## It's all in the family at El Patron Death penalty debate

By CRAIG MURPHY Of the Keizertimes

Carlos Pineda wasn't too picky when looking for a possible location for a restaurant.

Pineda and his wife Miriam knew they wanted to open a Mexican restaurant somewhere in the Keizer area.

Pineda's family owns a meat shop and market in Woodburn and he's a carpenter by trade. Thus, he was willing to turn about any building into a restaurant. He opened El Patron Mexican Restaurant at 3844 River Road North in the Keizer Village shopping center on March 3.

"I wanted to make sure there was a hood already dug out for the grease to go," Pineda said. "As long as I had the hood, I was ready for any project."

As it turns out, Pineda didn't have much work to do after he found a Mexican restaurant that was already open, Salsa Rica.

"This was already made," Pineda said of the location, which is next to Goodwill. "A friend of the family had this before. We walked in and were just so persistent. We worked out a deal. I told him it's perfect. It had everything I wanted."

Pineda liked what Juan and Elsa Fernandez had done with the building, including the inside decorations. Thus, most of the items in El Patron were in place before, with Pineda adding a few personal touches like a hanging cowboy hat and a couple of horse head statues. A bent horse head makes up the "P" in the sign.

"My dad is big time into the Western theme, with big sombreros. I've always liked horses. The guy I bought it from was very Western," said Pineda, who convinced Fernandez to leave the picture frames and benches with wagon wheels behind."Then I added some of my stuff and my wife has some things. It goes with the Western style.'

Pineda wanted to steer away from the usual look.

"I didn't want it to look like your traditional Mexican restaurant," he said. "I wanted customers to walk into a clean, different place. You come in here and feel like it's clean."

Opening the restaurant was the culmination of an idea the Pinedas had been tossing around for a while.

"It's been lingering in the back of our heads for two or three years," Pineda said. "About seven months ago we said we need to do something for ourselves. I knew that's what I wanted to do at some point."

As soon as he owned the restaurant, Pineda had it closed for one day of transition.

"The first thing I did was change the name," Pineda said. "I knew that's the name I wanted, using the design of the horse. I couldn't get it out of



Miriam and Carlos Pineda inside their new Keizer restaurant,

mom's recipes and works

El Patron.

alongside Miriam. "It's definitely challenging," Pineda said of working with his wife, who worked for a lawyer for six years previously. "It's definitely different to work with my wife, because we're co-workers here. That was an interesting transition, to work

a week, from 11 a.m. to 8 p.m. Monday through Thursday and 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. Friday through Sunday. Hours may be expanded in the summer. Togo orders can be called in at 503-339-7732.

Pineda uses many of his together. It was interesting at first, but we have a good sys-

El Patron is open seven days

# comes to Keizer June 12

Oregonians for Alternatives to the Death Penalty (OADP) host its 2015 annual meeting, dinner and program Friday, June 12, at the Keizer Civic Center.

This year's keynote speaker will be Mike Farrell, a political and social activist best known for his portrayal of Army Capt. B.J. Hunnicutt in the TV-series M\*A\*S\*H and Dr. Iim Hansen in the weekly NBC series Providence. Farrell is the president of Death Penalty Focus, a grassroots organizing group, comparable to OADP, seeking alternatives to the death penalty in Cali-

Oregonians for Alternatives to the Death Penalty promotes discussion on Oregon's death penalty and favors programs that demonstrate evidencedbased outcomes to deter crime, violence and murder.

A reception with guest speakers will take place starting at 5 p.m. Individual tickets are \$40 and tables of eight can be reserved by calling (503) 990-7060. Tickets are also available online by going to www.oadp.org. Dinner will start at 6 p.m. and the program for the evening will follow. The Keizer Civic Center is located at 930 Chemawa Rd.

### Sign up soon for choir, drama camps

Keizer students interested in singing and acting can sign up now for the annual McNary Area Choir and Drama Camps.

Camps are open to students entering fourth through ninth grades and run July 13 through 17.

"We are in our sixth season of running the camps and each year the attendance just keeps growing," said Andy Thomas, Whiteaker

choir director and one of the staff at the camps. Last year, the camps reached 150 participants and had 13 instructors and assistants between the two camps, the most yet.

The choir portion runs from 9 a.m. to noon and the drama camp runs from 12:30 to 3 p.m.

Kids are welcome to participate in just one of the camps or both, but one feeds into the other. Participants will get to work with Jim Taylor, choir director

at McNary High school, Thomas, three McNary choir graduates and Angy Thomas, a middle school drama specialist

Drama camp exposes participants to teamwork, imagination, voice, pantomime and many other aspects of the theatre.

Registration forms are available from music teachers at each Keizer school, at McNary High School office, the Whiteaker main office, and via e-mail at thomas\_andy@salkeiz.k12.or.us.

Registrations are due by June 5. Cost is \$65 per camp which includes a camp T-shirt and all materials.

# **Bark for Life June 20 at Keizer Rapids**

Bark for Life an event for dogs and their owners will be held at Keizer Rapids Park on Saturday, June 20, to raise funds for the American Can-

The event, scheduled from 8 a.m. to noon, will feature a one mile/5K fun run/walk for dogs and their owners.

After the run/walk the day will feature demonstrations, a silent auction, a doggie fashion show, games and food. Past participants have dressed

For information visit the Bark for Life website at bflofsalemkeizer.com.

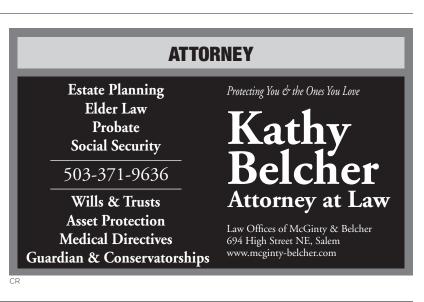
# Business&Services









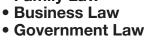


#### **ATTORNEY**



#### Koho & Beatty Attorneys at Law, PC

- General Practice
- Family Law
- Business Law





503-390-3501

**KOHO** 5305B River Road N, Keizer, OR 97303 www.koholaw.com



**BARKDUST** 

· Hemlock Mulch Sawdust · Decorative Rock Top Soil

· Sand & Gravel · Fir Bark Mulch

**DELIVERY OR U-HAUL** WE PROTECT YOUR REPUTATION AND WE **GET YOUR LASCADE** 1375 13TH ST SE - SALEM (503) 364-0455 2840 Cherry Ave. NE • 378-7379 cascadecollections.com

COLLECTION SERVICES

## **BUSINESS SPOTLIGHT**

Building Materials Bargain Center, Inc. 775 Front Street NE • Salem • 503-363-9070



# ENTER, INC.

Our home is our single biggest investment and we want to keep it maintained. Sometimes we also want to do projects around the home to make it better for us or increase the value when it comes time to sell it. For those do-it-yourselfers who like the feel of a hammer and a saw in their hands, the first step of a home project is to stop at Building Materials Bargain Center on Front Street near downtown Salem.

Founded in 2003 the business has been owned since 2010 by Gene Vliet. Mike Oglevie serves as manager of the

Building Materials Bargain Center offers a variety of construction materials, building materials and building supplies to customers. "We

have a large selection of unfinished cabinets to give our customers as many options as possible," said Gene Vliet.

Their products and services include construction materials, building materials, building supplies, cabinets, doors, windows, plywood, fencing, hardwood, flooring, lumber, moldings, paneling, walls, insulation and much more! We have most standard sizes in stock and yes, we deliver.

"It's the best place to get your improvement materials and save real money doing it," said Vliet.

Building Materials Bargain Center is located minutes from Keizer at 775 Front St., building D. They are open seven days a week. Have a question? Call them at 503-363-9070.