

THE COUNTRY STORE

By Erik Vidstrand
The Southwest Portland Post

Sunshine and Mustangs make Raleigh Hills Community Fair a success

The fourth annual Raleigh Hills Community Fair was held on Sept. 7 and according to the folks in the Raleigh Hills Business Association a grand time was had by all. Twenty-seven booth spaces and 13 classic Ford Mustangs were present.

Brian Jarrett and his 1967 Mustang Fastback took top honors with four ribbons starting with Best of Show.

“In all it was a really good fair without the rain we had last year,”

said Michael Chase, board member. “Over 700 raffle sales were made but we really did not keep count of the total number of visitors.”

Former Pagenwood building gets remodeled for two new businesses

The former Pagenwood building on Southwest Capitol Highway at 35th Avenue in Multnomah Village has been empty for years. But recently work has begun creating a place to get a haircut then get something to eat next door.

BMK Construction has shored up the back wall and is waiting for city permits for next steps as water and sewer lines are installed.

The upper lot where garbage bins are stored has been remodeled and will provide some off street parking.



Visitors admire the Mustangs at the Raleigh Hills Community Fair on Sept. 7. (Post photo by Erik Vidstrand)

Accuracy is important to Multnomah mystery writer April Henry

By KC Cowan
The Southwest Portland Post

April Henry said that when she was a little girl in southern Oregon, she wanted to be a writer when she grew up. However, she also didn’t think it was possible that someone from Medford could ever be a “real author.”

As an adult, she composed informational medical pieces, ad copy and press releases. But the dream to be an author never left her.

“And then in my thirties, I read a book that was really bad, and *it* was published and I thought, well, I could write a book that bad!” Henry said. “So I started writing.”

Henry completed her first book and set about finding an agent. She got rejection after rejection.



April Henry holds *The Body in the Woods*, her latest book for young adult readers. (Post photo by KC Cowan)

She wrote a second book and tried again, eventually approaching an agent she read about in a magazine. The agent loved her book and signed Henry as her client.

Unfortunately, no publishing house bought Henry’s book. So she wrote another one. It also didn’t sell. But in 1997, her fourth book, titled “Circles of Confusion,” sold in three days.

Henry was off and running and has published 17 books since. On Feb. 1, 2008 she was able to quit her day job and has been making a living as an author ever since.

She doesn’t get huge advances, but as she puts it: “I’m doing OK. I’m doing pretty good!”

Henry writes mysteries and thrillers for adults and young adults. In a mystery, the identity of the bad guy is kept hidden from the reader and “red herrings” abound.

However, in a thriller, Henry said both she and the reader know who did it, so the plotting is different.

“With thrillers, you just have to keep throwing bad things at (the hero) and you know they’re going to be all right at the end. So you just keep going.”

If you read Henry’s books, you’ll often notice references to Portland locations, restaurants and businesses. A Multnomah Village resident, she loves to sprinkle her books with local places.

In addition, accuracy is very important to her. Her favorite source of material is the Writers Police Academy, held annually on the grounds of a real police academy in North Carolina.

“It’s like a summer camp for mystery writers. It was started by a retired cop, (who was) tired of mystery writers making mistakes in their books. Getting police procedure wrong, getting all sorts of things wrong,” she said.

“And a lot of the lectures are hands-on. For example, presumptive blood testing. They might have a class where you are given something with red on it and then you’re given the equipment and then you test it.”

“And you can see, ‘Oh! It smells like vinegar when you snap this little vial.’ Details that you would never get even if you looked at a catalogue showing that equipment.”

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On the west side of the building will be **Bishops Barbershop**. Celebrating almost 14 years, Bishops began in Seattle and has grown to 13 locations including Seattle, and Bend, Ore. Most are in Portland.

While there are several hair salons and barbershops in the immediate area, Bishops draws a different clientele according to several stylists in the village.

“It is competition for sure, but competition is healthy,” said Tamara Marshall of Fusion Cut and Color.

“We have just celebrated 11 years in Multnomah Village,” Marshall said, “and we have been best eco-friendly and organic hair salon five

years in a row.”

A representative of BMK Construction said Bishops should be open by the end of November.

Next door, **Tastebud**, which creates wood-fired baked goods, will be opening east of Bishops in the same building. Many folks were fortunate to get a sample of their food during Multnomah Days, but they sold out early.

Tastebud began as a sustainable farm, but after building a brick oven, found their niche in cooking bagels and pizzas. They have a variety of food carts around Portland and are at the Hillsdale Farmers Market year round. They are expected to open their doors in February.

Fall Sale

Thurs, Oct 2
thru
Sun, Oct 5

20% off
sweaters, jackets,
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sale hours:
th - 10 - 8
f - 10 - 6
s - 10 - 6
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