

NEWS RELEASE

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TECHNOLOGY SANTA COMES TO DESERT CITIES SCHOOLS

Palm Springs, CA---- Five Desert Cities' schools will receive an early Christmas present of twenty high-end refurbished Pentium computers, made possible through the *Tech Tools for Schools* program sponsored by Time Warner Cable-Desert Cities and the Technology Training Foundation of America (TTFA). The computers and peripherals were donated through the generosity of Southern California Edison. The awards program will be held on Wednesday, December 5, 2007, at 10:00 a.m at Cielo Vista Elementary School, 650 Paseo Dorotea, Palm Springs, CA 92264.

The five recipient schools to receive computers were selected as a result of nominees submitted for TTFA's, 2007 Technology Heroes Golden Mouse Awards. Each Tech Hero selected will receive twenty (20) computers for his/her school. The 2007 Tech Hero recipients and their schools are, Cindy Bellamy, fifth grade teacher at Cielo Vista Elementary School in Palm Springs; Serina Zuniga, teacher/tech coordinator at Palm Vista Elementary School, 29 Palms; Janet Gallatin, teacher at James Madison Elementary in Indio; Jay Hong, teacher at Palm View Elementary in Coachella, and Sandra Amabile, teacher at Our Lady of Perpetual Help in Indio.

Seven years ago the Technology Training Foundation of America (TTFA) partnered with Time Warner Cable to launch the *Tech Tools for Schools* Program. Each September, Time Warner Cable designates a portion of new sales from customers who sign up for Road Runner High Speed Online and Time Warner Cable to the *Tech Tools for Schools* fund. The proceeds help place high-quality, refurbished computers in local schools, compliments of the Technology Training Foundation of America (TTFA). Southern California Edison has been the lead equipment sponsor with the program since its inception.

According to *Education Weekly*, California is still ranked lowest in the nation for student access to computers. Jeanette Roache, President and Founder of the Technology Training Foundation of America's states that, "TTFA is very proud of its results over the past seven years. Our task is a mighty one, but one that we are dedicated to tackle. By year end, TTFA will have donated in excess of 16,000 computers, free of charge, to schools and to non-profit organizations throughout California at an estimated savings to

taxpayers of over ten million dollars. It has also kept over three million pounds of e-waste out of our already over crowded landfills. ”

Mrs. Roache said, “while our effort might seem noble, we could not do what we do if it were not for our partnerships and donors. With the help of Time Warner Cable and Southern California Edison, not only are schools being provided crucial tools to allow students to excel in all their studies, but public awareness of the importance of our mission has grown. For both, my husband, Jim Roache, and myself, it is especially gratifying to be able to give back to communities and schools that played a major role in who we are today.” Both Jim and Jeanette Roache attended high school in 29 Palms. Mr Roache was in the first graduating class at Yucca Valley High School. Jim is the former elected Sheriff of San Diego County and served on the San Diego Unified School Board in the late 1980’s. He currently serves as Director of Operations for the Technology Training Foundation of America.

Mr. Ford Michaels, Community Relations Specialist for Time Warner Cable Desert Cities System will represent Time Warner Cable at the awards ceremony along with TTFA President, Jeanette Roache. The 2007 Tech Heroes along with their Principal’s will also be in attendance. A photo opportunity of the 20 computers awarded to Cielo Vista Elementary School will be available. Debbie Gordon, teacher at Cielo Vista told TTFA that “having more computers for our students will allow teachers to enhance lessons in reading, social studies and science by accessing united streaming which allows students to read, listen and view educational video content. This builds background knowledge and comprehension for our language learners.”

Technology Training Foundation of America (TTFA) is a registered 501 (c) (3) state-wide nonprofit corporation. (33-0799347) The program takes in donated out of service computer equipment from corporations. Equipment that meets school technology standards is refurbished and new operating systems are installed. Through its refurbishment partners at the California Youth Authority in Chino and the Naval Consolidated Brig at Miramar Marine Corps Air Station San Diego, TTFA offers vocational students exposure to a wide variety of computer hardware and opportunities to train with real-life troubleshooting exercises to provide them with computer repair skills. The refurbished computers are then donated free of charge, providing students with the necessary tools to compete in our technological world. The computer equipment that falls below placement standards and computers that cannot be repaired or upgraded are recycled, keeping them out of our landfills. Any California school may apply for computers from TTFA. An application can be downloaded from its website at www.computers2learnby.org under ‘Who Qualifies’.

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