

Startup recycles old computers

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 All Goods Electronics proprietor stops commuting to focus on local venture

By Jondi Gumz

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SCOTTS VALLEY» Ken Keegan commuted over the hill for 15 years building up a telecom business until he decided to switch careers.

Keegan, 45, a Scotts Valley resident, married with four sons ages 12, 10, 8, and 4, is the proprietor of a startup, All Goods Electron-

ics.

He has two employees helping him recycle obsolete computers in a building at the former Aviza semiconductor manufacturing complex, 440 Kings Village Road.

He said he made the change because he didn't like the direction the telecom industry was going. When his business partner bought him out, that provided start-up capital for the recycling business, which opened in June.

"It's a service I know people need," said Keegan. "You can't throw this stuff in the garbage."

For one thing, state law considers nonfunctioning cathode ray tubes from televisions and computer monitors as hazardous.

For another, information left on a hard drive could potentially assist hackers who want to steal your identity, use your credit card and empty your bank accounts.

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Leanne and Ken Keegan are hoping to grow their e-waste recycling company, All Goods Electronics, which they opened in Scotts Valley.

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Recycle

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Or a hard drive could contain sensitive business information that companies would not want to get into the hands of their competitors.

"One hard drive, one cell phone is all they need," said Keegan.

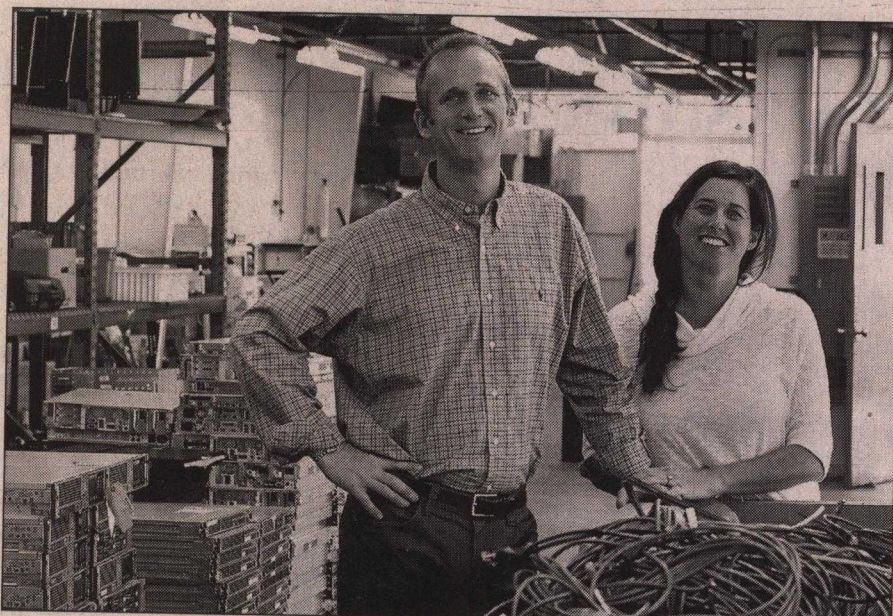
Target, Home Depot and JPMorgan Chase are among the big names reporting data breaches this year.

So far, most of Keegan's customers have been residents but he wants to serve local business owners as well.

"We will accept electronics from individuals up to big companies like Seagate," Keegan said. "Used business assets, they get wiped clean. We send you a certificate of destruction. Your data is secure."

He considers Grey Bears, the Mid-County nonprofit that accepts donations of old electronics, his main competitor, noting that All Goods will on occasion buy used electronics.

In October, he organized an e-waste fun-



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Ken and Leanne Keegan are pleased to live and work in the same community.

draiser that generated \$500 for Vine Hill School and plans another e-waste drive after the holidays.

Keegan is leasing space from Aptos developer Joe Appenrodt who last year bought the 43-acre Aviza site, a gated property with buildings containing 200,000 square.

Keegan has neighbors at the complex, including the Sants Cruz Derby Girls, a vitamin company,

a solar company and a hot rod restoration company.

Three times, developers were in contract to buy the property to build homes there but each time they backed out.

The property is known as the Watkins-Johnson Superfund site and is monitored by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency owing to hazardous chemicals that spilled 30 years ago.

ALL GOODS ELECTRONICS

What: Company picks up, recycles and purchases surplus electronics.

Where: 440 Kings Village Road, Building 2, Scotts Valley.

Owner: Ken Keegan

Employees: 2

Information: To schedule a pickup visit agerecycling.com