

## HISTORICAL PASS ROAD IN DANGER by Nancy Razanski

Anyone who has ever traveled over the scenic old Santa Susana Pass Road has undoubtedly been thrilled by the awesome beauty located on both sides of this winding road that was the best route between the San Fernando Valley and Simi Valley be-fore the Simi Freeway was built. Just as one enters the road from our side you can see some magnificent, huge, boulder rock formations. These boulders, some of which are over thirty feet high, are located between Topanga Canyon Blvd. and the Iverson Road just to the north side of the Pass Road. They were so large and their shape reminded someone of another outcropping of sandstone rocks located in Colorado called. "The Garden of the Gods; thus our local formations were named after

Remember the old saying in those wonderful old westerns. Head them off at the pass."? They could have very well been referring to the lo-cation near the old Pass Road be-cause many old western movies were filmed using our local 'Garden of the Gods," as a natural backdrop. They Died With Their Boots On with Errol Flynn to name just one. There were also many Hop-a-Long Cassidy and Lone Ranger movies film ed there too, back in the 1930's and 1940's.

It seems incredible that anyone would want to destroy the area in any way, yet, the L.A. County Road Commission has called for two plans to straighten out the eastern portion of the old Santa Susana Pass Road. To do this would require destroying a large section of the Garden of the Gods"area. The second plan would be to destroy a ravine with a natural stream that is located to the south of the Pass Road. Both plans seem an unnecessary and insensative act in the name of public safety as an excuse. Surely, if they straightened out the eastern portion of the Road the speedsters would be more encouraged, not less encouraged to violate the speed laws. The Simi Freeway is for those who want to get somewhere in a hurry. Pass Road is for people who wish to travel leisurely and enjoy a scenic drive; bicycle ride, horseback ride, or walk along the side of the roadpausing to take pictures of the area while perhaps waiting for the train to come through the tunnel there to the south of the Road.

If you are outraged at the thought of anything happening to our historical and picturesque old road and its surrounding areas, there is something to do. Write your feelings down in the form of a letter to the Los Ang. County Road Commissioner, Thomas Tidemanson, 1540 Alcazar St., L.A. 90033 The case is identified as tentative tract #41388 regarding the old Santa





Susana Pass Road. Please Correspond before the February 25, 1982 deadline. Thank you.

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NEWS:

There must have been a great deal of excitement in the Cleveland household for Ioline not to have told me about her new grandaughter - Amber Dawn Cleveland born December 10, 1981. Sister, Megan and brother, Ethan join parents, Mr. & Mrs. Gene Cleveland in rejoicing on new birth. Bet you just can't believe It can be true --

That brand new baby boy Belongs to you!

Remember the bad accident in Ainsworth, Neb. when the floor of the church in which a large crowd of people had gathered, collapsed and everyone fell to the floor below? Nany people were injured, several seriously. One was Eunice Wulf, Loling's sister. Ioline's sister. She is recovering nicely and was a guest of Everett & Ioline during the holidays. Other guests were niece, Mary Ann and bro ther-in-law, Warren. Daughter, Cathe was visiting at the same happy occasion. . . . . . . . . . .

We are delighted to announce that our Bill Schepler, editor of Window Into the Past, has given me #1 for 1982. It is attached to this issue of Smoke-Signal. We hope you are keeping the past issues in a file. It will be a good historic remembrance of our area.

you have missed, one perhaps you could ask Bill for a copy. Thanks, Bill

Many of you (who were not there) will be anxiously awaiting the results of the book sale -- Ioline reports \$469, that is a lot of sales for only 25/50¢. And speaking of more fund-raising-on the day our last Smoke-Signal was out we received our Historical Memory Calendars. It is a beautiful reory Calendars. It is a beautiful remembrance of Chatsworth with 14 picturesof our Pioneer Church, Minnie-Hill Palmer House and others. You will want to purchase several for your friends and yourself at a \$3.00 donation. They are available at each meeting night, Open House each first Sunday between 1 & 4 at the museum or from any member of the Society.

We gratefully welcome our new members, Ruth Ottinger, 9361 Farralone, Chats. Who bought 10 calendars the first nite she joined (and whose birthday we missed in Jan.) Happy Birthday late! Another new member is a long time friend of the Society and members we cordially welcome Felicia Robi 10336 Vassar, Chatsworth......... Birthday Greetings to: Betty Summers. Chas. Choate, Myrtle Johnson, Laurie Dager and Jim Woodman.....