

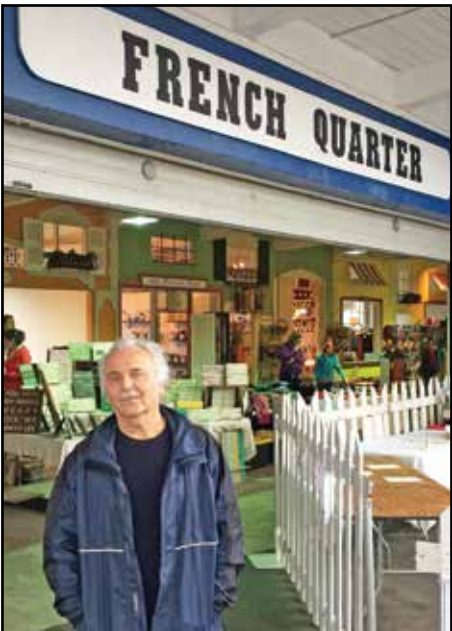
THE COUNTRY STORE

By Erik Vidstrand
The Southwest Portland Post

French Quarter boutique
mall opens in Multnomah
Village

Laissez les bon temps rouler. (Let the good times roll.) A new boutique mall is getting up and running in Multnomah Village.

Located at 3530 SW Multnomah Blvd, the French Quarter, so named



Yves Le Meitour is property owner of the new French Quarter boutique mall in Multnomah Village. (Post photo by Erik Vidstrand)

after the famous boutique district in New Orleans, is the creative design of a father-daughter business team.

Yves Le Meitour, owner of the **Le Meitour Gallery**, and his daughter, Sara Le Meitour, the manager of the property, have grand plans for the former home of Keith’s Automotive.

For two weekends in February, the Le Meitours kicked off the French Quarter by organizing a winter bazaar full of retail and food vendors.

“Our expectations were fully met,” Yves shared. “All of the vendors were very happy and broke sales records.”

Renner’s Grill had a beer garden set up; a pizza food cart set up shop; and permanent and one-time vendors displayed their wares everything from jewelry and hats, to a kid’s arts and crafts area.

The building resembles a small street in New Orleans complete with French street signs, balconies, shutters, and geraniums.

“This is just the beginning,” Sara said showing off plans for the **Interstate Pizza Company**, a wood-oven pizza, which plans to open in May.

“They will be the anchor to the quarter,” her father chimed in.

When asked about another wood-fired pizza place opening up the street about the same time, Yves grinned.

“Competition is healthy. I want people to meet, eat, and mingle,” Yves said, “just like the village market in France where I’m from.”

Other businesses to take up residency are **My Favorite Soap** which will feature handmade candles, lotions, laundry detergent, and of course soaps by owner Jean Marie.

Yusef, from Istanbul, Turkey, is selling

products from Turkey and Africa, things like tiled lanterns and plates under the name **Harmony Trade**.

Reverie Boutique sells jewelry, glasswork, and fused glass objects. Artist-owners, Jessica Lee and Matthew Rohrbaugh, said they are very excited to be in the French Quarter.

“So far, it’s been a very vocal and focal area to gather,” Rohrbaugh told *The Post*. “There’s a good buzz about the place. Where else can you gather like this in the main part of the village?”

Yves is downsizing his gallery up on Capitol Highway. He’s going to set up shop in a smaller space in the French Quarter and move out of the main one.

Yves’ sparkling blue eyes were full of passion as both he and Sara discussed other possibilities: live music, year-around outdoor seating, fashion shows, films, flea markets, and estate sales.

“**Parson’s Farm Stand** reopens in March which will complete the quarter,” Yves said. “Look for us on our Facebook page: Multnomah Village French Quarter.”

Bishops Barbershop opens in former Pagenwood building

The former Pagenwood building, in the heart of Multnomah Village, has a new life after being empty for years. Bishops Barbershop, known for inexpensive haircuts and a hip atmosphere, is now open for business.

Located at 7787 SW Capitol Hwy, Bishops is open 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. Monday through Saturday and 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. on Sunday.

Kitty Foote, the franchise owner, said



Stylist Liz Fleming and manager Bri Crofoot pose for a photo at Bishops Barbershop. (Post photo by Erik Vidstrand)

the village is perfect for a new Bishops location because it’s walkable and accessible for residents throughout area.

They own two other franchise locations: Raleigh Hills and Bend. There are 12 other Bishops locations in the metro area including Hawthorne, Alberta, and the Pearl.

Manager Bri Crofoot said the owners were trying to locate in the village for the last five years.

“The property manager actually contacted us,” Crofoot stated.

Bishops clients are taken on a walk-in only basis. A free bottle of a local brewed beer is offered to those who are 21 and older.

“We had a grand opening at the February First Friday,” Crofoot said. “We were warmly welcomed.”

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