

Tulare County Office of Education

Jim Vidak, County Superintendent of Schools

March 5, 2007

For Immediate Release

Contact: Robert Herman
Public Information Officer
(559) 733-6606
(559) 901-3445

Tulare County Office of Education Announces:

March Public Planetarium Presentations

7:00 p.m. showings: March 9 and 23

Visalia – The Sam B. Peña Planetarium, which is operated by the Tulare County Office of Education, is offering two family-oriented, public shows for March. The first presentation, scheduled for Friday, March 9, features a showing of *The Planet Patrol: Solar System Stakeout*. Younger children and their parents will enjoy *Rusty Rocket's Last Blast* – a feature scheduled for Friday, March 23.

Throughout the year, thousands of elementary-age students visit the planetarium to see shows that support the science curriculum they are studying in school. “On select Friday evenings each month during the school year, we are also able to offer the planetarium experience to the public,” says Tulare County Superintendent of Schools Jim Vidak. “It’s an educational and entertainment resource the entire family will enjoy.”

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

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March 9: The Planet Patrol: Solar System Stakeout (7:00 p.m.)

March 23: Rusty Rocket's Last Blast (7:00 p.m.)

The Planet Patrol: Solar System Stakeout

Sam Snork, planetary investigator, and his protégé, Elmo, search for the source of some unusual TV transmissions. During this adventure, they will discover new information about the planets in our solar system, as well as what makes Earth so special.

Rusty Rocket's Last Blast

Join Rusty's last class of rocket rookies as they explore how rockets work, relive some great moments in space exploration, take a quick tour of our solar system, and discover how very far it is to even the nearest planets.

Show tickets can be purchased at the Peña Planetarium Office 30 minutes before show time or in advance on weekdays between 1:00 and 4:00 p.m. The Planetarium is located on the southwest corner of West Main and Woodland Avenue in Visalia in the Educational Enrichment Center. The address is 2500 West Burrel Ave. in Visalia. Tickets are \$4 for adults and \$3 for children under 12. Group rates are also available. Shows start promptly on time. No late seating is offered once the planetarium doors close. For information, call (559) 737-6334.

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