

Naomi Frontela

From: noreply@civicplus.com
Sent: Monday, October 2, 2023 6:47 PM
To: Naomi Frontela; Erika Ramirez; Randi Johl
Subject: Online Form Submittal: Public Recognitions Request Application

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Public Recognitions Request Application

Public Recognitions Request

Please reference the requirements for each award in the Public Recognition Policy [here](#).

(Section Break)

Please select the recognition that you are requesting:

Memorial, Monument and/or Facility Naming

Please list your preferred City Council meeting date(s) for the recognition requested and any other related details.

We are requesting to rename the Community Room at Ronald H. Roberts Temecula Public Library as the "Rosie Vanderhaak Community Room" to honor her 50+ years of service to our community. This has been discussed before the Public Recognitions Subcommittee twice and the subcommittee has been supportive of the proposal. So far, Rosie is unaware of being nominated, and we would like to keep it as a surprise

(Section Break)

Requestor Information

For the following recognitions, the requestor must be different from the recipient as this will be considered as a nomination: *Community Leader Award of Distinction, Wall of Honor, Memorial, Monument and/or Facility Naming*

Requestor First and Last Name

Erica Russo

Organization (If Applicable)/ Relationship to Nominee *Field not completed.*

Requestor Phone Number [REDACTED]

Requestor Email Address erica.russo@temeculaca.gov

Requestor Address 41000 Main St.

City Temecula

State CA

Zip Code 92590

(Section Break)

Nominee Information

Nominee First and Last Name Rosie Vanderhaak

Organization (If Applicable) *Field not completed.*

Nominee Phone Number [REDACTED]

Nominee Email Address [REDACTED]

Nominee Address 30600 Pauba Rd

City Temecula

State CA

Zip Code 92592

(Section Break)

Please explain in detail the reason you are making this request and why you would like the Council to consider this recognition:

Rosie has been a resident of Temecula since 1971, and began working in Temecula's libraries in 1972, when our "library" was a tiny storefront in Tower Plaza. She went on to be instrumental in the development of the Ronald H. Roberts Temecula Public Library, which opened in 2006, and was hand-selected to be its manager, a position she held with the utmost professionalism and dedication until her retirement last month. Under her stellar leadership, our Library has continued to be the most successful in the entire Riverside County Library System, with greater circulation, visitors, library cards issue, and program participation that any other library in the county. In addition to her 50+ years of service to libraries and literacy in our community, she has also served on the TVUSD School

Board for eight years, the City's Blue Ribbon Committee, and continues to serve on the Board of the Temecula Public Cemetery District, a post she has held since 2011. Several years ago, she began volunteering as a "puppy raiser" for Canine Companions, an organization which trains and places service dogs with veterans and others with disabilities. Even in her well deserved retirement after half a century of service, she continues to serve her community in multiple, vital ways. Naming the Community Room at the Library after Rosie is a fitting tribute to her decades of selfless dedication.

(Section Break)

Impact Statement

Please see the Public Recognition Policy [here](#) for additional details.

For the following awards listed below, please complete the Impact Statement in its entirety:

Community Leader Award of Distinction

Wall of Honor

Memorial, Monument and/or Facility Naming

IMPACT STATEMENT

- Resume - Please demonstrate proof of impact of the nominee to the community with *dates* of service included in the resume.
- Letter(s) of Recommendation
- Additional Documentation - Opportunity to further support the nominee's impact on the community

Period of time as well as contributions recognized by a significant segment of the community and their respective industry (education, nonprofit, business) will be considered upon review of request.

Resume of Nominee

[Rosie Vanderhaak resume.pdf](#)

Letter(s) of Recommendation

[Rosie Vanderhaak Community Room recommendation.pdf](#)

Additional Documentation

[Letter of Support for Rosie.pdf](#)

Any Additional Comments? *Field not completed.*

Electronic Signature Agreement I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of California that the foregoing is true and correct.

Electronic Signature Erica Russo

After submitting this form, you will be contacted shortly regarding the status for your request.

Thank you!

Email not displaying correctly? [View it in your browser.](#)

Rosie Vanderhaak

Resume

Manager, Temecula Public Libraries **1971 – Present**

- Instrumental in developing, acquiring funding for, and then managed Ronald H. Roberts Temecula Public Library from its opening in 2006 until her retirement in 2023. Under her leadership, the Library became the busiest library in all of Riverside County, serving over a half-million visitors per year
- Developed and maintained exceptional library resources, including a legal library, genealogical resources, and The Homework Center for tutoring in conjunction with TVUSD
- Advocated for the creation of and later managed Grace Mellman Public Library upon its opening in 1992
- Working in Temecula's very first library, a tiny storefront in Tower Plaza

Trustee, California Public Cemetery District Board **2011 – Present**

Volunteer Puppy Raiser, Canine Companions **2021 – Present**

Member, Temecula Blue Ribbon Committee **2010**

Trustee, Temecula Valley Unified School District Board **1988 – 1997**



September 29, 2023

City of Temecula
Public Recognitions Subcommittee
41000 Main St.
Temecula, CA. 92590

It is my distinct pleasure to recommend the renaming of the community room at the Ronald H. Roberts Temecula Public Library the Rosie Vanderhaak Community Room, honoring her unparalleled 50 years of dedicated library service in Temecula.

A Temecula resident since 1971, Rosie raised her three children here. She served nine years on the Board of Trustees of the Temecula Valley Unified School District, on the Temecula-Murrieta Interagency Council with the Temecula Valley Unified School District and was a member of the Blue Ribbon committee for the City of Temecula's development of the Quality of Life Master Plan for Temecula. Since 2011, she has served on the board of the cemetery district, heading a committee to develop a five-year plan to renovate the Temecula Public Cemetery. But, exceptional library services for our entire community have been her true heart and driving passion.

Rosie's library career began at the original community library where it was housed in a cramped 750 sq. ft. storefront in Tower Plaza. When the library faced closure due to budget constraints, she offered to work free of charge. With Temecula's incorporation in 1989 and the great housing boom came increased demand for a much larger library. Rosie was instrumental in seeking support for the building of the Temecula Public Library (later renamed the Grace Mellman Community Library) in 1992. While Library Manager, library services continued to expand and flourish soon necessitating an even larger, state of the art library. The beautiful 34,000 sq. ft. Ronald H. Roberts Temecula Public Library opened in December 2006 and it continues to be exponentially the busiest library in Riverside County to this day. Under her 17 years of visionary leadership as Branch Manager, the Ronald H. Roberts Temecula Public Library has provided a dazzling array of library services, programs and meeting space for countless customers from babies to senior citizens, local service groups, and small businesses. Her impact on the library and our community has been huge and lasting.

Congressman Darrell Issa nominated the Ronald H. Roberts Temecula Public Library for the 2023 National Medal for Museum and Library Service, the highest honor for institutions making significant contributions to their communities. This would not have been possible were it not for Rosie's tireless dedication to providing truly outstanding library services. Working with Rosie for 31 years has been a true joy and a privilege. I cannot think of a more befitting way to honor her 50 year legacy of stellar and exceptional contributions to the library, the City of Temecula and its citizens than by renaming the library's community room the Rosie Vanderhaak Community Room.

Respectfully,

Ginger A. Safstrom
Branch Manager

30600 Pauba Road, Temecula, CA 92592
(951) 693-8900

www.temeculalibrary.org www.rivlib.net



Friends of the Temecula Libraries

Supporting the Grace Mellman Community Library and the
Ronald H. Roberts Temecula Public Library

October 30, 2023

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Ms. Erica Russo
Director of Community Services
City of Temecula
41000 Main Street
Temecula, CA 92590

Dear Ms. Russo,

It is with great pleasure and respect that on behalf of the Friends of the Temecula Libraries, I ask and encourage the City of Temecula to rename community rooms A & B at the Ronald H. Roberts Temecula Public Library to the Rosie Vanderhaak Community Rooms A & B.

I have personally known Ms. Vanderhaak for nearly 30 years and have had the privilege of working with her in the design, construction and operations of the Ronald H. Roberts Temecula Public Library over that time. Ms. Vanderhaak has devoted over 50 years of public service in this community and has provided excellent service to the patrons of our libraries. She has succeeded in operating the busiest library in all of Riverside County with grace, dignity and a smile on her face.

Upon her well-earned and deserved retirement, I can think of no greater recognition of her service and devotion to this community and of our gratitude and esteem for her than to name the community rooms for Ms. Vanderhaak.

Thank you for your conderation of this request. I look forward to seeing an appropriate recognition for such an amazing person.

Sincerely,

Phyllis L. Ruse

Phyllis L. Ruse
President