

Ten years in the making

Cemetery plan not dead yet

Tassajara Valley group renews opposition as project moves through county review process



ARIC CRABB/STAFF

"We have to remind people, 'No, it's not done yet, it's coming back,'" said Bill Newman, with his wife, Holly. Newman is a volunteer with Friends of Tassajara Valley, which has been waging a campaign against a 59-acre, 100,000-plot cemetery along Camino Tassajara for almost 10 years.

By Sam Richards

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TASSAJARA VALLEY — Despite the sign on his property calling attention to the cemetery that could be built a stone's throw away, Bill Newman finds he must refresh memories every so often.

"We have to remind people, 'No, it's not done yet, it's coming back,'" said Newman, a volunteer with Friends of Tassajara Valley, which along with other groups has been waging a campaign against a 59-acre, 100,000-plot cemetery along Camino Tassajara for almost 10 years. "It's easy for people not

to remember; it's moving pretty slowly."

Indeed, a project that has at times inflamed its prospective neighbors has assumed a low profile lately as it works its way through the Contra Costa County planning and approval process. Telma Moreira, the county's principal planner for

the project, said the project is still very much alive. It includes several structures, among them a chapel and a mausoleum.

"We're reviewing the project as a whole, and it's a very complex project," Moreira said. She hopes the cemetery proposal

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