

Ocean Sushi rolls in with the tide

By **CRAIG MURPHY**
Of the Keizertimes

Dim Sum has given way to Ocean Sushi in Keizer.

The former Dim Sum restaurant at 3843 River Road North, which used to be Blooming Cuisine, closed earlier this year and has been transformed into Ocean Sushi & Teriyaki. The new restaurant had a soft opening the first week of November and had its grand opening Friday, Nov. 20. The phone number is 503-393-9898.

The new owners are Songying Li and Lixiang Yan.

“Sushi is my passion,” Li said. Restaurant staff includes co-managers Tony Truong and Hung Trinh.

“Sushi is the main thing, but we also specialize in teriyaki as well,” Truong said. “Plus we have an amazing udon soup. We wanted to do sushi, but we didn’t want to limit ourselves to it. Not everyone in your group might like sushi, someone might want something like a rice dish. We wanted to make it more family oriented.”

Trinh said coming up with the restaurant’s menu was a col-

laborative effort.

“We sat down together and came up with the menu,” Trinh said. “It took about a month and a half to get everything ready.”

The menu includes a wide variety of rolls (mini, basic, advanced and premium) as well as appetizers, dinner entrees, bento boxes and more.

Truong said menu items and flavors were tweaked during the first couple of weeks.

“We got some good input from our customers,” Trinh said. “And we can customize things or add things that are not on the menu. Our customers have been really helpful.”

Current hours are 11:30 a.m. to 11 p.m. each day, with lunch specials from 11:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. and happy hour from 8:30 to 10:30 p.m. Trinh said



KEIZERTIMES/Craig Murphy
Counterclockwise from front left: co-manager Hung Trinh, Ocean Sushi co-owner Songying Li, co-manager Tony Truong and chef Hung Luo.

the hours could be changed to suit demand.

“We are trying to accommodate the people in Keizer,” he said. We might open up earlier. Right when we open, people come in for early lunches.”

Trinh and Truong managed a restaurant together before and have had some former customers visit Ocean Sushi.

“A couple of them came and they say it is really good here,”

Truong said. “Business is still picking up. If an item not on the menu is in high demand, after a few months we might add it to the menu.”

Trinh said contrary to popular belief, a lot of sushi is cooked.

“Anything that is raw could be cooked,” he said. “Everything we make here is fresh, made to order. Quality is our number one thing here.”

traffic court

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France Dance performs

Keizer’s France School of Dance will hold a performance at North Salem High School at 2 p.m. on Saturday, Dec. 19. Admission is either three cans of food or a \$3 cash donation; all proceeds will benefit the Keizer Community Food Bank.

The school will also perform on Tuesday, Dec. 15 at Talmadge Middle School in Independence.

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