

For Immediate Release

3.26.09

Baca County Economic Development Hosts Youth Entrepreneurship Fair

The Baca County Economic Development Commission (BCEDC) is sponsoring the second annual Baca County Youth Entrepreneurship Fair (YEF). The 18 participating students are eligible for over \$3,350 in prizes and are from Campo and Springfield. The students have created business plans and will present them to judges in an interview process. They will be judged on their business plan, adaptability to a rural area, backboard, and their interview. The YEF is a program designed to encourage our youth to consider business as a way to return to our rural communities.

From Campo participants are Zane Jenkins "Baca Ranch Store", Paige Owenby "Canyon Road Bed and Breakfast", Megan England "Nutmeg's Heritage Hotel, Adrian J. Suarez "Baca Land Skate/Bike Park and Arcade", Bradley Johnson "BJ's Ice Cream".

From Springfield participants are James Apling "Guitars and Such", Ryan Gregory "Tophies R Us Outfitting", Kris Ley "From Tutors to Triumph", Matt Self "Self's Market Animals", T.K. Rush "Rush Handbags", Riley Beebe "Riley's Riding Lessons", Chelsea Amis "Soothing Soul's Day Spa", Max Duncan "All Balls – Sporting Goods", Tucker West "West Tiling", Dusten Bradburn "Rocken B. Horse Shoe Décor", Bo Hutches "Hutches Recycling", Jerrica Cherry and Paige Kelley "Capturing the Moments".

Sponsors for the event currently include Baca County Economic Development Commission (BCEDC), Baca County Commissioners, South East Business Retention Attraction and Expansion (SEBREA), South East Enterprise Development Inc. (SECED), Tri-State Energy, South East Colorado Power Association (SECPA), OJC, People's Credit Union Springfield, Town and Country Disposal, Pioneer Seed (Don and Donna Wood), Campo Youth Advisory Council, Ray's Smokehouse, Everett Beef, and Sheri Owenby.

The YEF was to be held in Campo on March 28, but was rescheduled for April 8 from 4-7 in the evening due to the snow storm. Awards will be announced after the interview process.

The Baca County Economic Development Commission promotes responsible, sustainable development and growth through the expansion and or retention of the county's agricultural business, educational and recreational resources. www.bacacountyedc.com, director@bacacountyedc.com