



KEIZERTIMES/Eric A. Howald  
Raquel Morales recently stationed her taco truck alongside Chemawa Deli & Market at 388 Chemawa Road N.

## Raquel's Catering grows city's food truck offerings

By LAUREN MURPHY  
*Of the Keizertimes*

Another new truck joined the ranks of Keizer's growing food scene. Raquel's Catering offers a variety of fresh made Mexican food including, of course, tacos, making it the resident taco truck.

The owner, Raquel Morales, has been operating the truck for a little under a year. Though the truck is just getting started, this has been a dream of hers for a long time.

"When I was younger I would say, 'I want to cook in my own place, my own restaurant, my own taco truck,'" Morales said.

Unfortunately, time never permitted Morales to pursue her dream as she was raising four children. Now that her children are older, she has the time to cook in her very own taco truck.

"I was married like seven years ago," Morales said with a slight laugh. After her divorce the timing just felt right, so she opened Raquel's.

Occasionally, her children help out in the truck. Her daughter beamed with pride for Morales as she got her picture taken for the story.

Morales said business in Keizer has been good and she said it is a better location than where she was before.

Raquel's Catering is the red truck parked outside of Chemawa Deli & Market at 388 Chemawa Road N.

### EN ESPAÑOL

Un nuevo camión unió el creciedo camión de comida el escenario en Keizer. Raquel's Catering ofrecerán una variedad de comida de mexicano, incluyendo, por supuesto, tacos, lo que lo convierte en el camión de tacos residente.

La propietaria, Raquel Morales, ha estado operativa el camión para nueve meses, aunque el camión ha sido un sueño la de ella durante mucho tiempo.

"Cuando era más joven, diría, 'Yo quiero cocinar en me propio lugar, me propio restaurante, me propio camión de tacos,'" Morales dijo.

Desafortunadamente, tiempo nunca permitido Morales para se dedicarse a un sueño la de ella puesto que ella estaba crianza cuatro niños.

"Yo fui casado hace siete años," Morales dijo con una risa pequeña. Después de su divorcio el tiempo parecía correcto, así abrió Raquel's.

Ocasionalmente, los niños ayudan en el camión. La niña de Morales radiante de orgullo para su mama como ella consiguió su foto tomada para la historia.

Morales dijo los negocios en Keizer ha estado bueno y ella dijo es a lo mejor ubicación.

Raquel's Catering es el camión rojo estacionó fuera de Chemawa Deli & Market en 388 Chemawa Road N.

Contact the reporter at [reporter@keizertimes.com](mailto:reporter@keizertimes.com)

Truck fulfills a lifelong dream for owner

# City eases load on HR

By ERIC A. HOWALD  
*Of the Keizertimes*

After a years-long wait, the city of Keizer is finally moving an item off its want list.

At a meeting of the Keizer City Council Monday, June 15, councilors voted to approve a contract with Springbrook Holding Company that includes supporting software for human resources staff.

Keizer's Human Resources Director Machell DePina told the Keizer Budget Advisory Committee of the need for additional support either through a new employee or a human resources information system (HRIS) more than two years ago, but it wasn't until City Finance Director Tim Wood was renegotiating a contract for managing electronic payments that an opening appeared in the clouds.

While the set-up cost for the new system was origi-

nally estimated to be \$15,000 for the HRIS system plus annual maintenance fees, Wood managed to get the initial cost down to \$7,680. The city plans absorb the costs through repurposing an existing server and through decreased technology costs during the past fiscal year.

DePina said the new HRIS programs will enhance what the city currently offers employees in several ways:

- Improved accuracy – Employee information can be entered once and then pulled from a master file when needed for other projects and needs. It also provides a direct link to payroll data ensuring departments are working from consistent and accurate data.

- Higher speed and efficiency – When processing transactions or pulling reports, human resources employees can set them up to run auto-

matically rather than developing them by hand each time. It means more time for DePina and the other staff member to work on "the huge backlog of other things we cannot currently get to due to workload."

- Better access for employees – The combined updates to the payroll system and the addition of the HRIS will allow the city to provide employees better and more immediate access to their own pay and benefit data. They will even be able to run scenarios to see the impact of changing their tax exemption status.

"We anticipate implementing the HRIS will allow us to accomplish more with our very lean staff of two employees, continuing to put off the need to add additional staff to our department for another couple years," DePina said.



Hard work rewarded

Submitted  
The members of the Keizer Parks Foundation were honored as the Volunteers of the Quarter at the Keizer City Council meeting Monday, June 15. A sign honoring the group's numerous contributions to Keizer parks will be installed at The Big Toy in Keizer Rapids Park.



Come say hi at 5120 River Rd. N, Keizer, OR 97303 today.  
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