



## **Two Walmarts open in Bakersfield; Neighborhood Market helps out Oildale community**

By Lindsey Adams

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BAKERSFIELD, Calif. - Wednesday morning, Bakersfield received a pair of new shopping centers: a re-built Walmart opened on Rosedale, and a "Neighborhood Market" opened in Oildale. It's a new concept for the mega-chain, and will be smaller and filled mostly with groceries.

"There's only a few other grocery markets in the area and I think we're going to do really well," said produce associate Jacklyn Franks.

Despite its smaller size, it's providing jobs to nearly 100 people, at a time when many are looking for work.

"We had over 1,000 applicants for the positions while we were hiring," said manager Jeff Coburn.

New hires say they're thankful to have found work, and the affordable choices that come with it.

"It's really helped me because I needed the job, and I have a son to support, so it's great working here," said bakery-deli production associate Ashley Chapman.

The new Neighborhood Market is at 3111 N. Chester Ave., and the expanded Supercenter 8400 Rosedale Highway. Both locations will have their grand-openings at 7:30 Wednesday morning.



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