

Work begins to expand the Burson Market

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Demolition work is under way as the Burson Market prepares to be expanded and a gas station added.

The market at the corner of State Route 12 and Burson Road will remain open during the project, which includes the installation of eight gas pumps on the one-acre site.

Three buildings at the site, including the old Burson post office, are being removed. When work is completed, the Burson Market will be in a new 3,200-square-foot building, doubling the size of the existing location.

Along with expanding services to Burson area residents and State Route 12 travelers, the project is designed to improve safety at the intersection with better sight lines for motorists.

Hani Alborati says his family is looking forward to expanding their business and providing additional services to the community.

"This community deserves to be treated right with something new and updated," Alborati said.

Nearly a dozen residents back in 2016 voiced their pleasure with the proposal when it went before the Calaveras County Planning Commission, especially the addition of a gas station, something the area has been without for many years.

Alborati said the station would have environmentally friendly above ground tanks and be a Chevron location.

Once completed, the store will be open daily from 5 a.m. to 10 p.m. and include an expanded line of groceries and drinks, plus a mini-kitchen serving hamburgers, hot and cold sandwiches, along with deli items, Alborati said.

"I've lived here for 23 years and grew up here," he said. "We love the people here and while the expansion will benefit us as a family, we look forward to trying to serve the community the best we can with the gas station and the new food items."

Alborati has donated materials from the existing buildings to members of the community who are gradually removing them.

He's also happy with plans that call for ingress and egress into the business further away from the busy intersection.

One thing will remain the same at the business. It will still be called the Burson Market, he added.