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Pres.

Santa Susana Mountain Park Association  
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**\$2.5 MILLION SANTA SUSANA STATE PARK BILL APPROVED !!!**

Cusanovich, Cline Led Effort

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A measure providing for \$2.5 million for state park land purchase in the Simi Hills-Santa Susana Mountains was signed into law recently by Gov. Edmund G. Brown Jr.

GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

PROGRAM: "Santa Susana Mountain State Park" Slide Presentation and Talk

DATE: Monday, October 17

TIME: 8 p.m.

PLACE: Glendale Federal Community Room, 21821 Devonshire St. Chatsworth

The bill, SB 448 by Senator Lou Cusanovich, earmarked for early acquisition the 480-acre Brandeis property, also known as the Open Diamond Bar Ranch. The property is located generally north of the Simi Valley Freeway and east of the Ventura-Los Angeles County boundary.

Refreshments will be served.

Important reports will also be given, included an update on the status of the park land purchase and other items of interest.

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The state's action represents over seven years of constant and dedicated effort by SSMPA and other groups and individuals working together to achieve the goal of a mountain park in the area.

NEW MOUNTAIN PARK T-SHIRTS

NOW ON SALE--AVAILABLE AT MTG!

Russell Cahill, the new director of the state department of parks

Be the first on your block to be the proud wearer of our new beige T-Shirts! All sizes now available. Boys and mens \$5; Ladies \$6. Exquisite design--

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super buy!!!

----- T E A R - O F F -----

Dear Friends: We need your support now more than ever. If you are not currently a member of SSMPA, how about joining today? If you are a member but haven't yet renewed this year, won't you send in your check today? Your involvement is also needed. Do you have a few hours a month to volunteer toward our efforts? PLEASE LET US HEAR FROM YOU TODAY OR AT OUR OCT. 17 MEETING!

NAME(S) \_\_\_\_\_ TELEPHONE \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

YES, I would like to volunteer a few hours a month to help make the mountain park a reality. My special interests:

ANNUAL DUES: Individual \$5.00      Family \$7.00      Business or  
Student \$3.00      Organization \$10.00

PLEASE SEND TEAR-OFF WITH CHECK TO: SSMPA, P.O. Box 831, Chatsworth

Park Bill Approved (Cont'd)

(Cont'd from Column 1)

and recreation has indicated that the state will "now move as quickly as possible" to obtain the land, which is in private ownership.

The owner, Eugene Kilmer, who recently purchased the property for subdivision and development purposes, has indicated his willingness to talk to the state. In the meantime, however, the County of Los Angeles has required that an Environmental Impact Report (EIR) be prepared on the proposed development.

The funds will come out of the \$250 million bond act approved by the voters in June 1976. The state Public Works Board still must adopt the Santa Susana land acquisition as a state goal. Once this occurs the Department of General Services will appraise the property and then negotiations with the owner may begin.

SSMPA is concerned that our project be given a high priority so that this process will take a minimum of time and to this end the group will work with the various state officials and agencies.

All of our local state legislators, and especially Senator Cusanovich and Assemblyman Robert Cline, are to be commended for their support and efforts on behalf of the park. They will no doubt appreciate your communications of thanks. Letters may be addressed to: State Capitol, Sacramento, CA 95814. Contact by telephone may also be made: 888-0242 (Cusanovich), 349-3333 (Cline).

You might also express (1) your concern that this initial purchase be given a top priority and be purchased as soon as possible and (2) your support of additional parkland acquisition in the Simi Hills and Santa Susana Mountains.

Last, but certainly not least, special recognition and appreciation must be given to all the

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individuals and organizations that have given so generously of their time, energy and money over the last eight years toward the goals of the Santa Susana Mountain Park Association. We wouldn't have enough space to list all these persons in this newsletter, and rather than leaving anyone out, we instead would like to express our deepest and sincerest "THANK YOU" to everyone!

WE COULD NOT HAVE DONE IT WITHOUT YOU--KEEP UP THE GOOD WORK!!!

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#### NEWS IN BRIEF.....

We are sorry to report the passing on of Elizabeth Nichols over the summer. Mrs. Nichols was the one who shared SSMPA's dream of a mountain park on her land. She will be deeply missed.

As soon as escrow closes on the purchase of the McDonald-Nichols property, we would like to name an outstanding feature of the land in tribute to Mrs. Nichols. If any member has any ideas on this please contact Jan at 347-3736.

Chatsworth Reservoir is once again being threatened with what appears to be incompatible development. This time it is a series of five baseball fields for a Little League team that has already been thrown out of their previous locations for lack of upkeep and maintenance of the site. SSMPA is deeply concerned with the possible adverse impact that this or any use of the reservoir would have on the significant numbers of wildlife that use the area.

O'Melveny Park in Granada Hills (formerly known as Bee Canyon Park), which includes the eastern limits of the Santa Susana Mountains, is now being planned for development. The park is slated to be maintained in its natural state with recreation uses being limited to passive ones (hiking, camping, equestrian, etc.). A steering committee is now being formed--if you are interested, call Glenn 344-5366.