

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:

Annual SCICON Barbecue set for Sunday

11:00 am – 4:00 p.m., April 13 · 41569 Bear Creek Rd, Springville, 93265

The 54th annual SCICON Barbecue and Wildflower Festival will be held Sunday, April 13. The event is an opportunity for families and individuals of all ages to tour and enjoy the SCICON campus. The festivities will begin at 11:00 a.m. and last until 4:00 p.m. The SCICON staff will be on hand to lead wildflower walks and nature hikes. The SCICON planetarium, observatory and the newly-expanded museum of natural history will be open all day, and wildlife shows will be presented in the SCICON raptor center. Resource agencies, including Sequoia National Forest, Society of American Foresters, California Department of Forestry & Fire Protection (CalFire) and Tulare County Conservation Corps, will provide educational displays and activities. Children may participate in special activities, including building bird boxes and meeting “Smokey the Bear.” Entertainment will be continuous throughout the day and will include the Summit Charter Collegiate High School String Quartet, the Honor Guitar Ensemble from Lindsay High School, the Burton Middle School Jazz band and the Kay Family singers from Springville.

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Two thousand pounds of beef will simmer underground for 24 hours and will be served with the famous SCICON barbecue sauce as part of the lunch available. Meal ticket donations are \$10.00 for adults, \$5.00 for seniors (60 and over) and \$5.00 for children (12 and under.) All proceeds from the meal will go to the “Friends of SCICON” to benefit the SCICON program. There is no charge to participate in the day’s activities. Visitors will receive a commemorative wildflower poster by local Springville artist, Frances Pyles. This year’s poster features the beautiful “Shooting Star” and will be suitable for framing.

“We appreciate the Friends of SCICON for coordinating this important event and for the support they provide the SCICON program,” says County Superintendent of Schools Jim Vidak. “We look forward to a spectacular wildflower display this year and the opportunity to welcome friends – old and new – to the campus.”

SCICON is the outdoor school of science and conservation operated by Tulare County Office of Education. Each year, over 15,000 fifth- and sixth-grade students visit this 1,100-acre campus located in the foothills above Springville. The SCICON Barbecue and Wildflower Festival is sponsored by Tulare County Office of Education and the Friends of SCICON. For more information on the SCICON Barbecue, please call (559) 539-2642 or visit the Friends of SCICON web site at www.friendsofscicon.org. For a map to the SCICON campus, visit www.tcoe.org/SciconMap.