

## Historic Franklin grocery market closes



**Steve Showers and Jan Seror, brother and sister owners of Golfdale LLC and the Market Basket grocery store building. Photo courtesy of Golfdale LLC.**

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Market Basket grocery store in Franklin has closed. The third-generation owners of the building which houses the market, Jan Seror and Steve Showers, were informed by grocery owner Robert Esshaki, that he would not renew his lease after it expires at year-end. The brother and sister landlords have been waiting to list the property until this fall.

“Market Basket has served our community well for a long time, and we will miss it in the village of Franklin,” they said. Golfdale LLC is the company formed a decade ago to continue the one their grandparents created in the 1950s when they purchased land that now houses Market Basket as well as the barn behind it and the farmhouse that is now Farmhouse Coffee and Ice Cream.

The market inhabits 3,463 square feet in a building that also includes a thriving personal training business. The 792-square-foot barn on the property is also available for lease as a unique space all its own. Another tenant, Farmhouse Coffee, continues to thrive in the adjacent building, also owned by Golfdale.

Market Basket was founded by Jack Showers in the early 1950s as Golfdale Market. When his son, Ron Showers, returned from military service, he joined the family business. Steve Showers often accompanied his father to Eastern Market at sunrise for fresh produce and beef to sell in the market.

Ron Showers passed away at 45, leaving the store to his wife, Anne. She sold the business in the 1970s, retaining the property. The new owner, Mr. LaVerne, renamed it Market Basket. Robert Eshaki took over the lease in the 1990s.

“We grew up in Franklin,” say Seror and Showers. “We love our community, and we are dedicated to bringing the same enthusiasm for this village to the space as we find the right new tenant to continue our family legacy with integrity.”

“We are grateful to Mr. Eshaki for bringing Chef Carl’s delectable creations to Franklin. He will be greatly missed, and we hope to continue enjoying his dishes in his next space,” say Seror and Showers. “He has served the community well for a long time.”



**Jack Showers, founded Golfdale Market in the early 1950s. It was later renamed Market Basket. Photo courtesy of Golfdale, Inc.**