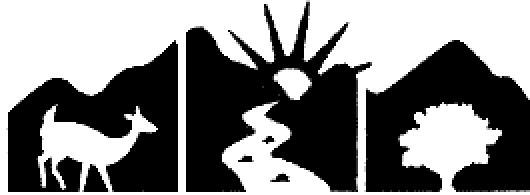


# NEWS RELEASE



## SANTA MONICA MOUNTAINS CONSERVANCY

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For Immediate Release  
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### **Marge Feinberg Rim of the Valley Trail Dedicated at New Saddletree Ranch Trailhead in Sylmar**

***Long distance trail connecting all the parklands encircling the San Fernando, Simi, La Crescenta, and Santa Clarita Valleys was envisioned by passionate volunteer more than twenty-five years ago***

Sylmar—Federal, State, and local officials joined the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy today at the dedication of the Marge Feinberg Rim of the Valley Trail. State Senator Sheila Kuehl authored legislation which named the Trail in honor of Marge Feinberg who, in her 1974 Master's thesis, first envisioned a trail connecting all the parkland and recreational areas encircling the San Fernando, Simi, and La Crescenta Valleys. Mrs. Feinberg died in 1999. "This trail is Marge Feinberg's legacy to the people of California," said Kuehl. "It is very fitting that she be remembered when we enjoy its beauty."

Feinberg's tireless volunteer efforts led to legislation that designated the Rim of the Valley Trail Corridor in the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy Zone. The Corridor was created to form an interlinking system of parks, trails, open space, wildlife habitat, and recreational opportunities within and between the Santa Monica, Santa Susana and San Gabriel Mountains. The Rim of the Valley Trail Corridor lays out the blueprint for a system of natural lands that shelters wildlife and extends recreational opportunities throughout a large urban area. The backbone of that system—and the thread which will one day tie it together is the Marge Feinberg Rim of the Valley Trail.

In addition to Kuehl, Senator Richard Alarcon, Assemblymembers Carol Liu and Lloyd Levine, Los Angeles City Councilmember Wendy Greuel, Los Angeles City Council President Alex Padilla, Santa Clarita City Councilmember Laurence Weste and Congressman Brad Sherman spoke to a large crowd honoring Feinberg's lasting achievements, and underscoring the significance of the Rim of the Valley Trail Corridor in Los Angeles' regional open space network.

"Marge's vision was twenty years ahead of her time—and will keep us working twenty more years," said Joseph T. Edmiston, Executive Director of the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy. "Her dream will endure for generations to come."

The dedication took place at the Conservancy's newly constructed Saddletree Ranch Trailhead in Sylmar, the most recent addition to the Rim of the Valley Trail. The freshly-cut, 1.5 mile trail winds through a 65-acre conservation easement with the San Gabriel Mountains ascending above, and a long view of the San Fernando Valley below. The easement and trail improvements were funded by the Safe Neighborhood Park Act of 1996 (L.A. County Proposition A).

The new trail provides the long-awaited "missing link" to the Sylmar equestrian community. By tying together the Conservancy's Wilson Canyon Park, Los Angeles City-owned Stetson Ranch, and a Los Angeles City-maintained trail through privately-owned Cascades Golf Course to Interstate 5, it creates the longest publicly-owned section of the Rim of the Valley Trail outside the Angeles National Forest.

The Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy and the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority are dedicated to the preservation of open space and the creation of parkland throughout Southern California.

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