

## Plans for Meridian

# More programs, patrons stamp library's future

More books, longer hours, growing patronage and new community programs all are part of Meridian public library's current operation facelift, under the direction of librarian Grove Koger.

Several weeks ago, the library almost tripled the hours it is open to accomodate an ever-rising number of users. At the same time a children's story hour was instigated, and more plans are in the offing.

**The library's hours, now from 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. Monday and Friday, and from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, and Saturday, are an important step toward accomodating upcoming programs.**

First among them is a books-for-shut-ins program, which Koger says "We're just beginning work on now," and which should be operable within two months. The initial step will be a campaign to determine who would benefit from the program.

Next, volunteers will be assigned to disabled and elderly individuals. Their particular reading tastes will be examined and appropriate books chosen and delivered to them. Koger plans to pattern it after a successful Boise program, and admits "I try to utilize everybody else's experience whenever I can."

### Clubs planned

"We're also thinking about reading clubs for older children, but that's a little vague right now." Such a project would be largely recreational and would include field trips and group discussions. Koger expressed pleasure with the amount of volunteer help he has received, "And now I'm glad to have something for them to do."

Even an adult reading group is in the tentative plans, although no program has been outlined yet. When it is developed, it will be

intended to introduce readers to books they might not otherwise discover. Koger hopes to avoid the Great Books format many libraries use, and instead concentrate on slightly less "heavy" reading.

### Book count rises

The library's volume count continues to rise, and Koger said the 1976 book budget is higher than last year's, when more than 1,000 new titles were purchased. Exact figures are not yet available, since the library district's board of trustees has not yet approved a final budget.

That board, chaired by Dave McFadden, includes Jack Riddlemoser, June Black, Evelyn Olsen and Charline Denny. It has open meetings the fourth Thursday of each month at 8 p.m. in the library.

The trustees are elected for staggered five-year terms, so that normally one member per year is up for reelection.

Some of the major allocations in the estimated \$50,000 budget (which will be comprised of property and sales taxes, grants from the Regional Library System in the form of matching funds, and Comprehensive Employment and Training Act monies), will be in the area of equipment as well as books.

### New shelves

A two to three year process of replacing the old wooden bookshelves with more durable, useful and aesthetically pleasing metal structures featuring adjustable shelves, will be started this year.

Perhaps more interesting to patrons, though, will be two more new offerings—an album collection and art prints—both of which will be available on free loan. About \$400 has been allocated for the records, which should enable Koger to select about 100 albums for the first year.

He plans to pick "as wide a range as is possible," which will include spoken-word albums (poetry and drama), childrens' records, classical and popular music. They probably will be available on a

two-week check out basis.

### Borrow a print

The art prints will range in subjects from Audubon bird pictures to the works of famous Impressionists to those of contemporary "masters." They will be mounted on a stiff backing, probably about 19 x 23 inches, and will be covered with a tough, clear plastic.

Koger expects to obtain about 20 for the first year, and they probably will be available on a one-month loan basis.

Yet another service offered by the library includes "talking books," designed particularly for those with poor eyesight but which may be used by anyone. "They're special records which hold a great deal of information, much more than a normal album," Koger explained, "and they require a special record-player; but both are supplied free of charge.

"It's all part of a general trend of more service to the public," he said of the varied plans, "and we're collecting books at a faster rate even than last year. The emphasis in book selection is on useability and practicality, with particular emphasis on strengthening our literature and history and social science."

### How-to books

Obtaining more manuals, guides and other books dealing with pragmatic subjects is a foremost objective, followed by additions to the children's and the popular adult fiction sections.

Anything the library does not have is readily obtainable from the state library, one of Idaho's three major universities, or if those sources fail, from as far away as the Northwest Regional Center at the University of Washington, Seattle.

Occasionally, an unusual request may take as long a month to fill, but even when Koger has to go out of state, the postage the patron must pay is minimal. Anything he can get within Idaho is free of charge.

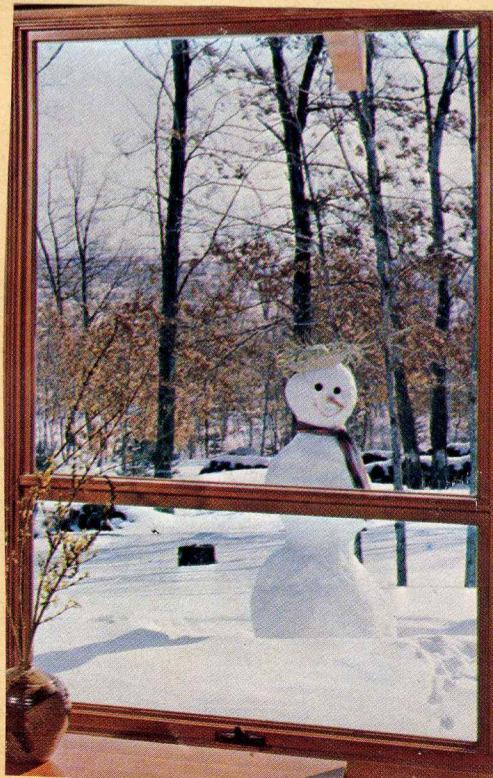
Periodicals at the library number about a dozen titles, all chosen with the dual guidelines of practicality and variety in mind. Thus, the National Review is the offering on the political right and Ramparts on the left. News, sports, a women's magazine, and gardening are some of the topics covered by the other periodicals.

### New hours

Two conditions expected to remain stable in the foreseeable future at the library are the hours, recently expanded to 54 a week, and the space itself, which Koger is intent on utilizing to its utmost.

As the library expands, it's Koger's job to see that the growth is well-directed. He stresses, though, that "I'm always really glad to have any suggestions from the public as to what we should buy."

He wants the quality of his selections to be good, but he also wants the new material to be, as nearly as is possible, the people's choice.



## Meridian public library announces new offerings

The following new books may be checked out at Meridian Library Friday, January 23:

**ABOUT US**, a novel of Chester Aaron about the events besetting a Jewish family in a depression-ridden town in Pennsylvania.

**THE TIME OF THE DRAGON**, by Dorothy Eden, a romance following three generations of a trading dynasty and their dealings in Peking.

**THE BERLIN STORIES**, Chris-

topher Isherwood's chronicle of Germany during Hitler's rise to power, including the story from which Cabaret was made.

**THE FIRE ENGINE THAT DISAPPEARED**, the story of a crime in contemporary Sweden, by Maj Sjowall and Per Wahloo.

**DORIS DAY**, her autobiography written with the help of A.E. Hotchner.

**INDIANS OF THE AMERICAN SOUTHWEST**, by Bertha Dutton, a description of native American cultures between the Pacific coast and the Rocky Mountains.

**HAIR CARE FOR IT AND KEEP IT**, a guide by Joan Kaszas to hair care for men and women of all ages.

**HOW TO TRACK AND FIND GAME**, Clyde Ormond's directions for tracking 39 major North American game animals.

**PLEASE, SAY PLEASE**, a commonsense guide to bringing up your child, by Elizabeth Post.

**THE DYING OF THE LIGHT**, by Arnold Rogow, a deeply disturbing look at America today.

**A WEST AFRICAN COOK BOOK**, a culinary introduction by Ellen Welson to an area of the world unknown to most American cooks.

**THE COMPLETE INDOOR GARDENER**, an extensive, detailed guide with hundreds of color photographs and diagrams.



## Jessie Bell passes at 86

Funeral services for Jessie M. Bell, 86, of 137 E. Pine, Meridian, who died Dec. 28 in a Walnut Creek Calif., hospital, were conducted Jan. 4 at the Robison-Jerread Chapel of the Chimes, Meridian, by the Rev. Don Ian Smith of the Hillview Methodist Church. Internment

followed in the Meridian Cemetery.

She was born Oct. 23, 1890, in Oakland, Iowa, where she attended schools. In 1910, she moved her family to Weiser. She married R.H. "Jack" Bell May 3, 1913, in Weiser. They lived in New Meadows for one year before moving to Meridian. He died in December 1969. She was a member of the Meridian United Methodist Church, charter member and past matron of the Meridian Chapter No. 66, Order of the Eastern Star, and a member of the Past Matrons Club, Occident Club, and Garden Club, all in Meridian.

Surviving are a son, Dr. Max Bell, Boise; a daughter, Mrs. Phyllis Contino, Meridian; a sister, Mrs. Grace Gray, Walnut Creek, Calif., seven grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren.

# FEBRUARY

## Occidents hear of bus service for seniors

A weekly bus service into Boise from Meridian for senior citizens was announced at Monday's meeting of the Meridian Occident Club.

The bus arrives every Friday at 9:15 a.m. in front of the Meridian post office. It returns at 3 p.m., leaving from in front of the Idaho Hotel, Tenth and Main streets, Boise.

Senior citizens wishing to use the transportation to do volunteer work at Boise or to shop are invited to do so.

### Party plans

Also announced at the meeting were plans for a Valentine party to be held next Monday, February 9, in the clubroom at 6:30 p.m. Husbands and guests are invited, and everyone is asked to bring a covered dish and table service. Entertainment, probably cards, will be provided.

The 28 club members on hand for the meeting heard views on the impact of the proposed Cherry Manor subdivision on Meridian farmland, sewer and water services, and schools. Speaking on behalf of the city planners were councilman Marvin Bodine and Don Roberts.

### Bowers move

Mr. and Mrs. Fred Bower moved this week from their home at 159A East Washington Street, to Rose Park, where they purchased a home.

## MERIDIAN SOCIAL

### Zeta chapter sets annual tea

The Zeta Chapter of Alpha Delta Kappa honorary teacher's sorority will hold a tea Feb. 5 honoring women teachers who have retired from the Meridian School District.

The tea will be held at the home of Natalie Watson, beginning at 1:30

p.m. The theme of the tea will be "Memories."

Hostesses will be Natalie Watson, Zola Clauson, Oma Jenkins, Leona Tucker, Beverly Fricke and Maureen McFadden.

### Eastern Star tabs president

The Meridian chapter of the Order of the Eastern Star elected Sandra Boice Bennett as its new president for the coming year during a regular meeting last week at the home of Dorothy McClure. Emma Bales served as co-hostess.

Other officers elected were Florence Long, vice president; Julie LaValle, treasurer, and Margaret Horton, secretary.

Guests present included Mrs.

### Ice Carnival

Mr. and Mrs. E.B. Jenkins, Edith Crockett, Blanche Chipman, Berneice Booth, Margaret Huntsinger, Amy Wheeler and Mr. and Mrs. Paul Baldwin attended the ice carnival at McCall last Saturday.

### Colorado traveler

Mrs. Goldie Simmerman has returned home from Denver, Colo., where she was a two-week guest of the William Blessing family.

### Host meeting

Mrs. Lee Egbert was hostess for the Pinchot Club last Friday. Bessie Matcham was a guest.

Mrs. June Howland and Mrs. Wanda Carlson of Homedale were Monday guests of Mrs. Marsh Holst of Meridian.

## Groundhog day gets welcome by Methodists

Meridian Methodist Church's Groundhog Day Feed will be held this Saturday, February 7, from 5 to 7:30 p.m. at the church.

The public is invited to attend the event, sponsored by the Meridian Methodist Men. Proceeds will go toward the activities of that group.

Featured on the menu will be pork, and the price will be \$2.50 per person.

Chairmen are George Judd, food; Melvin Lane, settings, decoration and waiting tables; George Stewart, clean-up.

### Watson service

Mrs. Rillous Yates, longtime friend of Mrs. Omega Watson, formerly of Meridian, received word last week of her death in Long Beach, Calif. When living in Meridian she operated a beauty shop. Her husband George was a milk hauler for the Meridian Creamery. They moved to Madera, Calif., in 1943.

### Grangeville guests

Mr. and Mrs. Stewart Manville of Grangeville were weekend guests of Mr. and Mrs. Damon Flack and Mr. and Mrs. Ed Simmerman of Boise.



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Statement

## Portrait of a Distinguished Citizen



### George Judd

As a teacher, postmaster, Scout leader, man of the year and in all of his endeavors, George Judd's main interest has been the fulfillment of the individual.

Born in 1909 to a pioneer family that settled on a 160-acre homestead south of Caldwell, Judd graduated from the College of Idaho in 1932 and took a job with the Caldwell News-Tribune and later the state highway system.

He then accepted a coach and science teacher position for two years at Midvale Rural High School, after which he married Margaret Williams of Firth and moved to Meridian as a math teacher for the Meridian Rural High School.

In 1939, Judd accepted a clerk position in the Meridian post office and was later promoted to assistant postmaster, a position he held until retirement.

His mind never strayed far from the blackboard, and he served 12 years on school boards for the rural high school, Independent School District No. 33 and the reorganized Ada County School District No. 2.

During the statewide school district reorganization program, Judd served as chairman of the Ada County school reorganization committee.

After his retirement from the postal service in 1969, Judd returned to his first love — teaching mathematics at Meridian Junior High, where he worked until he retired again in 1972.

During his work in the post office and Meridian School District, he served in many community activities. Judd was on the advisory council for the Meridian DeMolay Chapter for three years and a member of the Meridian Athletic Association that sponsors Meridian jalopy races to finance much of Meridian's youth athletic program.

He also spent 25 years teaching Sunday school at the United Methodist Church, serving on the church's board and conference board of missions, and representing it as a lay delegate at the church's annual conference. While his three sons were growing up, he helped with Boy Scout Troop No. 1 and served on the Mountain View Council Board.

Judd was named Meridian's Man of the Year for his outstanding community service in 1967.

"George was very much interested in his students," said Phil Peterson, now assistant superintendent for the Meridian District and Meridian Junior High vice principal while Judd taught there. "During free time slots, he taught boys how to tie flies and some even got good enough to sell them."

"The students respected him for his subject knowledge and enjoyed working with him because of his positive outlook. His postal service background enabled him to teach them the kind of attitudes they would need to get along in the working world."

# The Karchers



George Karcher Jr.



Marie Sandy

They planted their roots in 1886;  
Landmarks honor their name;  
And fond memories linger for . . .

By MIRIAM BARR  
*The Idaho Statesman*

NAMPA — Memories of a ranch home on sagebrush-dotted land contrast with 38 acres of concrete and asphalt for a sister and brother who were born and raised on what is now the site of Idaho's largest shopping center.

Many area residents have forgotten the houses and farm buildings that stood in the Karcher Junction area of Nampa before 15 years of development there. But Marie Sandy, 27 East Pine Avenue, Meridian, and George L. Karcher Jr., 1501 North Garden, Boise, remember their early years on the land that now is Karcher Mall.

Sandy and Karcher are children of the late George L. Karcher Sr., who homesteaded 160 acres in 1886. The mall now occupies the northwest corner of the homestead.

The family name was a familiar one years before the mall was built. A boarding and unloading stop for the old Interurban streetcar line between Boise and Caldwell was dubbed "Karcher" because

Sandy and Karcher traced the Karcher family to their great-great grandfather, Michael Karcher. He was born in 1692 in the Platinat province along the Rhine River in Germany. He and his wife and sons arrived in Philadelphia Sept. 20, 1738.

Sandy said the first "e" in the family name was dropped by their grandfather, Daniel Martin Karcher III. A cabinet maker, he operated a store of hand-carved furniture in Philadelphia.

Their father, who was born April 25, 1862, in Philadelphia, and his uncle, Josiah Brooks, a licensed river boat pilot, decided in 1885 to head West.

"They had plans to go to Seattle," Sandy said, but when they arrived in Nampa, "they were persuaded to stay."

She said their father and great uncle both filed claims to 160 acres of land the next year.

Sandy said their father and mother, Elizabeth McRobbie who was from Gouvernier, N.Y., were married April 28, 1892, in Nampa. The Karcher and McRobbie families had adjoining homesteads.

Their father worked for a surveying

it was at the intersection adjacent to their ranch. Later, the Karcher name was given to the road adjacent to the ranch, now a major route in Canyon County.

The brother and sister remember seeing the land cleared by the "grubbing" of sagebrush, which was used as fuel. Its removal opened the land to plantings of hay, grain, pasture and other crops.

Karcher helped deliver milk to customers when his father and grandfather, James A. McRobbie, operated the Midway Dairy from 1903 to 1905.

Sandy said her mother made butter when they were young, and on Saturdays the family would ride 3½ miles to Nampa to deliver butter and eggs to customers. If they had more produce than their regular customers wanted, they took it to a grocery store, she said.

With 160 acres to farm, Karcher said he and Sandy didn't have much free time. "We all had chores to do," he said. The children originally had horses, and later buggies, for transportation.

During those early days, dances at schools throughout the valley were a fa-

vorite diversion for young people.

The Karchers attended Midway grade school and Nampa High School.

Their first grade school was a one-room wood building. But as people began to move to the area, Sandy said, there was a need for a larger building. A concrete block school was built and used for about 50 years on the site of the present Midway school, until it was razed several years ago.

George and Marie are the only surviving members of the family. The oldest child, Kate, died in infancy, and Marie's three younger brothers, James, Willis and Maurice, died young.

The five Karcher children were the only youngsters in their immediate area for a few years, with the closest neighbors living a quarter mile away.

The family home stood about where a service station now stands, near the southeast corner, Karcher said. Their parents, George L. and Elizabeth J. Karcher, sold the farm and moved to Nampa in 1933.

In their family genealogy studies,

crew for the Phyllis Canal, which brought the first water from the Boise River in 1891. He also helped survey for the railroad spur line from Nampa to Boise, which was built in 1887, and was one of 20 passengers to make the inaugural trip on Sept. 5, 1887.

"Dad was always interested in politics," she said. He served on the school board and was a precinct committeeman for many years, she said.

Karcher has maintained a home in Boise since 1925, and has traveled to every state except Florida and Hawaii while working as a master mechanic for Morrison-Knudsen Co. He also has been in Canada and Mexico. Both he and his sister live alone. She is the widow of Herman L. Sandy.

Neither of their three brothers had children, but Karcher has two sons to continue the line: Kenneth, who lives in New York, and Lewis, in California. He also has a daughter, Dorothy, in California.

Sandy has two sons, James C., who lives in Boise, and Vern, in Fruitland.



Statesman Photos by Eric Robbins

**FIGARO LOOKS OVER BOOKS IN HIS LIBRARY HOME**  
... he likes Dr. Seuss and paper bags; runs away from sirens

## *Readers Figure on Figaro; The Cat is a Bookworm*

By DIANNE WHITACRE  
*The Idaho Statesman*

MERIDIAN — "I don't want any books today," said a recent young visitor at the Meridian Free Library. "I just came to see Figaro."

Figaro is a white and black polka-dotted cat which roams the stacks of the library, holding court with his two-footed admirers between the epics of Zane Grey and the adventures of Huck Finn. He is becoming one of the top attractions at the small library, stalking children as their parents browse or joining patrons as they select their books.

Dr. Seuss' Cat in the Hat is said to be his personal favorite.

The one-time tom adopted the library in September said library assistant Nancy Spear and the world of books hasn't been the same since. He can be as attentive as a spoiled, pesty cat out for another rub, or as aloof as Morris, favoring an occasional friend with a purr while cuffing any youngster who takes too many tail-pulling liberties with his body.

Many libraries have pets on display in their children's rooms — hamsters, gerbils, bunnies, chicks or snakes, but they are safe in glass terrariums or wire cages. In Meridian Figaro is bound by no cage or tether, only the swinging glass front doors where he will sit and brood if there are no library visitors to visit.

Meridian also has its gerbils, a caged pair which lives by the window under the watchful eyes of Librarian Eleanor Arndt, and Figaro. At night when Arndt and the other library workers go home, the gerbil cage is locked away in the men's restroom to avoid any nocturnal harassment by Figaro.

"He wants to show us what a good mouser he is — on the gerbils," said Spear.

Figaro is not only a favorite of the library patrons, but the library staff which tries to keep him happy. "We've had all his shots," said Spear, then laughing at what she had said: "We wanted to spare him the pain."

The feline comes on strong at a wiggling finger, but pulls his punches and his claws at the last minute only giving teasers a good scare. He loves paper bags, the kind people return their library books in, and hates sirens, the kind that screams from the city volunteer fire department a half-block away.

"One time he was outdoors when the siren went off and he ran away for two days," Spear said. The pet's reputation saved him that time when the person who found him recognized him as the library cat and brought Figaro home.

Spear says Figaro was named for the cat in Disney's version of Pinocchio. "We thought if he's a library cat, he should have a literary name," she said.

*Signed —  
Marguerite Patch*

# 75 years young

## Meridian celebrates its birthday

Bippy the Clown said afterwards that Meridian's 75th Birthday Party was the best he has ever been to in the 40-odd years he has been a professional clown.

Indeed it was one of the biggest celebrations the town has had in a long time.

It seemed as if everyone in town turned out to either watch or participate in the two-day affair.

A tricycle race, parade, greased pig contest, arts and crafts festival and historical display were all combined to make the party one of the most memorable in history.

A Cowboy Dress-up Day Friday kicked off the Diamond Jubilee, and a roving vigilante committee of local businessmen were kept busy "arresting" residents who had forgotten to dress up. They were held in a make-shift jail in front of United Federal Savings until they posted a \$5 fine.

A tricycle race planned later that day turned into a good-natured tricycle tug-of-war at times as the slightly inebriated teams held each other at bay, trying to prevent the other team from finishing the race.

While the rules called for the racers to ride the trikes around an S-shaped course, three of the teams decided to carry their trikes under the arm.

The Meridian Chamber of Commerce team decided to play by the rules, however, and Linda Mehas, Charles Younger, Bruce Arndt and Bill Eames picked up custom designed "horses' behind" trophy for their efforts. The teams from the Meridian City Council, Optimist's Club and Lion's Club were disqualified.

Afterwards, a number of spectators and participants wandered across Cherry Lane to a dunk-tank set up in the Keystone Pizza Parking lot to cool each other off. The baseball-toss game was also popular the next day as temperatures climbed into the high 90's both days.

The birthday parade took off from the Cherry Plaza parking lot at 10 the next morning, and it seemed like half the town was watching the other half march or ride floats or horses in the parade. And a whole bevy of local and state politicians had a field day handing out campaign stickers and

balloons, kissing babies and shaking hands.

Riding just behind the American Legion Honor Guard in an antique Ford was 94-year-old Clara Maw, who has lived in Meridian most of her life. Honored as a Distinguished Resident, she received an arm-load of flowers from Joe Glaysier, representing the 75th Anniversary Committee.

Six-year-old Melinda Rainey was the lucky winner of a Shetland Pony given away by Boise Cascade Saturday afternoon. She is the daughter of Dude and Phyllis Rainey of 1580 S. Meridian Road.

Just after City Councilman Richard Williams had drawn Rainey's name out of the hat, several hundred more Meridian kids got luck at the fish scramble, getting a 50 cent piece if they could grab a slippery rainbow trout.

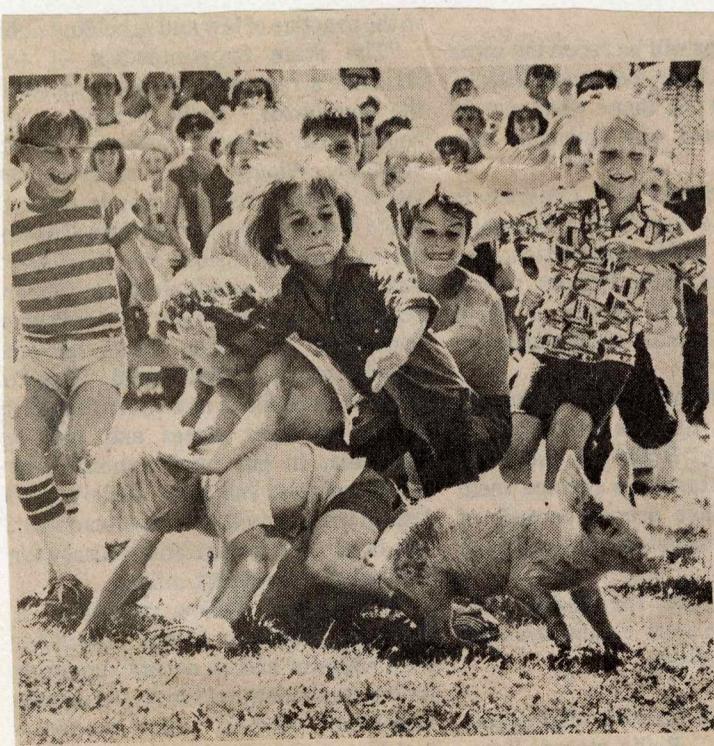
The fish scramble was held in the parking lot behind United First Federal. Chamber of Commerce members had flooded the parking lot earlier with about a foot of water and hundreds of trout were released in the make-shift lake for the youngsters age 7-12 to catch.

And for those kids who couldn't get their hands on a slippery fish, they got another chance an hour later at the greased pig contest, sponsored by the Meridian Kiwanis Club.

The contest had all the makings of a classic scramble, but after about the third time a horde of dozens of excited youngsters tried to catch the buttered-up baby pig by burying it under a pile of kids, the over-heated pigs called it quits and so did the Kiwanis. A number of lucky youngsters picked up \$5 prizes before the contest was called off.

And throughout the day, several art shows and side-walk sales were going on in different parking lots around town. Several cake walks were held and the Meridian Senior Citizens group sold pie and donuts all day long to raise money for its building fund.

And Bippy the Clown, who had marched in the parade and delighted youngsters sitting on curbs along E. 1st Street? He spent the next day floating down the Boise River on an inner tube "recuperating from that birthday party."



# A small town grows up

You may never have heard of Hunter, Idaho, but the small turn-of-the-century town played an important role in local history.

Back in 1880, the first families began to move into an area of central Idaho on the meridian line of the railroad that was later to become part of the Union Pacific Railroad lines.

Jacob Clemens and his family were first. Then came the Dave Regan, Marion Regan, Hercules Young, John Wilburn, Christian Zenger, Isaac Pfost, S.M. Burns, Frank Burns, G.W. Gess and Rossi families.

They called their new town Hunter after the superintendent of the branch railroad from Nampa to Boise.

The Wilburns built the first house and planted the first trees in the town. C.C. Lovely set up a blacksmith shop and Christian Zenger started a store and post office.

The settlement grew as new residents continued to flow into the area and a formal plat was drawn by D.T. Stevenson in 1892.

After the platting was finished, the townspeople threw some names into the hat and renamed their town Meridian in honor of its location on the meridian line.

By the time the town incorporated in 1903, about 25 businesses had opened their doors. There were three general stores, two lumber yards, a hardware store, two drug stores, a racket and grocery store, two hotels, two physicians, an attorney, a real estate broker, a restaurant, a confectioner, a blacksmith shop, two livery stables, two saloons, and the Bell and Independent Farmer's Telephone Exchange.

The first school in the vicinity of Meridian had been built on the L.B. Griffith farm in 1882 and served a large area. In 1895, a school was constructed in Meridian itself. Many area residents felt the four-room structure was too large for their needs, but by 1904 a second building was needed to accommodate the rising population.

Growth continued at a rapid pace in Meridian all through the twentieth century and isn't slowing now. Preliminary census figures indicate that the city's population is now close to 8,500 and increasing at a more rapid rate than any other city in central Idaho.

One result of the high rate of residential growth and a slower commercial and industrial development is the city's reputation as a "bedroom community" to Boise, where most Meridian residents are employed.

But Meridian officials expect to cast off that label in the near future. Business enterprises are already being actively sought in an effort to balance out the community.

"I would expect to see some type of major business locate in Meridian within the next few years," Mayor Joe Glaisyer said recently. "We've been annexing commercial and industrial land and limiting residential growth and pretty soon it should catch up with us. I think the work the council has done will be capitalized upon when the economy turns around."

"Hopefully that commercial and industrial development will warrant a greater proportion of Meridian's population being employed here versus Nampa or Boise," he said.

## Occident Club hears talk on garden flowers

The Occident Club met recently at the clubroom with Mrs. Cleo Frost being the main speaker on the program. She presented slides of flowers and vegetable plants grown in her own garden. She told the group about the new improved flower and vegetable plants of the new American Selection.

Frost also explained how to prepare and improve soil and make compost.

Present were five guests from the Daffodil Club, including Bridle Dalymple, Lillie Weast, Eloise King, Clara Hamming, and Leah Melvin. Each guest told how to raise a certain plant.

Scheduled for the May meeting of Occident Club is the election of new officers to serve for the next term of office.

## Occident Club feasts

Occident Club held their annual Christmas potluck dinner and party when they met at the Occident Clubroom.

The program consisted of singing Christmas Carols and readings. The group singing was under the direction of Lillian Peters and Berniece Booth with Minnie Anderson, accompanying. Program chairman was June Thomas.

There were 33 members present with two guests, Helen Rambo and Valerie Louderbough, who also became members of the club.

May 2 . 27  
Mrs Deane Ulmer  
Two .  
Invitation + dues for 29 + 30  
25  
Mrs W. J. Davidson  
See.

No. 14

Received of Deane Ulmer  
Two and no

| Amt of Account |  |  |
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May 7, 1979

Dollars

Dee June 79 thru June '80  
\$2.00 Florence E. Hall, Trees

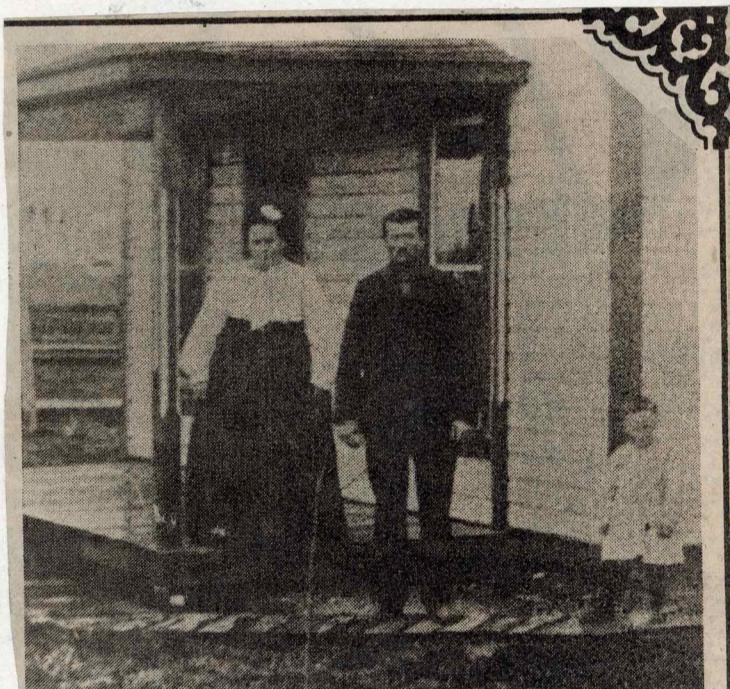


Meridian

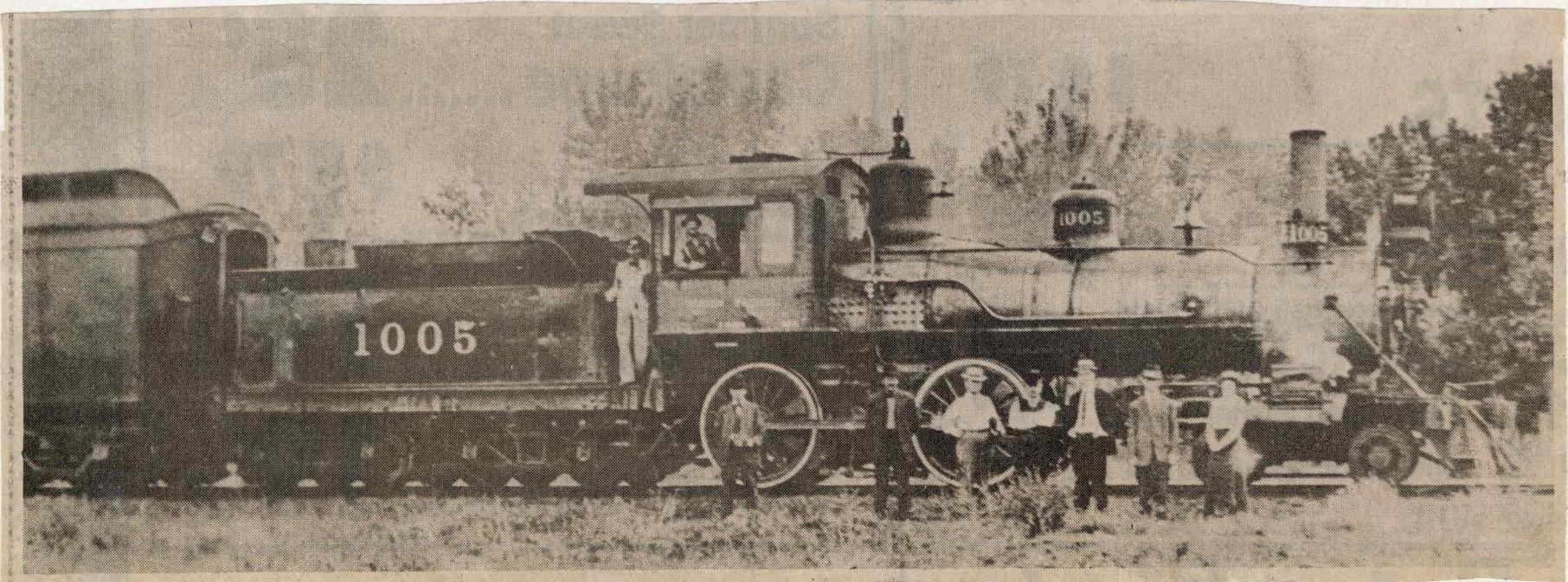
Storey and Librarian Nancy Sage cut the ribbon for the new library, 1971;



Exchange Bank, ca. 1907; teller's cage in the bank;



Amos Whitley and his parents at their homestead, ca. 1886;



the Oregon Shortline which served Meridian, ca. 1915; Mayor Don

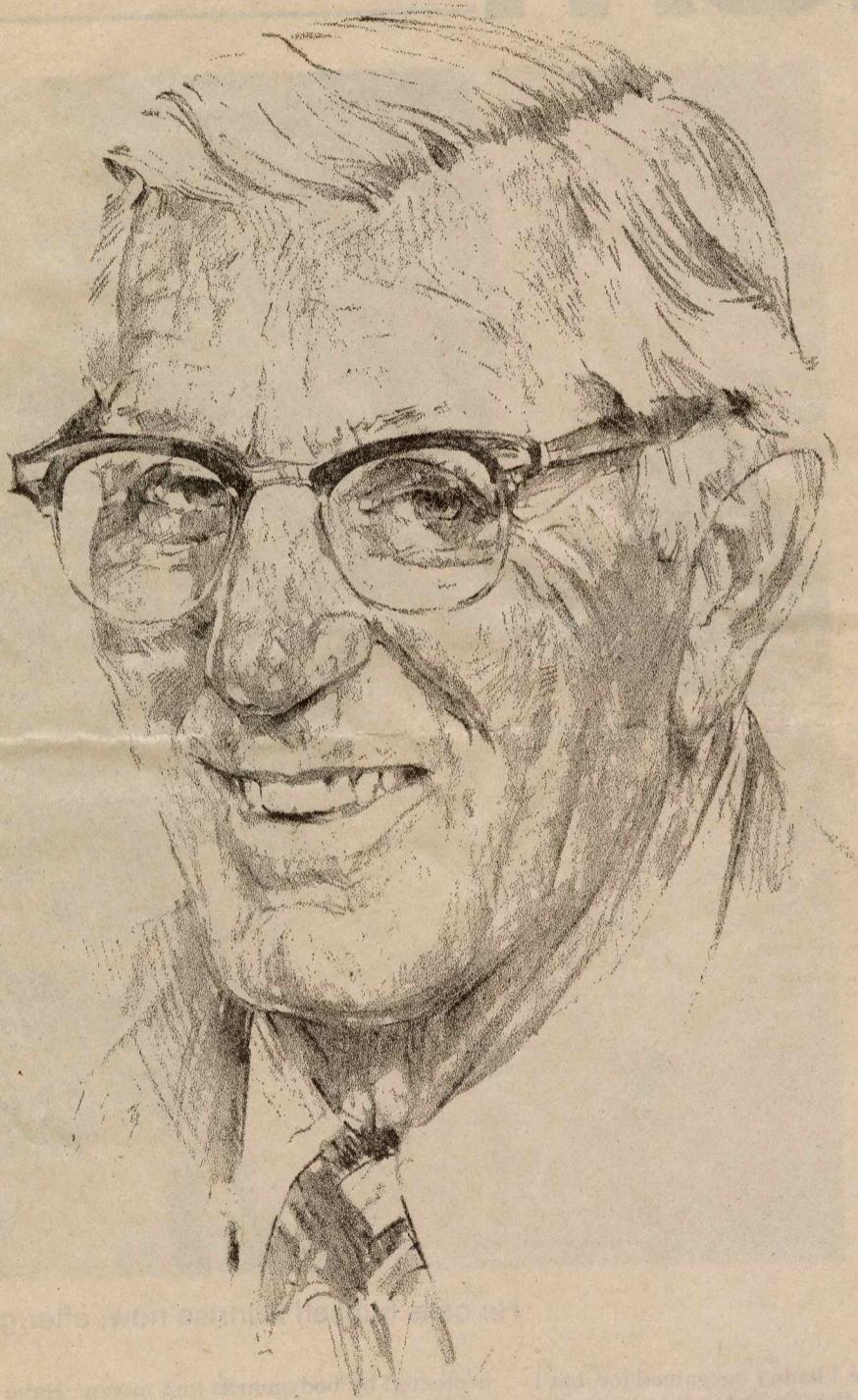


the Neal Drug Store,



June 17 1979

## Portrait of a Distinguished Citizen



**K.D. Hartwell**

K.D. Hartwell's name isn't a household word in the Treasure Valley. He is one of those people who quietly work to encourage academic excellence.

Hartwell was born in Salt Lake City, but his family moved to Idaho when he was 3 years old. He was reared in Burley, educated in Burley schools and graduated from Gooding College. To help with expenses, he worked as a part-time supervisor at the State School for the Deaf and Blind. He managed to participate in athletics and keep up with his job and studies as well.

Hartwell launched his career as a teacher at a school where teachers were able to devote generous amounts of time to each student. His early teaching days at Camas County High School in Fairfield helped shape him as an educator who has high regard for students of all ages.

In 1934, Hartwell moved to Meridian and accepted a job as a coach and teacher at Meridian High School. The young man from Burley spent 15 years with the Meridian School District as a high school teacher and 20 years as a junior high school principal.

When the district was consolidated in 1953, Hartwell was chosen to be principal of the new Eagle Junior High School, with responsibility for establishing a curriculum, activities, record-keeping system, faculty, etc.

He remained until 1961 and transferred to Meridian Junior High School, where he was principal until his retirement in 1972. He is a past president of the Meridian Teachers Association, a member of two committees of the Idaho Educational Association and a former member of the Mountain View Boy Scout Council. He also is a past president of the Meridian Lion's Club,

"The thing that stands out in my mind is that he is a gentleman's gentleman," said August Hein, superintendent of the Meridian School District.

"He is always concerned to the point of being courteous to everyone he comes in contact with. There is a sincerity about him that is unusual."

"I worked with him in Lion's Club as well as in education, and he always wanted to help out with community projects. He is willing to give of himself whenever called upon," Hein said.

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