

Posted: 1:00 p.m. Friday, June 3, 2016



## New Fairfield grocery offers taste of Nepal, India

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**FAIRFIELD** — A new grocery store aims to make shopping easier for fans of both Indian and Nepali cuisine.

The 1,300-square-foot Lisa's Grocery, named after owner Liladhar Bastola's daughter, opened Saturday at 5080 Pleasant Ave. stocked with a wide array of choices from both Nepal and India, including various beans, lentils, seeds, noodles, rice, corn grit, buckwheat, oils, spices, flax and tea.

There's also dried, boxed or bottled goods like palak paneer, mutter paneer, soya chunks, cookies, biscuits, mango pickle, chile pickle, lemon pickle and more.

Fresh produce includes onions, horseradish, garlic, lime, mangoes cucumbers and potatoes to less standard fare like yucca root.

A frozen section includes soybeans, tandoori naan bread, mustard leaf, bitter melon, mushrooms, chiles, okra and samosa, plus a selection of sweets from both India and Nepal. Chicken and beef will be added at later date.

The majority of Lisa's Grocery customers so far have been people born and raised in the United States, not those who came here from Nepal or India, Bastola said.

"A lot of Americans like the Indian foods," he said. "They have requests. They want me to put some more things."

There are about 40 families from Nepal now living in the Fairfield and Hamilton area, said Bastola, who moved from Nepal to New Hampshire in 2009 and then to Ohio last year.

"When I moved I made up my mind to open this store because I live here and when I needed something I had to ride from here to Forest Park," he said. "It's a 15-minute drive but sometimes it will take one hour or more because of the traffic."

The store also sells a selection of Indian or Nepali traditional clothing, bed sets, bracelets and more.

Lisa's Grocery is open from 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. seven days a week.