

Homes also grow all over Salinas Valley

By Mike Nemeth
The Salinas Californian

Produce isn't the only thing you'll find sprouting from south Monterey County soil.



Mike Nemeth

Over the past few years, hundreds of homes have popped up throughout this fast-growing region, and plenty more are on the way.

In King City, Creekbridge's 400-unit Arboleda project has entered its second phase of construction, while Woodland Development's Mills Ranch plans to open model homes soon.

Greenfield continues to boom, with more than 900 homes built since 2001 and another 700 to 1,000 homes planned for the area in the next five years. The city has attracted major developers, including Nino, Standard Pacific and Creekbridge Homes.

In Soledad, 1,000 homes have been built in the past decade, and more are on the way, including a 171-unit subdivision by Matthew Homes.

"(Construction) has not slowed down over the years, and in fact has been backing up with other developers

looking at the unincorporated areas," said Izzy Rodriguez, the city's economic director. "Most developers find that the city is open to new development."

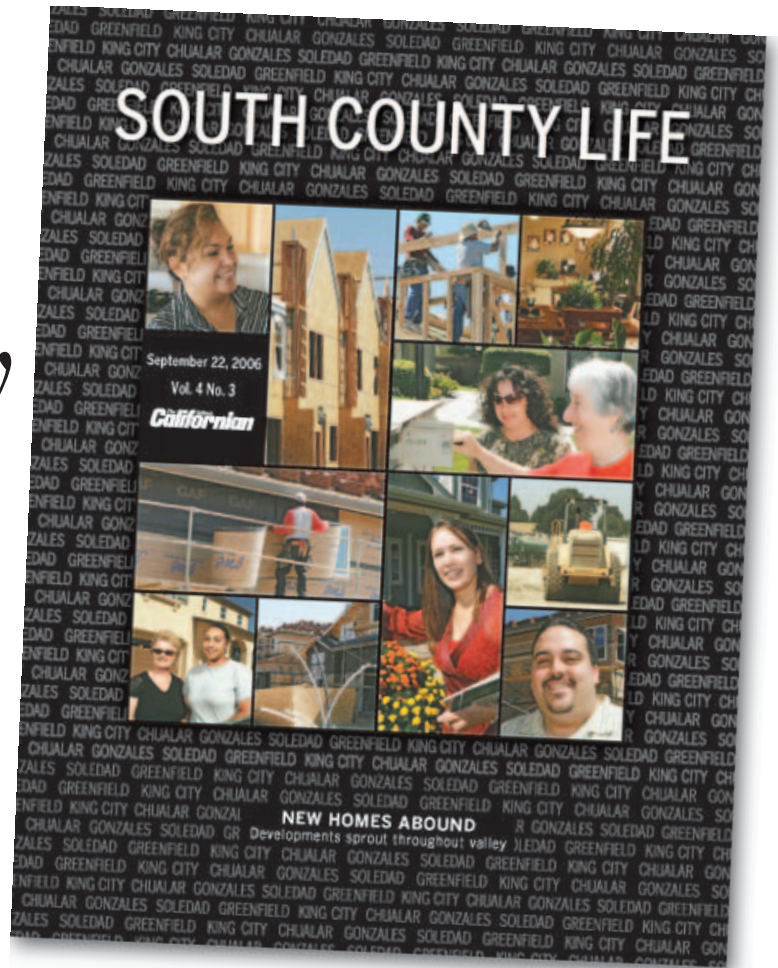
Home construction is ramping up in Gonzales, too, where Gilroy-based Wellington Corp. is planning an 800-acre project that ultimately could add 4,000 residents to the city, while two other developers, Pleasanton-based Sun Valley Land Development Co. and Salinas-based Mike Foletta Development, hope to add about 800 units on Gonzales' southern edge.

While new homes in south county can easily cost a half-million dollars, the need for affordable housing isn't lost on area officials. That's where agencies like CHISPA come in, developing affordable homes for everyone from field hands to middle-class professionals.

Whether you're looking to buy a home in south county or just want an overview of new developments in the region, we're confident you'll enjoy this issue of South County Life.

— Mike Nemeth, executive city editor,
The Salinas Californian

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