

## Author Gehla S. Knight Releases Book that Offers Humorous Peek into Suburban Life in the 1950s

PORTLAND, OR (SEND2PRESS NEWSWIRE) – A new voice in northwest fiction, Gehla S. Knight, recently authored and released an insider's look at life in the suburban 1950's – "Heath Street Stories." The book is available in hardcover (ISBN: 1420896083) and paperback (ISBN: 1420896075).



**Send2Press® Newswire**

Picture

it – It's 1950, and the cookie-cutter houses in the slipstream of a paper mill promise new beginnings for the families moving to Heath Street. From the tragicomedy of Atom Bomb drills to the wonder of glitzy gadgetry, Dynaflo transmissions and automatic canasta-card shuffling machines, everything that makes "Made in America" the password to the future is reflected in the neighbors' prodigious faith in progress.

On Heath Street the seeds are sown for a generation caught between vanity and self-esteem, humility and confidence, duty and liberation.

"If you ever wondered what it was really like to experience a new decade when America was at its height, this is a book you should take to heart," Carl Spence, reader and reviewer said. "It's not hype; it's not boggy prose, or weepy sentimentality, and definitely not a typical coming-of-age myth. There are hilarious tales of zany neighbors and off-kilter romances, but the beauty of it is in the interesting, fresh voice that rings so true for those of us

who were there.”

“Heath Street Stories” is a fictional diversion for author Knight, whose genre has typically been crime and detective stories. Under pen name, Ray Bates, she has written the Detective John Bowers Police Procedurals for true crime junkies and mystery buffs.

“Writing quirky tales is a welcome diversion from the crime and mystery scene,” Knight said. “There are several others of parallel genre in the works.”

Knights’ work has been published by ACE BOOKS and has also appeared nationally in Phoenix Magazine and Redbook.

After reading Heath Street Stories, J.D. Staenger, English teacher and reviewer asked, “Was America ever so proud and naive about the realities of the world? The answer is a resounding ‘Yes!’” He adds that, “The heroine of the book encourages us to look at 1950’s suburban life in a unique, humorous and altogether entertaining way. Knight’s humor is like biting into a ripe peach – it just gets juicier and juicier; I loved the first-person voice.”

Not only is “Heath Street Stories” a book that will engage baby boomers, but it will also entertain readers of a younger generation who wish to understand what it was like for their parents when they were growing up.

“I laughed, giggled, cried and smiled all the way through this delightful book. There is a reminder of the red scare, and ‘I Love Lucy’ housewives and I came away from this book with a real appreciation of what my parents’ lives were really like,” said reader and reviewer, Vanessa Craft. “This book gave me a chance to share memories of a generation that helped make the country I live in today.”

“Heath Street Stories” can be purchased at most major book retailers, such as Barnes and Noble and Powells’ as well as online at [www.Amazon.com](http://www.Amazon.com) or on Knights’ Web site at [ww.booksbygehlaknight.com](http://ww.booksbygehlaknight.com)

Check Knight’s Web site for information about upcoming book signings and dates.

### **Book Summary:**

Title: “Heath Street Stories:  
A Look Back at 1950’s Innocence in Suburban America”

Author: Gehla S. Knight

Format: 368pp, 9” x 6”  
ISBN 1420896075 (Paperback). ISBN: 1420896083 (Hardcover)

For more information contact:  
Gehla S. Knight, 503-287-4419, [writerraybates@aol.com](mailto:writerraybates@aol.com).

News issued by: Gehla S. Knight

# # #

Original Story ID: (1227) :: 2006-01-0126-003

Original Keywords: Gehla S. Knight, Heath Street Stories: A Look Back at 1950's Innocence in Suburban America, ISBN 1420896075 Paperback, ISBN: 1420896083 Hardcover, engage baby boomers, J.D. Staenger, an insider's look at life in the suburban 1950's, Portland, oregon Gehla S. Knight