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India Mart grocery store in Redding on Sept. 15.

Where to find ethnic grocery stores and markets in area

**Michele Chandler
and Jessica Skropanic**
Redding Record Searchlight
USA TODAY NETWORK

Hankering for spicy chicken curry from India, sweet buñuelos from Mexico, jolof rice from West Africa, pancit from the Philippines, or other traditional meals that hail from around the world?

The authentic ingredients for these dishes might originate in other countries. But more Redding markets are catering to local people who want to make these and other dishes with an ethnic flair.

There are two markets in Redding on Bechelli Lane that carry a variety of ingredients used in Indian cooking.

India Mart, an Indian grocery, opened earlier this summer at 3032 Bechelli Lane, where Pluto's store used to be. The market, which is open seven days a week, moved from a

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A man who lives in Oregon, heading north after visiting Lassen National Park, picks up food from Jollof U Luv African Market in Redding on June 17. Store co-owner Monroe Collins, left, rings up the customer's purchase.

PHOTOS BY MICHELE CHANDLER/REDDING RECORD SEARCHLIGHT

Shasta becomes California's 15th charter county

David Benda
Redding Record Searchlight
USA TODAY NETWORK

Shasta has officially become California's 15th charter county.

The county received a letter from the Secretary of State on Sept. 11 that confirmed its charter, Deputy Clerk of the Board Miranda Angel said.

The letter came in the wake of fresh controversy that called into question Shasta's charter status, despite voters passing a measure in March 2024.

Supervisor and Board Chair Kevin Crye pointed the finger at the former assistant registrar of voters for the oversight, while his critics pointed to California law that states the responsibility of timely notifying the Secretary of State's Office of the change falls on Crye as board chair.

County Executive Officer David Rickert confirmed that the appropriate documents did not get filed with the state after the March 5, 2024, election. He said County Counsel Joseph Larmour noticed the error and took action to correct it.

The documents were delivered to the state on Aug. 29, 2025.

"We are proud to finally join the ranks of California's charter counties," Crye said in a news release. "The designation strengthens our ability to shape a brighter future for Shasta County while preserving our values and priorities."

Here are the other charter counties in California. They year they became a charter is in parentheses:

- Los Angeles (1913)
- Butte (1917)
- Tehama (1917)
- Alameda (1927)
- San Bernardino (1931)
- San Francisco (1931)
- Fresno (1933)
- San Diego (1933)
- San Mateo (1933)
- Sacramento (1933)
- Santa Clara (1951)
- Placer (1980)
- El Dorado (1994)
- Orange (2002)

While there are certain things that differentiate a charter county from a general law county, among the provisions a county charter must include are an elected governing body of five

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Israel opens new route out of Gaza City

**Nidal al-Mughrabi,
Alexander Cornwell
and Steven Scheer**
REUTERS

CAIRO – The Israeli military said on Sept. 17 it was opening an additional route for 48 hours that Palestinians could use to leave Gaza City, Gaza Strip, as it stepped up efforts to empty the city of civilians and confront thousands of Hamas combatants.

Hundreds of thousands of people are sheltering in the city and many are reluctant to follow Israel's orders to move south because of the dangers along the way, dire conditions, a lack of food in the southern area, and fear of permanent displacement.

"Even if we want to leave Gaza City, is there any guarantee we would be able to come back? Will the war ever end? That's why I prefer to die here, in Sabra, my neighborhood," Ahmed, a

school teacher, said by phone.

At least 40 people were killed across the Gaza Strip on Sept. 17 in Israel's latest strikes, including 30 in Gaza City, local health authorities said. They also reported a drone attack on a specialist children's hospital, which did not cause any deaths but forced young patients and their families outside.

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