



Roy's Market owner takes over Stuart's

By **ELAINE SWANSON** - Correspondent Elko Daily Free Press
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WELLS - Stuart's Grocery and Variety Store will receive a makeover as it becomes Roy's Market.

Roy Herr, the owner of Roy's Market in Elko, takes over Stuart's Wednesday.

LaMont and Yvonne Stuart said they are selling the inventory and equipment of their business for an undisclosed sum. They will retain ownership of the building and the land.

The Stuarts started in the grocery business by buying the Frontier Market in downtown Wells from Bob Larson in 1979. At that time the Stuarts also owned the Wells Drug Store where Pharmacist LaMont Stuart had established a pharmacy and a Western Auto store.

When the interstate highway bypassed the town, the Stuarts decided to build a new 14,000 square-foot grocery and variety store near the west Interstate 80 exit.

They opened in December of 1993. They combined the pharmacy and drug store with groceries, a sewing and fabric center, a video section which later became a toy department and a deli, thus creating the town's first supermarket.

Herr and his wife Coco were in Stuart's Grocery Store last week.

When asked about his decision to buy the Wells store, he said, "I love the grocery business. I've always looked for another location to buy. I've talked several times over the years to the Stuarts about buying their store. This year the time was right. However the February earthquake put the sale off schedule for a few months. Now the time is here.

Herr said the store will be called Roy's Market.

"This is a big project and we hope the Wells people will be involved in helping us create a nice comfortable atmosphere here in the store," Herr said.

The new Roy's Market owner said he does not consider himself an out-of-town owner. "We are just 30 minutes away."

The new owner said his daughter Stephanie Herr of Elko will be involved with the new store.

"Stephanie started her business career bagging groceries in Roy's Market when she was a school girl," he said. "She recently completed a five month business school in Southern California The course pertained to the grocery industry.

"We'll create our own Roy's Market, Wells style. We have some exciting ideas for Wells shoppers. We hope they come in and enjoy the new store.

"Please come in and talk to us," Herr said.