

FOUNDATION FOR THE PRESERVATION OF THE SANTA SUSANA MOUNTAINS

P.O. Box 831 --Chatsworth, CA 91311

MARCH 1981

TRAIL TIDINGS

BILL SCOTT, EDITOR

SEWAGE AGREEMENT CONCERNS CITIZENS

A proposed sewage disposal agreement which would allow increased development in the north of the Simi Freeway and west of Topanga Blvd has drawn citizen concern.

The agreement would allow the area outside the city to be served by City sewers.

The agreement between the Las Virgenes Municipal Water District and the City of Los Angeles draws questions about the impact on:

1. the capacity of the City's system in the Valley,
2. the City's planned land uses in and around the area,
3. the cost of providing the services,
4. the potential for providing other City Services in the future and the possible request for annexation.

At a Public Works Committee meeting, Feb. 23, Councilman Marvin Braude expressed concern for two of these areas. He asked for a mechanism to control sewer connections in the County when the City sewage capacity is limited. He also asked for a review process to allow input from the City Planning Department. He indicated the desirability of being able to control sewer connections in the County for compatibility with City planning. A City Bureau of Engineering representative assured him that his conditions could be incorporated into the agreement.

In view of SSMPA and Mr. Braude's concerns we suggest that these conditions be included in any agreement negotiated with the Las Virgenes Municipal Water District:

1. that the City establish a mechanism to control sewer connections in the County when the City's sewage capacity is limited;
2. that the City require review by the City Planning Department of County Developments requesting sewer connections and require compliance by those developments with the City plan for land use and provision of public services in an around those areas.
- 3 that the City be guaranteed that the cost for the new sewer connections and their operation and maintainance

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PREVIEW OF ODYSSEY AT MEETING

Jan Hinkston, President, will preview her Odyssey slide show at the March 16 meeting of the Santa Susana Mountain Park Association at Glendale Federal Savings Community Room, 21821 Devonshire St., Chatsworth, at 8 p.m.

Election of officers will be held from a slate announced below.

SLATE OF OFFICERS ANNOUNCED

A slate of officers for the SSMPA for the year has been announced. They will be voted on at the March 16 meeting.

Nominations may be made from the floor. The slate includes:

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| President | Cynthia Fichtner |
| Vice-Pres. | Glenn Bailey |
| Secretary | Connie Couture |
| Treasurer | Nancy Rozanski |
| Chairpersons, | |
| Natural Resources | Jan Hinkston |
| Cultural | Open |
| Communications | Bill Scott |
| Fund Raising | Tom Blumberg |
| Legislation | Steve Fox |
| Recreation | Gene Burke |

MINNIE HILL PALMER, 94, DIES

Minnie Hill Palmer who was believed to be the longest term native resident of the Valley has died at 94 years.

She was born on her parents' homestead in Chatsworth on Nov. 30, 1886, six months after it was homesteaded. She was the seventh of eight children of James D. and Rhoda J. Hill.

The original 120-acres were expanded to 230 acres by her husband Alfred, and brother Lovell. It was used as a stopover on the stage coach route through the Santa Susana Pass nerebye. It is the last remaining homestead in the Valley. It was dedicated last May as Los Angeles Historical Cultural Monument No. 133.

Mrs. Palmer sold the property to the City in 1956 to be used for Chatsworth Golf Course and Park. She was allowed to live

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SEWAGE (Cont. from p. 1)

will not be subsidized by City taxpayers.

SSMPA learned of the proposed agreement because two of the proposed developments requesting sewer hookups are adjacent to the Santa Susana Mountain Park.

Please call or write your concerns to the three Councilpersons whose Districts are involved. They are Hal Bernson, Room 236, Marvin Braude, Room 275 and Joy Picus, Room 281, all at City Hall, 200 N. Spring St., Los Angeles, CA, 90012.

The final agreement must be approved by the full Council; they need to know how you feel about it, (81-261).

STONE POINT PART SEEMS NEAR

The prospects of a City Park at Stoney Point seem good after a meeting Feb. 9 at Chatsworth Park called by Councilman Hal Bernson.

Potential liability and problems of supervision were considered. The Point has been used for rock climbing for over 30 years and there have been few suits filed, citizens testified. Most agreed that few improvements were needed. Bernson asked that other Councilmen be contacted by phone or letter in behalf of the Park.

APRIL AND MAY MEETINGS PLANNED

Bob Franklin of the San Fernando Sun is to show a film of the Gold Rush at the April 20 meeting of SSMPA.

The May 18 meeting will have a program on the astronomical observations of the Chumash Indians, native to the San Fernando and Simi Valleys.

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MINNIE PALMER (Cont. from p.1)

there rent-free for her lifetime.

She continued to work her property and maintain her garden until she suffered a stroke five years ago and could no longer live alone. Her husband died in the 1940s. She spent her final years at Mountain View Sanitarium in Sylmar.

Until her illness she worked in her garden every day, starting at 7 a.m. She grew most of her own food and put up about 300 jars of jelly for Christmas gifts. She was famous for her quince pie and lemon jelly.

When the fires of 1970 threatened her home, she refused evacuation and helped fight the fire.

Part of her garden was singed but the house was saved. It contains many pictures and books which are used in research. It is at the edge of Chatsworth Park South and is open for tours each month conducted by the Chatsworth Historical Society.

Mrs. Palmer died March 1 and is survived by her daughter, Edith Butler of San Fernando, a son, Leroy Palmer, a sister, Calla Nelson, two grandchildren and four great-grandchildren.

SSMPA HIKES CONTINUE IN MOUNTAINS

The SSMPA hikes to historical and scenic places in the Santa Susana Mountains continue on the second and fourth Sundays and the fourth Saturday of the month.

The two Sunday hikes, suitable for families start at the parking lot on the northwest corner of Devonshire and Topanga at 9 a.m.

Jan Hinkston leads the Saturday nature-history walk and the fourth Sunday hike. Bill Scott leads the second Sunday hike. More information is available by calling 885-8479 or 998-7231.

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