



# Las Virgenes Homeowners Federation, Inc.

Post Office Box 353, Agoura Hills, California 91301

**January, 2007, MEETING ([www.lvhf.org](http://www.lvhf.org))**

**Thursday, January 18th 2006, 7:30 P.M.**

**The Place – Diamond X** – Take Las Virgenes to Mulholland; turn left on Mulholland. For the next 3/4 mile, the King Gillette Ranch will be on your right. After you've passed Stokes Canyon Road, in about 3/4 mile, you will see a sign on your right with "Diamond X" and the National Park Service logo on it. A short distance past the sign a narrow road goes south at a right angle. This is Wickland Road, and, at this point you are entering the recently acquired King Gillette Ranch (Soka) property. Follow Wickland about 300 yards until the road forks; take the left-hand fork; keep bearing left to lighted house. Park; get out of your car; go into the lighted part of the house.

**Call to Order**

**Officers' Reports**

**Roll Call**

**Correspondence/Announcements**

**Agenda Changes/ Approval**

**Approval of Meeting Minutes**

## **Old Business/ Reports**

**Delegates Reports**

**Heschel School hearing before the Board of Supervisors**

**Report on Santa Susana Field Laboratory Discharge Permit**

**Agoura Village Specific Plan Update**

**Modification of By-laws Action**

## **New Business**

**Formation of Steering Committee**

**Calabasas City Council Candidates Forum**

# HAPPY NEW YEAR!!

2007 is going to have more than its share of opportunities to make Las Virgenes an even better place to live, along with its share of threats to our unique community and its way of life. Join us on the 18<sup>th</sup> and help get 2007 off to a good start.

We had a pleasant December meeting and holiday get-together last month. After everyone had had their fill of holiday goodies and was infused with the spirit of the season, we chose OFFICERS FOR 2007. The names may look a bit familiar,

**PRESIDENT – JOHN LOW of MONTE NIDO**

**VICE-PRESIDENT – MARY HUBBARD of MALIBU CANYON**

**SECRETARY – KATHY BERKOWITZ of CALBASAS PARK ESTATES**

**TREASURER – JOAN YACOVONE of LIBERTY CANYON**

## NEW CALABASAS GENERAL PLAN UNDER WAY

The CALABASAS GENERAL PLAN ADVISORY COMMITTEE (“GPAC”) will hold its first meeting this Thursday, January 18<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 P.M. at the Agoura/Calabasas Community Center, 27040 Malibu Hills Road. It will meet again on February 15 and on March 15, the third Thursday of the month. It appears there will be a ten-minute period for public comment at the end of each two hour session.

On Thursday, March 29<sup>th</sup> the City will hold a Public Workshop on the General Plan for all interested citizens. After one more GPAC meeting on April 19<sup>th</sup>, there will be a two-day Public Workshop and Visioning Charrette on May 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup>.

On July 19<sup>th</sup> GPAC will review land use scenarios and draft goals for the new General Plan.

There will be a third Public Workshop to review the community vision, goals, and land use scenarios on August 16<sup>th</sup>.

At its next meeting, on Thursday, September 20<sup>th</sup>, GPAC will select its preferred Land Use Scenario.

From October through December GPAC will meet about twice a month to review various elements of the General Plan. From January through June, 2008, it will complete its recommended General Plan Update.

From June through September, 2008, GPAC will work on its recommendations for revising and updating the Land Use and Development Code.

City Planner Tom Bartlett (878-4225 x234) will be the staff liaison to GPAC. For information about GPAC meeting locations and agendas, call Liz Parker at 878-4225 x298.

Here's a breakdown of the committee members. Calabasas Park has the most representation by far with 10 seats, followed by Mulwood with 4, Saratoga Hills with 3, Malibu Canyon with 2, and 1 from the rural communities (Old Topanga, Calabasas Highlands and Cold Creek).

<b>GPAC Member</b>	<b>Community</b>	<b>Appointed to Commission by</b>	<b>Commission</b>
Gary Klein	Calabasas Park	Wolfson	Planning Commission
Dave Brown	Malibu Canyon	Groveman	Planning Commission
Britt Aaronsen	Calabasas Park	Maurer	Library Commission
Amber Gendein	Calabasas Park		Public Safety Commission
Andrew Cohen-Cutler	Calabasas Park	Wolfson	Environmental Commission
Robert J. Lia	Saratoga Hills	Washburn	Communications and Technology Commission
Mark Shear	Greater Mulwood	Groveman	Parks, Recreation, and Education Commission
Peter Valk	Greater Mulwood	Wolfson	Traffic and Transportation Commission
		<b>Appointed to General Plan Committee by</b>	
Dana Ashton	Calabasas Park	Washburn	
Michael Friedman	Calabasas Park	Bozajian	Environmental Commission
Alan E. Horwitz	Calabasas View	Bozajian	
Michael Kaplan	Calabasas Park	Wolfson	
Peter A. Kraut	Saratoga Hills	Member-at-Large	
Marvin Lopata	Greater Mulwood	Washburn	
Robert Odello	Malibu Canyon	Member-at-Large	
Robert Pope	Calabasas Park	Groveman	
Rebecca Reyes	Greater Mulwood	Maurer	
Deborah Stern	Calabasas Park	Wolfson	
Sanford Teitelman	Calabasas Highlands	Maurer	
Candice Weber	Saratoga Hills	Groveman	Communications and Technology

***“Maintenance of a high quality of life is dependent upon a high quality environment. Thus, the area’s natural environment is invariably cited as the key to Calabasas’desirability, and preservation of open space is generally cited as the community’s number one priority.”***

***– Calabasas General Plan***

## **FINAL REGIONAL PLANNING HEARING ON LCP JANUARY 24<sup>th</sup>**

The Los Angeles County Regional Planning Commission will hold its final hearing on the Draft Santa Monica Mountains Local Coastal Plan, the future land use plan for Monte Nido, most of Cold Creek, and the upper part of Malibu Lakeside at 9:00 A. M., Wednesday, January 24th in its usual meeting place, the first floor Hearing Room of the Hall of Records, 320 West Temple, Los Angeles.

Latest draft of the Santa Monica Mountains LCP should be available at [coastal@planning.co.la.ca.us](mailto:coastal@planning.co.la.ca.us). A “hard copy” should be available in Supervisor Yaroslavsky’s local office (880-9416). For more information, contact Ben Saltsman, Supervisor Yaroslavsky’s Planning Deputy, (213) 974-3333, or County Planner Gina Natoli (213) 974-6422.

## **AGOURA PUBLIC WORKSHOP MEETING**

Agoura Hills is in the middle of its General Plan Update process. In December, the city held a joint city council and planning commission public hearing to obtain public input on the issues to be addressed in the General Plan and key areas of the city on which to focus. The top three items in a list of common opinions from a previous city survey and stakeholder interviews were that the city should:

- Manage/Limit Growth
- Improve Traffic Congestion
- Keep small town feel

## **COMMENTS ON HESCHEL SCHOOL AND THE NORTH AREA PLAN**

It appears that the Heschel School project is attempting to avoid debate on its inconsistencies with the North Area Plan by simply not bothering to apply for amendments to the Plan itself. What with development densities far in excess of the base land use type and density, and exporting most adverse impacts into Agoura Hills, the school puts the Plan to a severe test, and risks to condemn it to the same fate as the Santa Monica Mountains Interim Area Plan under Former area Supervisor Michael Antonovich (death by multiple amendments and project-by-project avoidance with bogus EIRs). Note that at last month’s meeting, delegates voted to send a strongly worded letter of support for Old Agoura’s position in this long-festering debate over appropriate land use policy under the exact Plan that so many of our delegates worked so hard on for so many years.

– Jess Thomas

*Editor’s Note: Comments on this project will be heard by the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors on January 23<sup>rd</sup>. Please see the Community Calendar below for details.*

## **ROCKETDYNE RESULTS**

In December, the State Water Quality Control Board upheld the right of the Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board to set strict numerical limits on the amounts of chemicals that Boeing can release in outfalls on the site. Outfalls are places where Boeing releases wastewater right onto the surface of the ground. Boeing has 72 violations and they were appealing the Regional Board’s strict standards. The State Water Board did, however, require the Regional Water Board to give Boeing some time to come into compliance with the stricter standards. They did not feel it was reasonable that the Regional Water Board had expected immediate compliance. Boeing asked for five years to come into compliance, arguing that they

were relying on the natural vegetation in the area for erosion control and since the vegetation burned in the 2005 fire, they would need another 5 years for the vegetation to fully grow back. After witnesses testified that the area had sufficient regrowth and also questioned whether rocket scientists dealing with toxic wastewater couldn't come up with a more reliable and effective erosion control method, the State Water Board ruled that a) the Regional Board would have the authority to determine what amount of compliance time was sufficient, and that b) it should be the *shortest possible* amount of time that was reasonable, and c) that amount of time may have already passed (as in perhaps one rainy season), and d) the Regional Water Board would be allowed to use the State Board's enforcement personnel and resources.

A grand jury investigation is currently underway into possible criminal activities related to operations at the Boeing Rocketdyne Santa Susana Field Laboratory.

LA County Board of Supervisors has released a report prepared by their staff detailing the recent developments surrounding the Santa Susana Field Laboratory site. It is available at [www.rocketdynewatch.org](http://www.rocketdynewatch.org). The report does a fair job of providing the recent chronology of events even though the interpretations are somewhat skewed since the information all came from Boeing and regulatory agencies who are supposed to be supervising the clean-up of the site but who have been heavily criticized for failing to do their jobs.

## **A FIRE WARNING**

The Calendar may say it's the middle of the "Rainy Season", but those of us who stick our head outside at least once a week have probably noticed that it hasn't rained for months, and we are now facing day after day of strong, dry Santa Ana winds sucking moisture out of last year's weeds and our native chaparral. The tragedy on Malibu Road last week should remind all of us how vulnerable our communities are to fast-moving, wind-driven brush fires.

With new people who have had no experience with our fire-prone climate and landscapes constantly moving into our community, it might be well for member associations to see that new residents get information not only on how to avoid starting a fire, but also on how to prepare their property for the day when some other idiot sets the landscape on fire. It's going to be a long hot summer in Las Virgenes; we better get ready.

## **MARK YOUR CALENDARS**

Our plans are moving along for the 40<sup>th</sup> annual Las Virgenes Homeowners Federation Installation Dinner and we want to give everyone plenty of time to clear their calendars for this much anticipated event. Reserve Friday April 20<sup>th</sup> for an evening of good food, camaraderie and an exciting guest speaker. We should have everything firmed up by the next Newsletter and will give you all of the details.

## COMMUNITY CALENDAR

**Tuesday, January 16, 2:20 P.M.**  
Conference Room 3,  
Calabasas City Hall  
26135 Mureau Road, Calabasas

**Development Review Committee -**  
Agenda includes SPR-006-025 –  
90 units of affordable senior  
housing, subterranean garage,  
4803 El Canon Ave. Old Town.

**Thursday, January 18<sup>th</sup>, 7:00 – 9:00 P.M.**  
Agoura-Calabasas Community Center  
Malibu Hills Road, Calabasas

**General Plan Advisory Committee**  
("GPAC") First Meeting. Brief  
Public Comment Period at 8:50

**Wednesday, January 17<sup>th</sup>, 7:00 – 9:00 P.M.**  
Santa Monica Baykeeper  
Virginia Avenue Park  
2200 Virginia Avenue  
Santa Monica

**Water Workshop:**  
Stormwater Reclamation as an  
Alternate to Desalinization

**Thursday, January 18<sup>th</sup>, 7:30**  
Diamond X Ranger Station

**January Federation Meeting**

**Tuesday, January 23<sup>rd</sup>, 7:00 P.M.**  
Calabasas City Hall  
26135 Mureau Road, Calabasas

**Traffic and Transportation Comm.**  
Agenda may include proposed  
design of Lost Hills Bridge. For  
info, call City Hall (878-4225)

**Tuesday, January 23, 9:30 A.M.**  
383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration  
500 West Temple Street,  
Los Angeles

**Board of Supervisors Hearing**  
Heschel School  
Old Agoura bus leaves Old Agoura  
Park equestrian parking lot at 7:30  
For info, call Jess Thomas (889 9965)

**Wednesday, January 24<sup>th</sup>, 9:00 A.M.**  
Hearing Room, First Floor,  
Hall of Records, 320 West Temple Street,  
Los Angeles

**Regional Planning Commission**  
Final Public Hearing on Draft  
Santa Monica Mountains LCP.

**Wednesday, January 24<sup>th</sup>, 6:00 P.M.**  
City Council Chambers  
Calabasas City Hall  
26135 Mureau Road, Calabasas

**"State of the City" Address -**  
Mixer, 6:00, Address, 7:00

**Saturday, February 3<sup>rd</sup>, 10 A.M.-3 P.M.  
Future Calabasas Civic Center Site  
Park Sorrento and Park Center, Calabasas**

**Electronic Waste Round-up**

**Saturday, February 10, 11 A.M.- 2 P.M.  
Calabasas Tennis and Swim Center  
Park Sorrento, Calabasas**

**Water Base Paint/ Used Oil  
Round-up**