

# Tulare County Office of Education

*Jim Vidak, County Superintendent of Schools*

March 29, 2005

## **For Immediate Release**

Contact: Robert Herman  
Public Information Officer  
559.733.6606  
559.901.3445

**Tulare County Office of Education Announces:**

## **Planetarium Offers Showings Each Friday in April**

**7:00 p.m. and 8:00 p.m. Showings April 1, April 8, April 15, April 22 and April 29**

*Visalia* – The public is invited to enjoy an evening under the stars at the Sam B. Peña Planetarium, operated by the Tulare County Office of Education. The recently completed planetarium is offering two family-oriented shows on select Friday evenings this year. Completely remodeled last year, the Planetarium is located on the southwest corner of West Main and Woodland Avenue in Visalia in the Educational Enrichment Center.

“We are very proud to offer this fine educational and entertainment resource to our community,” says Tulare County Superintendent of Schools Jim Vidak. “A night at the planetarium also makes a great destination for youth groups, civic organizations and family celebrations.”

Planetarium shows will begin promptly at 7:00 p.m. and 8:00 p.m. and feature the following presentations:

### Friday, April 1

7:00 p.m. - Rusty Rocket's Last Blast

8:00 p.m. - The Planet Patrol: Solar System Stakeout

### Friday, April 8

7:00 p.m. - Rusty Rocket's Last Blast

8:00 p.m. - The Planet Patrol: Solar System Stakeout

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## Friday, April 15

7:00 p.m. - Our Place in Space

8:00 p.m. - Rusty Rocket's Last Blast

## Friday, April 22

7:00 p.m. - The Planet Patrol: Solar System Stakeout

8:00 p.m. - Rusty Rocket's Last Blast

## Friday, April 29

7:00 p.m. - Rusty Rocket's Last Blast

8:00 p.m. - The Planet Patrol: Solar System Stakeout

### **The Planet Patrol: Solar System Stakeout**

Planetary Investigator Sam Snork and his assistant Elmo have been dispatched to a nearby solar system to uncover the source of some annoying T.V. transmissions. Join this dynamic duo as they use the very latest in cosmic crime solving equipment to look for leads and cruise for clues to this baffling mystery. In addition to solving the case and discovering that Sam has an allergy, you will also learn some amazing facts about our solar system. Planet Patrol is a 40-minute, family-oriented presentation.

### **Rusty Rocket's Last Blast**

After decades of teaching rocket rookies the basics of rocket physics, Rusty Rocket has announced that he will be retiring and that this will be his last blast. He already has plans for how he will spend his free time. Meanwhile, he has one final mission to command: an introductory tour of the solar system focusing on the variety of planetary environments. Rusty really emphasizes the immense distances between the planets. Rusty Rocket is a 35-minute presentation ideal for families with children in grades 1 through 5.

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## **Our Place in Space**

A host of endangered animals explore the cause of day and night, the importance of our star the sun, the beauty of the constellations, and the variety of objects that make up the universe. This 35-minute presentation is recommended for children in grades 1 through 3 but is designed for children of all ages and family audiences.

Show tickets can be purchased at the Impact Center Office 30 minutes before show time or in advance on weekdays between 1:00 and 4:00 p.m. Tickets are \$4 for adults and \$3 for children under 12. The public can save one dollar by purchasing the two-show package. Group rates are also available. Shows start promptly on time and there is no late seating once the planetarium doors close. For more information, call 737-6334.

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