older) and \$3.00 for youth (12 and under.)

Meal tickets will be available at the SCICON campus on barbecue day, with all proceeds going to the “Friends of SCICON.” There is no charge for admission to the campus or any of the day’s activities.

SCICON is the outdoor school of science and conservation operated by Tulare County Office of Education. The SCICON campus is located seven miles northeast of Springville. The route to SCICON is clearly marked from Springville with green highway signs. For more information about the SCICON Barbeque and Wildflower Festival, please call the SCICON office at (559) 539-2642, or visit our website at [www.tcoe.org](http://www.tcoe.org).

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