

CEMETERY CONSECRATED

Ground broken on Jewish site



ANITA CHIU/STAFF

A ceremony was held recently to sanctify land that will become the Magen David Memorial Gardens in Livermore.

Magen David slated to open in 2015, will be county's first for faith in more than century

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LIVERMORE — Reciting scriptures, pledging for charities and walking along the perimeter of the grounds seven times, rabbis and other members of the local Jewish community gathered recently to mark the beginning stages of a new cemetery.

In most areas, the consecration of a Jewish cemetery is a once-in-a-lifetime event — in

fact, when it opens in 2015, the Magen David Memorial Gardens will be the first of its kind to be built in Alameda County in more than 100 years.

“When we consecrate, we are creating a holy space,” said Rabbi Raleigh Resnick, director of Chabad of the Tri-Valley. “It was something very meaningful. What we were doing on that day will have a profound influence on future generations of the Jewish community in the Tri-Valley.”

On what is now pastureland north of Interstate 580 off Las Colinas Road, work has

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