

New copy shop finds niche near University

Ben Moebius
Oregon Daily Emerald

The small copy shop that has moved in next to Blue Heron Bicycles on East 13th Avenue does not intend to fill the large shoes of the Kinko's Copies store that left months ago.

"We hope to provide convenient, easy copy services for students," said Stephanie Talbott, the only full-time employee of Copies Too! "We really don't have the space to handle the kind of high-tech stuff that Kinko's did," she said pointing to the narrow interior of the store.

According to Talbott, the owners of the shop hope the location, right next to campus, will make it a popular place for students and professors to get transparencies, bindings, resumes and copies.

The shop opened Feb. 16, later than planned because of the unexpected snowfall, Talbott said.

Copies Too! houses seven self service copy machines, one full service copy machine and fax services. "The fax is one of our more popular items," Talbott said. "We have very competitive international rates."

Business started out slow, but has picked up in the few weeks the shop has been open, Talbott said. "We are set back from the sidewalk," she said, "so it is easy for people to miss us. We rely on word-of-mouth exposure."

Talbott and the one other employee of the shop, University student Javier Cervantes, have put up neon pink signs to try to draw people's attention. "We are having a real wooden sign made. It should be here soon," she said.

Janette Johnson, a University student who has visited the copy shop a few times, said she likes "the convenient, no-hassle atmosphere of the place."

"I am usually in a hurry," she said, "so I like to get my copies quick and get out."

Talbott said the shop is focused on accommodating students like Johnson. "We want to try to keep it simple," she said. "We are open long hours so students can come in before or after classes."

Copies Too! is open Monday through Friday from 7:30 am to 8:00 pm. It is not open weekends yet. Talbott said the owners are trying to decide if there is a need for the shop to be open on weekends.

"We are going to have a questionnaire to ask people what services they want," she said. "We are open to expanding in whatever direction our customers want us to."

Talbott said she likes working in the University neighborhood. "This is a great people watching spot," she said. "It is very entertaining down here."



Stephanie Talbott, an employee of the newly opened Copies Too!, helps Lamece Baligh, a graduate sociology student.

University graduate creates twists in Superman series

Natasha Shepard
Oregon Daily Emerald

It's May 17, 1966, and something's not quite right in Smallville. A rocket shoots across the sky and lands in a cornfield. Two local residents, Jonathan and Martha Kent, pull over and look for the rocket, finding a baby boy inside.



ZABEL

In the original *Superman*, the Kents assume the baby they've found is an alien, sent from space with superpowers.

But in Bryce Zabel's version, the Kents, living during the space race, assume Clark is an experiment, launched into space by the Russians.

That's part of Zabel's tech-

nique: If you can't do it first, do it different.

Zabel, University graduate and original supervising producer of the ABC series *Lois and Clark: The New Adventures of Superman*, said in a Tuesday news conference he enjoyed being able to put new twists into the Superman legend.

"If you can't be unique, you've got to at least be different," Zabel said.

After graduating from the University, Zabel began his career in journalism as a reporter and anchor at KVAL-TV in 1976.

He returned to Eugene to speak to classes around campus about the television industry before he led an Oregon Film and Video Foundation workshop in Portland on Saturday.

He made national news when he was fired for being a "potential breach of security" after he became engaged to an anchor-

woman at a competing station.

Though he and the anchorwoman never married, he did say the experience forced him to look for other opportunities and taught him to move on.

"One thing I know from Hollywood writing is that you have to learn that things end," Zabel said. "Shows get canceled. Things clash."

In addition to *Lois and Clark*, Zabel's experiences have included writing scripts for other TV series, such as *LA Law*, *Equal Justice* and *Life Goes On*.

After leaving Eugene, Zabel worked briefly in Tucson. Then he became the *Cable News Network's* first news correspondent in the Los Angeles News Bureau when the news network went on the air in 1980.

As the "original CNN news correspondent," Zabel went from local reporting to covering the campaign trail.

"I got whiplash," Zabel said.

"I was used to local reporting. It was a big transition going from local news to going on the campaign trail."

After being executive producer on the Fox series *M.A.N.T.I.S.*, Zabel is working on a series about UFOs, *Dark Skies*.

In addition to his new project, Zabel wrote a 1993 Sci-Fi Channel movie *Official Denial*, also about UFOs.

Zabel said his journalism background helped him in writing dramas because he met "several thousands of people, most of them in crisis situations."

But unlike journalism, when a reporter usually can't help the people in need, a screenwriter can resolve the problem, he said.

"In journalism, you write about people but usually can't fix their problems," Zabel said. "But when you write dramas, you can give people a terrible problem and then fix it. It's sort

of a God complex."

Another of Zabel's "Top 10 List" of things he's learned about writing in Hollywood is "rip off your own life [but make it sound better]."

For instance, an episode of the Canadian series *E.N.G.*, involves a cameraman who is captured by robbers while looking for a story, a plot based loosely based on Zabel's real life.

Other similarities in Zabel's life and his characters include the fact Superman was found on May 17, Zabel's birthday. The main character in *M.A.N.T.I.S.* was also "coincidentally" born on May 17.

Zabel tied his news reporting background in to writing *Lois and Clark*, where the plot sometimes revolves around various emergencies in the newsroom.

"Your writing is better the closer you are to the original source," Zabel said. "It's going to be better the closer you are to the experience."

Russian choir sing classical songs about culture

Trista Noel
Oregon Daily Emerald

With a shared interest in Russian culture, a diverse group of vocalists comes together to learn folk and classical Russian songs as they participate in the Russian Choir.

The Russian Choir is made up of University students and members of the community, the youngest member of the group is 18 and the oldest is 82.

Irina Wilborn, a native of Moscow, uses enthusiasm and energy to encourage the choir members to sing even the most awkward Russian phrases beautifully.

Interest in singing Russian songs is limited, but Wilborn knows where to look. She recruits members for the choir by visiting University Russian language classes and various church choirs.

Mike Johnson, a University student studying music composition, is one of her recruits. Johnson's Russian teacher gave Wilborn his number. Johnson has been with the choir for about a month and occasionally plays his guitar as accompaniment to the choir.

Outside of the choir Johnson is the lead singer for The American Girls, a local band that he said plays "British indie pop."

Kristin Kjome is a University student doing her graduate work in education; she received her undergraduate degree in Russian at a Minnesota university. Kjome is interested in teaching Russian and was doing some practicum in a University

Russian class when Wilborn visited.

Kjome said she liked to sing and decided to give the Russian Choir a try. Kjome has been in the choir since fall term.

"I've seen a lot of turnover," Kjome said. "There were a lot of students last term that didn't come back this term."

Wilborn understands the time constraints many students face, though.

"Students take precious time from school to come," she said. "And I always think, 'Wow, they come.'"

Wilborn is a dedicated instructor, and the members of the choir have a lot of respect for her.

"Irina is a very good musician," choir member Tony Molder said. "She'll help you individually whenever you want."

Molder and his wife recently joined the choir. His wife has wanted him to sing for a long time. This being the first choir he has joined, Molder faces the challenge of learning both to read music and pronounce Russian.

The Russian Choir rehearses each Thursday from 7 to 9 p.m. at the University Street Christian Church. The choir breaks after an hour for orange slices, brie and bread, and tea and coffee. You won't catch Wilborn taking a break, though; she is always rehearsing with some part of the choir, be it the women, the basses or the entire group.

With each song, Wilborn focuses first on pronunciation and tempo. Then she

emphasizes the details of the songs, like a crescendo or a certain phrase. Pronunciation is important to Wilborn, but so is the story behind each song.

Although the vocalists slowly learn the meanings of the individual Russian words in the songs, questions about translations and certain word meanings do arise. Johnson asked what one word meant in a song they were working on.

Wilborn told them it meant "a special kind of grass. You understand?" she said with a grin and a wink.

Sometimes the difficult Russian words detract from the song's melody. Wilborn then has the choir hum their parts. The humming is enchanting; the choir understand the music. So Wilborn has them sing the words. The Russian mars the sound they had just achieved.

"You create a wonderful mood [with humming] and then . . ." she exaggerates their blunt singing. This causes laughter, but Wilborn has made her point. The choir sings again, and the beauty of the song returns.

The Russian Choir will be performing March 10 at 3:30 p.m. in Gerlinger Lounge. The choir will begin the concert by singing "Moscow Nights," a song perhaps known better to Americans as the theme song to the video game Tetris. Wilborn explained that "Moscow Nights" is a symbol of Soviet and American friendship.

"It's our flag song," she said.

STROKE

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years to get a drug on the market and from start to finish, up to \$300 million," Keana said. He said ACEA 1021 is three years into the process.

His research began with a phone call from Eckard Weber, then an Oregon Health and Sciences University professor, the two have been involved in researching an anti-stroke drug ever since.

Their research has prompted two experimental neuroprotective agents, both designed to prevent cell death through different processes.

Cerestat is a drug to stop the influx of calcium inside the neurons of the brain. Too much calcium in the brain can be detrimental.

ACEA 1021 is a drug to block glycine which prevents glutamate from opening too many channels in the brain which can also be harmful.

The two drugs will be in competition with one another if they both make it to the market. Keana said Cerestat has some side effects that ACEA 1021 does not have.

Currently, Cerestat is in phase two of human research, which includes testing patients in stroke centers across the country.