

# Water district finds new source

SOQUEL — A possible new underground water aquifer no one knew existed has been uncovered here by the Soquel Creek County Water District, which is drilling numerous monitoring wells.

The monitoring well program was approved last May after contradictory reports were issued concerning the amount of underground water. It is hoped the new discovery will provide the district with more water than it believed it had.

District Manager Bob Johnson told the Water Board Monday night that the discovery appears to be an aquifer. Directors authorized completion of the monitoring well in order to get more details.

The possible aquifer is located at the end of Cherryvale Avenue in Soquel, east of Old San Jose Road. It is below an existing aquifer, according to Johnson, which the district is pumping from to get water to the Opal Cliffs area.

"This really is good news," said Johnson. "The fact is it appears we're talking about an aquifer nobody knew was there. We're not taking water from it and nobody else is either that we know of."

The discovery was made during routine test hole drilling for the planned monitoring well. The Cherryvale well will be the sixth such monitoring well by the district. Eight are planned.

The wells will not be used for pumping water for residential use. They merely will be used to study the quality and level of underground water to determine the potential for greater recharge.

The wells are being drilled between 700 and 1,500 feet deep in order to penetrate the various geologic formations in the area.

Water Supply  
Fatal auto accident victim