

# 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:**

## **Final Plans Set for 45<sup>th</sup> Annual SCICON Barbecue & Wildflower Festival**

**April 17, 2005 · Clemmie Gill School of Science and Conservation (SCICON), Springville, CA**

Sunday, April 17, is the date for the 45<sup>th</sup> annual SCICON Barbecue and Wildflower Festival. Rick Mitchell, SCICON Director, reports that the campus is exceptionally green with a beautiful display of spring wildflowers thanks to the abundant rainfall this year.

The hours of the barbecue and festival are from 11:00 a.m. until 4:00 p.m. SCICON staff will be on hand to lead wildflower and nature walks. The museum of natural history will be open all day.

There will be continuing astronomy shows at the Planetarium and wildlife demonstrations at the Raptor Center. There will also be many educational conservation displays and hands on activities for adults and children of all ages. The SCICON tree nursery will be giving away tree seedlings, which have been planted by SCICON students. Live entertainment is scheduled throughout the day including the talented students of Troupe TCOE, as well as Hall of Fame country fiddler, Del Baker.

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Page 2

“As SCICON prepares its latest expansion plans to meet the growing student population, the SCICON Barbecue is a great time for the public to come up and learn about the new facilities and plans,” says Tulare County Superintendent of Schools Jim Vidak.

The famous SCICON deep-pit barbecue lunch will be available from 11am until 4pm. Three thousand pounds of beef, simmering underground for 24 hours, will be topped off by SCICON’s famous barbecue sauce. Meal tickets are \$8.00 for adults, \$3.00 for children (12 years and younger) and \$5.00 for seniors (60 and over.) Advance meal tickets are available at the Tulare County Office of Education building at 2637 W. Burrel in Visalia. There will be plenty of tickets available at the SCICON campus on barbecue day. There is no charge for entrance or attending any of the activities. The SCICON Barbecue is sponsored by Tulare County Office of Education and the Friends of SCICON. All proceeds from the meal go to the Friends of SCICON, which assists the student program at SCICON.

SCICON is the outdoor school of science and conservation operated by Tulare County Office of Education. Traveling to the barbecue, take Highway 190 east to Springville and then follow the green highway signs directing you towards SCICON. For more information, call the SCICON office at (559) 539-2642.

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