

An “Extra”-ordinary Day for Julie Snyder (page two)

with Judy LaMée

The casting call sought “all types, sizes and shapes, all ethnicities, men, women and children, ages 0 to 70s.” Not only did they want Julie; they also wanted her silver Toyota RAV4 for one twelve-hour day in Sylva, the convincing stand-in for Ebbing. Julie says we’ll see her in the film, scheduled for release in 2017, “if my scene makes it past the cutting room floor. You’ll see me with my ‘husband’ walking down Main Street, across from the ‘Ebbing’ Police Station. It’s more likely that you’ll see my car - with a Missouri license plate – in the background for a physical altercation between the characters played by Woody Harrelson and Sam Rockwell.”

Among the day’s highlights, Julie “brushed shoulders” with Frances McDormand and observed Director Martin McDonagh confer with the actors. About acting, she notes, “I gained a new appreciation for film actors, as I concentrated on doing my scene the same way for ten takes. It wasn’t easy!”

Inspired to take Jim Norman’s OLLI summer course on Screenwriting, Julie notes “how much hard work and talent is required”. For her, “Being a film industry insider, even for one day, was worthwhile and fun!”

Julie Snyder, a retired U.S. diplomat in the field of international trade, spent most of her career in Asia and Europe. This fall, she will teach an OLLI course entitled, “The Transpacific Partnership: To Ratify or not to Ratify?”