

Victor Valley College

Press Release

Contact: Bill Greulich at 760-245-4271, Ext. 2225 or bill.greulich@vvc.edu

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4th Grade Hollyvale Elementary Teacher Selected by “Teachers R Heroes”

Teachers go about their daily tasks and find simple satisfaction in individual daily victories and ask for little else. When they are recognized for their excellence by their students, parents, peers or administrators for special attention, they usually flounder in the attention. This was true of Tina Simmons who was honored by Teachers R Heroes as this month’s award recipient. The look of surprise was remarkably reminiscent of the many recipients who have been honored over the past several years. Shock and a look of embarrassment raced across her face when she realized they were calling her name. Mrs. Simmons, a fourth grade teacher at Hollyvale Elementary School in Hesperia, is the first recipient to be honored this year by Teachers R Heroes. The biggest cheer of support came from her students when they realized that the honor came with a pizza party for her class as part of the donation package.

Hollyvale’s principal, Matthew Fedders, spoke glowingly of the Mrs. Simmons’ accomplishments that went far beyond the items noted in the nomination submitted on her behalf. He talked about classroom excellence, commitment to success, and individual attention to her student’s needs.

The nomination, on the other hand, spoke of two specific examples of altruistic leadership initiated by Mrs. Simmons on behalf of students. “One of the most memorable things she did was to create a science laboratory for the school to be used by the students. Sadly, the room was flooded last winter, thus destroying it.” The nomination further noted that Mrs. Simmons was known to quietly rescue unclaimed lost and found items, wash them at her home, and then takes them to the Salvation Army Thrift Store on Main Street in Hesperia to be sold to people in need. “She is certainly a hero in our eyes,” wrote the nominator. Yes she is.

The “Teachers are Heroes” program is sponsored by Victor Valley College and Eldorado Broadcasting. School participation is coordinated through San Bernardino County Schools. Participating businesses and agencies include Little Caesars Pizza, Red Robin Restaurants, Vitelli’s Deli, Reed Foods, Victorville Speed Wash, Ultra Star Theaters, Horace Mann-Robert Stephanian, Edible Arrangements, Supervisor Brad Mizelfelt and the Daily Press.

Teacher nominations may be submitted in the form of 500 words-or-less essays to www.KATCOUNTRY1007.com, www.Y102FM.com, www.TheFox106.com, www.Talk960.com, or www.vvc.edu, or www.vvc.edu. Nominations may also be sent by mail to Victor Valley College, Teachers are Heroes, 18422 Bear Valley Road, Victorville, CA 92395, attention Dr. Lori Kildal.