

# VENTURA COUNTY *Showcase*



P.V Church 22 April 1900  
Lower End of Santa Rosa  
Valley Baptism of Ida  
Willard

**April 22, 1900, the members of P.V. Church attends the baptism of Ida Willard at the lower end of the Santa Rosa Valley.**



**Dr. Lett LeRoy**



**Gwyn and Ralph Mahan play in an orange grove during the winter snow of 1949.**



**Point Mugu, 1920.**

## FROM STAFF REPORTS

For Realtor Gwyn Goodman, family and the history of the Moorpark and Somis area are one in the same.

"I think along the lines of everyone being dependent upon one another, absorbing the strengths of those with whom we come into contact," she said. "The old photos show how individuals banded together for work and continued to enjoy traveling and recreation together.

"During the early years the churches were an important part of the community as you can

see from the baptism attendance. The families traveled together to Mammoth. Point Mugu was a quiet, enjoyable destination in the 1920s. Wheeler Hot Springs was a favorite of many during the '20s because of the warm water, creeks and overnight accommodations. The hunting trips were enjoyed by a large group that worked together, but also enjoyed traveling into the mountains together as well as other points of interest.

"Dr. Lett LeRoy grew up in Moorpark, traveled world-wide and became an emeritus professor of geology at the Colorado School of Mines in Colorado. Lett spent a great deal of time in Happy

Camp above Moorpark hunting arrowheads and studying formations.

"Baseball was an important game and was attended fully by locals. Family baseball teams enjoyed it as well. The donkey baseball games became full entertainment as the locals would develop teams and the antics were fully appreciated in the '20s to '40s. Large roundups became smaller, family operations as the land was developed and larger holdings disappeared with full participation from even the youngest.

"The snow storm in Moorpark and Somis in 1949 was a surprise, but enjoyed. This was when the area had ample rainfall for dry land farming

and cattle, and golden apricot vats covered acres of ground drying in the sun. Walnuts were profitable with poppies and lupens covering the hillsides as shown with the girls rolling down the hills along Balcom Canyon in Somis. Ventura County was and is a great place to work, play together enjoying all the amenities the area offers."

For expert advice and assistance on the purchase or sale of your home, ranch or agricultural property, contact Gwyn Goodman at 987-6695 or by email at GGoodmanRealty@aol.com. TO get a fascinating glimpse into the past in the Somis and Moorpark area, view her website at [www.gwyngoodman.com](http://www.gwyngoodman.com).