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For Immediate Release

35th Annual Endangered Species Faire – The Webs of Life

"Humankind has not woven the web of life. We are but one thread within it. Whatever we do to the web we do to ourselves. All things are bound. All things are connected."

- Chief Seattle.

CHICO, Calif. (April 10th, 2014) – The Butte Environmental council will host the 35th annual Endangered Species Faire on Saturday, May 3 at One Mile in Bidwell Park. This event takes place from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m., and the whole community is invited to celebrate the day outside with learning, music, and food.

This event was initially created in order to celebrate Earth Day and to highlight the efforts of the community to protect the environment. Thirty five years later, the Endangered Species Faire is as important as ever. As science camps have become increasingly expensive for local schools, the Outdoor Education program at CSU, Chico has been cut, and science education has transformed from hands-on exploration to rote memorization. As a result, the need for inspired thinkers focused on solutions has increased.

The Endangered Species Faire is an event that attracts thousands of children and community members each year, offering opportunities to share knowledge, encourage involvement, and inspire the next generation. This year has some exciting changes from previous years. BEC will be moving the event to the Group Picnic Area at One-mile in Bidwell Park for better accessibility for walkers and bikers, more shade throughout the day, and closer creek swimming.

Schedule of Entertainment

11:00-11:45 : Opening Ceremony and Live Music

11:45-12:00 : Parkview Kindergarten Band

12:00 – 12:45: Procession of the Species

12:45-1:00: Blue Oak Strings Band

1:00- 1:45 : Wild Things

1:45-2:00: Chico Children's Ukulele Group

2:00 – 3:00: The Upstairs Neighbours

3:00-4:00: Electric Canyon Convergence

4:00-5:00: Sofa King

Activities throughout the day

- Hands-on learning from over 30 environmental booths.
- Puppet makers who have been working with 400 local school kids to teach them about endangered species through the creation of hand-made paper mache puppets parade their puppets alongside acoustic music. Students work for 6 weeks researching their animal and creating puppets to participate in a parade the day of the event.
- Free vegetable starts to get kids working with the soil and learning where their food comes from.
- Zero waste – we are working with our vendors to achieve 90% of the waste from the day to be recyclable or compostable. Bike Valet provided by Chico Velo.
- An Eco scavenger hunt will be happening to engage kids on a deeper level – hunting for knowledge and collecting experiences – for little prizes.
- The Nature Bowl Games, an eco-competition
- Making instruments out of garbage and water cycle necklaces out of colored beads
- Water quality sampling of Big Chico Creek
- Feeling a sense of pride that you are a part of a community so actively involved in environmental causes.

Food

A new food truck in town called the Grub Station, Maria's Tamales, Blush Catering, and Chico Natural Foods Organic Popcorn Bar.

Sponsors

KZFR, News and Review, The Printed Image, Smuckers, Chico Velo, Klean Kanteen, Sierra Nevada Brewery, ProSound Audio, Barris Family Farm, and In Tents Event

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