

Rural Meridian Votes Approval For Library

Voters in the area surrounding Meridian Tuesday approved the Meridian Free Library District.

Of 108 persons voting, 61 voted "yes" and 47 voted "no." A simple majority was required for approval of the district.

Residents of the city of Meridian itself were not allowed to vote, since they already support a library. The new library district is expected to eventually merge with the city library.

A breakdown showed 23 yes and 14 no in Precinct One; 19 yes and 17 no in Precinct Two; and 19 yes and 16 no in Precinct Three.

MERIDIAN, IDAHO, THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 12, 1974

First directors

Commissioners name board for rural library district

The Ada County commissioners have appointed five persons as the first board of directors for the newly-organized Meridian Free Library District.

Chairman of the new board is Ralph Hunter, with Carl Rathgen as vice chairman, Pat Fabricius as secretary, Nancy Spear and Dave McFadden as board members.

Assignments for the directors will be decided at the second meeting of the board this Thursday, September 12, at 8 p.m. at the library.

Formed August 27

Formation of the new district was approved by area voters in an August 27 election. Tax revenue will not be received by the district until December of 1975.

The appointed directors will serve until a regular election is held next June. At that time, one director will be elected for a one-year term, one for two-years, one for three years, one for four years, and one for five years. An election of one director will then be held each year.

Assisting at the organizational meeting last Thursday were Mildred Langley, president of the Occident Club, Helen Miller, Idaho State librarian; Nancy Sage, Meridian public librarian.

The Occident Club will continue to operate the public library for residents of Meridian city, and has agreed to permit the operation of the new district library in the same

quarters, at a fee of only \$1 per year.

Federal help granted

With the help of Beverly Bean of the Ada Council of Governments, federal funding is being obtained to pay the salary of a district librarian and a clerk-typist. The new board members said that a highly qualified person is available as a librarian, as soon as the federal funding is approved.

All applicants for the positions of librarian and clerk-typist must register with the Idaho Department of Employment, who will then refer the applications to the board.

In a joint statement, directors said, "Since the district is completely new, we are proceeding carefully with the formation of plans.

"We certainly appreciate the tremendous help being given the new district by the Occident Club, and the professional guidance we are receiving from state librarian Helen Miller, and the fine help from Meridian librarian Nancy Sage."

MERIDIAN, IDAHO



County names directors for library district

NEW LIBRARY DISTRICT for rural area surrounding Meridian began organization last Thursday, with installation of board of directors. From left—installing officer John Bastida, chairman of the Ada County commissioners; Carl Rathgen, who was elected vice chairman; Mrs. Nancy (William H.) Spear; Ralph Hunter, elected chairman; Mrs. Pat (Martin H.) Fabricius, elected secretary; David McFadden. Attending the organizational meeting, were, Mrs. Mildred

Langley, president of Occident Club which leased library facilities to new district for just one dollar per year; Helen Miller, Idaho State librarian; and Nancy Sage, who has been Meridian librarian for years. Meridian public library will continue services for residents of Meridian city, with the district library in the same facilities serving the rural-area residents. Library district is comprised of same area as Meridian fire district, except for one small section already in the Kuna library district. (Photos by Alan Eckroat)

Bastida Swears In Rural Library Board

Board members of the newly formed Meridian Free Library District were sworn in by Ada County Commission Chairman John Bastida.

Mrs. Martin H. Fabricius, Mrs. William H. Spear, David McFadden, Carl Rathjen and Ralph Hunter will serve on the board until the district holds a formal election.

The district takes in rural Meridian areas outside the boundaries of the existing Meridian Library. Voters approved creation of the district Aug. 27.



New library district names librarian

GROVE KOGER, at right, has been named librarian for the new Meridian Free Library District. He is shown with David Leroy, at left, Ada County deputy prosecutor and Republican candidate for prosecutor, who is donating legal services to the new group. Librarian Koger holds a Master's Degree in librarianship from the University of Washington. A 1965 graduate of Meridian high school, he attended Boise State University, and

received his Bachelor of Arts degree from the College of Idaho. He has been in library work at the undergraduate library and the health-sciences library at the University of Washington, and at the junior-senior high school at Wilder. He assumed his new duties at the Meridian Library last Friday, with Nancy Sage continuing as the Meridian city librarian. (Valley News-Times photo)



Library district seats new director

MRS. EVELYN OLSEN, left, was installed Tuesday night as a new director for the Meridian Free Library District. She replaces Mrs. Nancy Spears, right, who has resigned from the board after accepting the position of assistant librarian for the district. Mrs. Olsen has been an active library worker, including work at the Southside school library last year, and as head of documents at the Utah State University, where she received her B.A. degree.

(Valley News-Times photo)

Library group adopts by-laws

Directors of the Meridian Free Library District met Tuesday night and adopted by-laws for the district. Under the by-laws, the board will meet at 8 p.m. the fourth Tuesday of each month at the Meridian library.

Installed as a new director was Mrs. Evelyn (Glen C.) Olsen of 4160 View Circle. She will fill the vacancy created by the resignation of board-member Nancy Spears, who has accepted the position of assistant librarian for the district.

Board member Carl Rathjen of Meridian has been named treasurer of the district, with head librarian Grove Koger as secretary.

Library adds new books for Book Week

The Meridian library will join the observance of Children's Book Week, November 11-17, with the addition of several new books, including juvenile titles, youth books, and an adult list.

New children's books are The House of Thirty Cats, Mary Calhoun; Where the Red Fern Grows, Wilson Rawls; The Borrowers, Afield, Mary Norton; Mtt, Bianca Bradbury; My Slippers Are Red, Charlotte Steiner; Especially Humphrey, Mina Lewiton; and many more.

Youth books

Added to the youth section of the library are Brian's Song, William Blim; The Space Gypsies, A.M. Lightner; The Hill of the Red Fox, Allan McLean; Child of Fire, Scott O'Dell; I am Third, Gale Sayers; and assorted paperbacks.

Adult section

New adult books include—I want it Now, Kingsley Amis; Nebula Award Stories Eight, Isaac Asimov; The Inside Story of Patricia Hearst and the SLA, Marilyn Baker; Impeachment, Charles L. Black, Jr.; The House in Paris, Elizabeth Bowen; The Wind From the Sun, Arthur C. Clarke; A Bevy of Beasts, Gerald Durrell; Fillets of Plaice, Gerald Durrell; The Mothers, Vardis Fisher.

The Property of a Gentleman, Catherine Gaskin; A Perry Mason Omnibus, Erle Stanley Gardner; The Honorary Consul, Graham Green; Cover-Up, Seymour M. Hersh; My Favorite in Suspense, Alfred Hitchcock; Tom Brown's Schooldays, Thomas Hughes; Idaho, Robert O. Beatty; Tinker, Tailor, Soldier, Spy, John LeCarre; The Left Hand of Darkness, Ursula K. LeGuin;

The Russian Revolution, Alan Moorehead; Ship of Fools, Katherine Anne Porter; The Image Men, J. B. Priestly; The Godforgotten, Gladys Schmitt; The Arnheiter Affair, Neil Sheehan; Maigret and the Informer, Georges Simenon; The Mammals, Time-Life, Meet Me in the Green Glen, Robert Penn Warren; The Optimist's Daughter, Eudora Welty; Maigret Sets A Trap, Georges Simenon.



1974

MERRY CHRISTMAS

Nancy Sage

Marie Sandy

Aron Kay

Marie Abblney

Nancy Spear

Opal Riddle

4261



MOUNT HEYBURN



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MERRY CHRISTMAS

Nancy Sage

Marie Sandy

Anne Kay

Marie Abblney

Nancy Spear

Opal Riddle

Additional services

Meridian librarians list new changes and additions

Meridian Public Library is making several new services available to its patrons. Librarians Nancy Sage and Grove Koger said that a number of large-print books have been borrowed from the Idaho State Library and will circulate on the same basis as the regular collection.

The library also has application forms for the Talking-Book Program, which is available free of charge to those who are legally blind or who have visual or other handicaps making it difficult for them to read ordinary printed material.

In addition the library has recently borrowed several small pieces of sculpture from Boise Public Library which may be checked out for two weeks. Should they prove popular, framed reproductions of paintings and more sculptural pieces will be offered.

New books added

The library has added a large number of books to its collection over the past several weeks. They include, in adult fiction—The Light of Day, Eric Ambler; A Personal Anthology, Jorge Luis Borges; Tremor of Intent, Anthony Burgess; The Go-Between, L.P. Hartley; Something Happened, Joseph Heller; The Spy Who Came in from the Cold, John LeCarre; The Lathe of Heaven, Ursula K. LeGuin; A Canticle for Leibowitz, Walter M.

Miller, Jr.

Adult non-fiction includes—The Freighter Travel Manual, Bradford Angier; The Age of Aquarius, William Braden; Europe Under 25, Eugene Fodor; The Crown of Mexico, Maximilian and His Empress Carlota, Joan Haslip; What Every Woman Should Know . . . About Her Car, Dorothy Jackson; Seekers of Tomorrow, Sam Moskowitz; Color Treasury of Mushroom & Toadstools, Uberto Tosco; The Pill on Trial, Paul Vaughan; West from Home, Letters of Laura Ingalls Wilder, Roger Lea MacBride.

Library hours are Monday, Wednesday, Friday and Saturday afternoons 2 to 6 P.M. and Monday and Friday evenings 7 to 9 P.M. Services are available on an equal basis to residents of Meridian and of the Meridian Free Library District.

Memo

From

STAN SHEPARD
Editor, Idaho Librarian
University of Idaho
Moscow, Idaho 83843

Mr Grove Koger
MERIDIAN Public Library
Meridian, Id. 83642

Dear Mr Koger

The April issue of the
Idaho Librarian features new
buildings, additions, etc. that
were developed the previous year.

I would like to have a brief
description of the new Meridian
Library, with a picture or two if
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I wish I could give you more
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by February 27th. Perhaps there
is someone else who might be
able to write this if you are pressed
for time.

As a matter of fact I was
uncertain as to whether to address
you or Nancy Sage, but someone
suggested you.

I would be obliged if something
could be done, and I apologize for
the short notice.

Sy.

SAKoppe



University of Idaho

Library

Moscow, Idaho/83843



Mr Grove Koger
Meridian Public Library
18 E. Idaho St.
Meridian, Id, 83642

Interesting reading

APR 4 '75

Meridian library lists new books added to shelves during past week

Grove Koger, Meridian librarian, has announced the titles of new books added to the library shelves.

The library is open from 2 until 6 p.m. Monday, Wednesday, Friday, and Saturday; and from 7 until 9 p.m. Monday and Wednesday.

"The Restlessness of Shanti Andia," by Pio Baroja, is a classic novel of adventure among Basque seamen.

"Midsummer Century," by James Blish, catapults its hero into the distant future to find man threatened with extinction by the birds.

"The Moneychangers," by Authur Hailey (author of Airport), examines a power struggle within a major American Bank.

"The Earl," by Cecilia Holland, is a highly acclaimed historical novel of twelfth-century England.

"Nethergate," by Norah Lofts, is a romantic novel set in England among aristocratic refugees from the Reign of Terror.

"The Day the Sun Died," by Dale Van Every, recreates in fictional terms the 1890 Indian massacre at Wounded Knee.

"Exclusive!" by Marilyn Baker, is the story of Patricia Hearst and the SLA, written by a newswoman who scooped both the FBI and the police.

"Bonsai, Saikei and Blnkei," by Robert Lee, explains in words and pictures the Japanese art of growing miniature trees.

"The Great American Ice Cream Book," by Paul Dickson, nostalgically examines one of our more flavorful institutions.

"Farm Journal's Freezing and Canning Cookbook" assembles over 1000 recipes for preserving and then cooking fruit, vegetables, meat and poultry.

"The Echo of Greece," by Edith Hamilton, offers an interpretation of Greece in the fourth century B.C.

"The CIA and the Cult of Intelligence," by Victor Marchetti and John D. Marks, charges that the agency has lost track of its original and proper mission.

"Meeting at Potsdam" is Charles

Mee's popular account of the conference at which Truman, Churchill, and Stalin met to establish a new balance of power.

"The Chicanos," by Matt S. Meier, is the story of a cultural minority who have lived within the present boundaries of the U.S. since before the English settled at Jamestown.

"Safety Last," by airplane pilot Brian Power-Waters, charges that air travel is much more dangerous than generally believed.

New books listed

Meridian public library observes National Library Week April 13-19

Meridian public library has joined the rest of the nation in celebrating National Library Week, April 13-19.

Stressing the theme "Libraries Have IT!", librarian Grove Koger pointed out that, despite its small size, the Meridian library has a lot to offer.

"Besides fiction and non-fiction for all ages, we have a regional library system. We also offer art prints and small pieces of sculpture from Boise public library that our patrons can check out, and we're receiving the local newspapers.

"We're adding to the collection all the time, and while we don't have every book our patrons ask for, we can borrow almost anything from larger libraries for a few pennies postage. Soon we'll be able to offer a dozen national magazines, not just for browsing but also for research. This summer there'll be a children's reading program, and by fall we should have a story-hour organized."

The latest service to patrons of the library is a phonograph. Patrons may listen to their own records or choose from a number on loan from Boise public library.

The library is open from 2 until 6 p.m. each Monday, Wednesday, Friday and Saturday; and from 7

until 9 p.m. Monday and Friday evenings. Free service is available not only to residents of Meridian, but to all those living within the Meridian Free Library District.

New books listed

Readers will find the following new books available for circulation this Friday, April 18:

The Loved and Envied, by Enid Bagnold (author of National Velvet) a comedy of manners set against the sophisticated background of post-war Paris.

After Leaving Mr. Mackenzie, a classic short novel by Jean Rhys about a lonely, friendless woman whose age has finally caught up with her.

Cemetery World, by Clifford Simak, set on an earth ravaged by war and reclaimed 10,000 years later as a gigantic cemetery.

The Massacre at Fall Creek, by Jessamyn West, based on a true incident: the murder of a peaceful band of Indians by five white men in 1824.

Today's Isms, a carefully considered but readable examination of modern political systems by William Ebenstein.

"Shadow on the Ice"

MAY 9 '75

Meridian library features new novel by local author Carl Henry Rathjen

"Shadow on the Ice", by Meridian author Carl Rathjen, is featured among the new books for children and young adults at the Meridian library.

Rathjen's novel follows a member of an ice-hockey team, the "Boise Battlers", as he attempts to clear his father's and his own name of charges of fixing games.

Librarian Grove Koger said that area children are invited to stop by and see the gerbils at the library.

New books listed

New books available for circulation this Friday include the following.

Lifeboat Number Two, Margaret Culkin Banning's story of a luxurious around-the-world cruise.

The Dispossessed, by Ursula LeGuin, a science fiction novel of the reconciliation of two politically and philosophically dissimilar planets.

The Black Sheep, a collection of brief, ironic fables by the popular Latin American writer Augusto Monterroso.

Rosalind Passes, by Frank Swinerton, a picture of the comfortable, fashionable world of Georgian England.

Silk Screen Techniques, by J. I. Biegelesisen and Max Cohn, a step-by-step guide to one of the most versatile methods of making art prints.

The City of the Saints, explorer Richard F. Burton's account of his visit to Salt Lake City in 1860.

Birds, Beasts, and Relatives, by Gerald Durrell, the record of a marvelous childhood spent on the Greek island of Corfu.

The Good Housekeeping Complete Book of Cake Decorating, containing instructions for designing and decorating cakes for all occasions.

The Battle for Morningside Heights, Roger Kahn's description of the 1968 uprising at Columbia University and his explanation of why students rebel.

The ABC and XYZ of Bee Culture, by A.I. Root, a thorough reference work for the beekeeper covering

everything from afterswarming to zinc in honey.

Playing Cards, by Roger Tilley, a colorful history of the cards themselves and of the intricate designs they have taken.

Starting Right with Milk Goats, Helen Walsh's guide to raising, caring for and profiting from your own goats,

NOTICE OF TRUSTEES ELECTION MERIDIAN FREE LIBRARY DISTRICT

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the annual trustee election of the Meridian Free Library District, State of Idaho, will be held June 9, 1975, in said District, and the polls of said election shall be open between the hours of three o'clock p.m. and eight o'clock p.m. on said day. Polling places will be located as follows: Occident Club Rooms, 16 E. Idaho Avenue, Meridian, Idaho and Southside Grade School, 1050 E. Amity Road, Meridian, Idaho.

That at said election one trustee will be elected to serve for a term of one year; one for a term of two years; one for a term of three years; one for a term of four years; and one for a term of five years. The name, or names, of all candidates for election as trustees shall be placed on file at least six (6) days prior to said election, excluding the day of election, with the clerk of said District at Meridian Public Library, 18 E. Idaho Avenue, Meridian, Idaho. Each voter will be required to execute an oath of election attesting his qualification, and file said oath with the board of election at the time he casts his ballot. Said election will be by secret and separate ballot. Dated this 19th day of May, 1975.

Grove Koger, Clerk
Meridian Free Library District
May 22, 29; June 5, 1975

First election

Library district votes Monday for five trustees

Residents of the Meridian Free Library District will choose five trustees for the district in an election to be held next Monday, June 9.

The district includes rural areas outside the city of Meridian, covering approximately the same areas as the Meridian rural fire district.

Polls will be open from 3 until 8 p.m. next Monday at the Occident clubroom at Idaho and Meridian Streets in Meridian, and at the Southside grade school on Amity Road east of the Kuna highway.

Candidates named

Candidates will include Dave McFaddan for a one-year term, June Black for a two-year term, Marilyn Plant for a three-year term, Jack Riddlemoser for a four-year-term, and Evelyn Olsen for a five-year term.

Eligible to vote will be any qualified resident of the district, 18 years old or older. Advance registration is not required. Voters will sign an elector's oath at the time of voting. Write-in votes for any qualified resident of the district will be accepted.

Backgrounds listed

Dave McFaddan, principal of the Lake Hazel school, was one of the original trustees appointed for the district. Evelyn Olsen was also appointed to the district, and has been active in library work.

June Black is a new candidate for the board. A mother of three children in the Meridian district, she is married to Reed Black and lives at 4910 View Drive, Rt. 3, Meridian.

Marilyn Plant is head of the business-education department at Meridian high school. She and her husband, Morgan Plant, live at 1150 W. Overland.

Another new candidate is Meridian attorney Jack Riddlemoser. He and his family live on Locust Grove Road near Meridian.

District formed in 1974

The library district was formed by an election held last August 27.

Appointed as original members of the board by the Ada County commissioners were chairman Ralph Hunter, Carl Rathgen, Pat Fabricius, Nancy Spear, and Dave McFaddan.

Nancy Spear subsequently resigned from the board to accept the position of assistant librarian, and was replaced by Evelyn Olsen. Hunter, Rathgen, and Fabricius have announced that they will not be candidates in Monday's election.

Trained Librarian

Grove Koger is the librarian for the district. A 1965 graduate of Meridian high school, he attended Boise State University, received his Bachelor of Arts degree from the College of Idaho, and his Master's Degree in librarianship from the University of Washington.

The new library district is tax-supported, and has received federal funding during its first year of operation.

MERIDIAN, IDAHO, THURSDAY, JUNE 26, 1975



Library district installs new board of trustees

NEW BOARD OF TRUSTEES for the Meridian Free Library District was installed last Thursday, and the trustees elected three officers. From left, president Dave McFadden, vice president June Black, trustee Jack Riddlemoser, treasurer Evelyn Olsen, head

librarian and secretary Grove Koger. Installing officer was outgoing president Ralph Hunter. The new trustees were elected June 9, with the original board having been appointed by Ada County commissioners.

(Valley News-Times photo)

June 9 through 14

Library observes "fine-free" week, invites youth to join summer program

Meridian public library has announced that the week of June 9 through 14 will be "Fine-Free Week." Patrons who have overdue books and return them during the week will not have to pay any fines.

Librarian Grove Koger emphasized that the usual fine policy will be suspended for just that one week.

Grade school students, including those who have just completed the sixth grade, are invited to join the "Idaho Rodeo" summer reading program at the library. Participants are eligible to win rodeo stickers and certificates. The program closes August 16.

New books available

The following new books will be ready for circulation by Friday, June 6.

The Boat, the harrowing story of service aboard a German submarine during World War II by Lothar-Gunther Buchheim.

The Journey to the East, a short, mystical novel by the author of Steppenwolf, Hermann Hesse.

The Ashes of Smyrna, a sweeping novel by Richard Reinhardt of the Greco-Turkish War of 1919-22.

Silverspurs, an exciting western about the days when the only law was a man's conscience, by Charles Alden Seltzer.

Licit and Illicit Drugs, an exhaustive report by the Consumers Union

on the use and abuse of drugs, including caffeine, nicotine and alcohol.

Masonry Simplified, by J. Ralph Dalzell and Gilbert Townsend, a detailed guide to bricklaying and block and cement masonry.

Leathercraft, by Chris Groneman, a manual for the beginner in a fascinating hobby.

Approved Practices in Beef Cattle Production, by Elwood Juergenson, an outline of tried and true practices from breeding to butchering.

Journey, by Robert and Suzanne Massie, the saga of the Massie's long struggle against their son's hemophilia.

The Literary Life, by Robert Phelps and Peter Deane, a scrapbook-almanac of the anglo-American literary scene from 1900 to 1950.

Some Ancient Gentlemen, by Tyler Whittle, a picture of the venerable art of gardening as practiced in England.

Beginning June 27

Meridian library circulates new books on American life

The Meridian public library is making available books on American life, culture and history beginning this Friday, June 27, said librarian Grove Koger.

Regular hours of operation at the library are from 2 to 6 p.m. on Mondays, Wednesdays, Fridays and Saturdays; and from 7 to 9 p.m. on Mondays and Fridays.

The Meridian public library is making available books on American life, culture and history beginning this Friday, June 27, said librarian Grove Koger.

Regular hours of operation at the library are from 2 to 6 p.m. on Mondays, Wednesdays, Fridays and Saturdays, and from 7 to 9 p.m. on Mondays and Fridays.

New books going into circulation include:

U.S.A., by John Dos Passos, a trilogy of novels following the lives of a number of Americans in the earlier part of this century.

American Painting 1900-1970, a richly illustrated history of the most fertile period of American painting.

Great Westerner, by Bernice Blackwelder, a biography of Kit Carson.

Canal Days in America, by Harry Drago, the picture of a simpler and slower way of life.

Idaho featured

The Idaho Heritage, edited by Richard Etulain and Bert Marley, a collection of essays on the history of Idaho.

Armies of the American Revolution, by Ian Hogg and John Batchelor, a portrait in word and picture of the men involved and the

weapons they fought with.

The Boys of Summer, by Roger Kahn, a chronicle of the glorious days of Brooklyn Dodgers.

Trouping, by Philip Lewis, a re-creation of how the American roadshow came to town.

Death Valley studied

The Shadow of the Arrow, by Dr. Margaret Long, a study of Death Valley.

Popular Prints of the Americas, by A. Hyatt Mayor, a colorful collection of advertisements, posters, cartoons, dime novel covers and similar examples of Americana.

Flowers at the White House, by Ruth Montgomery, a tour of the White House based on the flower arrangements that have graced its various rooms.

The Traveling Man, by Truman Moore, the story of the American traveling salesman.

Navies of the American Revolution, by Antony Preston, David Lyon and John Batchelor, a study of the ships that fought and the men who sailed them.

They're Playing Our Song, by Max Wilk, the history of American popular music from Jerome Kern to Stephen Sondheim.

Council sets election

Meridian residents ballot Aug. 26 on library merger

Meeting Monday night, the Meridian city council set Tuesday, August 26, as the date for a special election to decide whether the city shall merge with the Meridian Free Library District.

The district was formed by an election held last August. The city was not eligible to be a part of the charter group because the Meridian library was tax-supported.

State law, however, permits the merger following formation of the district.

No further city tax

If voters approve the merger, no further city taxes will be imposed for library operation. Instead, city residents will pay the same district tax as other residents of the library district—which includes all the adjoining rural areas.

Formation of the library district last fall was spear-headed by the Occident Club of Meridian, which offered use of the library building in Meridian at a fee of only \$1 per year.

Since the election, there have been two libraries in operation in the same building—the Meridian city library and the district library.

Without the merger, the city would have to continue to levy taxes for library operation, or city residents would have to pay designated fees for use of the district library.

Professional library staff

Following the retirement of Mrs. Nancy Sage as city librarian this spring, both libraries have been operated by personnel of the library district. Their salaries, and various other library expenses, have been paid with federal funds.

Head librarian is Grove Koger, who holds a master's degree in librarianship, and who is assisted by Nancy Spear.

Members of the library district's board of trustees, elected June 9, are Dave McFaddan, president; June Black, vice president; Evelyn Olsen, treasurer; Jack Riddlemoser, trustee; and Grove Koger, secretary and head librarian. They are the first elected trustees of the district, the original board having been appointed by the Ada County commissioners.

High circulation rate

The library has one of the highest

rates of circulation per capita of any comparable library in the state. One of its important functions is providing research material for students of the Meridian school district.

Said a spokesman, "The library district was formed through the efforts of the Occident Club of Meridian, and approval of the merger by the citizens of Meridian seems assured. That will mean a low-cost, professionally-operated library service for all members of our community."

Valley News-Times, Meridian, Idaho July 24, 1975

New at the library

Latest selection includes music by pop singers, concert artists

A new selection of records and books is now available at Meridian District Public Library. Record selections include everything from concert music to pop tunes.

Record albums available include a collection by Pearl Bailey, Franz Liszt's piano concertos, G. B. Shaw broadcasts and the American Heritage's Historic Music of the Great West.

New books on the shelves beginning Friday, include:

Voice in an Empty House, Joan Aiken's recent novel about a lost boy in need of heart surgery and the desperate struggle to find him.

Blind Love, by Patrick Cauvin, the story of a love affair between a staid Parisian schoolteacher and a beautiful — and blind — young woman.

Maigret Loses his Temper, a detective novel built around the death of a night-club owner in Montmartre.

The Cat-nappers, a Jeeves and Bertie story by the late P. G. Wodehouse.

The Chinese Way, by Titus Chan, a selection of Chinese recipes from the successful television series.

Books about America

A Second Flowering, a reconsideration by Malcolm Cowley of the Lost Generation of American writers.

Daily Life in Colonial Perus, a portrait of one of the richest corners of the Spanish colonial empire.

The Lure of the Great West, Frank Getlein's detailed survey of the art of the American West.

Please Touch, a guided tour of the human potential movement, by Jane Howard.

The Good Life of Western Man, by William Marnell, an interpretation of what the good life has meant to the typical Western man of several historical periods.

Art, Affluence, and Alienation, Roy McMullen's assessment of the situation of the fine arts today.

The Assault on Privacy, by Arthur Miller, an indictment of the accum-

ulation of data on you and your neighbor by public and private agencies.

JUL 11 1975
New at the library

Suspense, intrigue, adventure await Meridian book patrons

Meridian public library patrons will have available to them 13 new books beginning Friday. Librarian Grove Koger said the books cover suspense, intrigue, adventure, and more.

New books in circulation include the following.

Devil to Pay, a sea adventure set in the last years of the 18th century, by noted naval historian C. Northcote Parkinson.

Stories to Stay Awake By, a collection of stories of murder and suspense, edited by Alfred Hitchcock.

Starship Troopers, Robert Heinlien's award-winning novel of professional soldiers of the future.

The Alexandria Quartet, Lawrence Durrell's famous series of novels about love and political intrigue in Egypt.

The Complete Home Owner's Guide, by John Doyle, instructions on making and then taking care of what will probably be the major investment of your life.

The Good Life . . . Or What's Left of It, by Phyllis and Fred Feldkamp, a survey of the pleasures of the senses that contribute to the enjoyment of life in France.

Perfume Through the Ages, Roy Genders' history of the use of scents and fragrances.

America's political prisoners

Political Prisoners in America, former Senator Charles Goodell's examination of the paradox of political suppression in a free society.

Man and His Symbols, a study of the rich field of dreams and symbolism, by one of the major figures of modern psychology.

Into the Lost World, by David Nott, the true story of an ascent into a primeval world at the bottom of a huge pit in Venezuela.

Fishing With McClane, a collection of the best writings of A.J. McClane, the world's foremost fisherman.

Casablanca, the script of the famous motion picture and the story surrounding its making, by screenwriter Howard Koch.

July 24, 1975 Valley News-Times, Meridian, Idaho

Grade schoolers participate Library finds kids enthusiastic about summer reading program

Maybe television has made some inroads into children's cultural habits, but that wouldn't be readily apparent at Meridian, thanks to a summer reading program at the district library.

Assistant librarian Nancy Spear, who is in charge of the program, said district library patrons have been encouraged to enroll their children, and they have responded admirably.

The first-year program has had 86 first through sixth graders sign-up, since the first week in June. The program concludes August 16.

50-book readers

Three library district grade schoolers read more than 50 books each, through last week. They are Keely Crofts, Robyn Fowler and Karin Nelson. Each earned a silver saddle sticker for her efforts, said Mrs. Spear.

Grade schoolers Patti Hughes and Jan Mitchell have earned silver buckle stickers for having read more than 40 books apiece, so far.

And Holly Hill, Kim Stevens, Velvet Burkovsky, and Jo Nell Strough have each read more than 30 books apiece.

Program beginning

The Idaho State library at Boise started the program, leaving reading rules and number-of-books-read awards up to individual libraries.

The Meridian library will recognize the accomplishments of every youngster reading at least six books in the program, following conclusion of the program.

New at the library Library brings history and more to life with new books on shelf

Meridian district librarian Grove Koger has announced that the latest selection of new books is now available for public use, including books on history, mystery, affluence, and adventure.

Patrons will find the following new books on the shelves at the Meridian public library this week:

Against the Fall of Night, by Michael Arnold, an historical novel chronicling the fall of Constantinople.

Circus, Alistair MacLean's latest thriller, concerned with the penetration of a fortified castle behind the Iron Curtain by a troupe of aerialists.

Far Tortuga, by Peter Matthiessen, the haunting story of a decrepit schooner, her crew, and their hunt for green turtles.

Spindrift, by Phyllis Whitney, a gothic novel following Christy Moreland's struggle to uncover the reason for her father's death.

Two Cheers for the Affluent Society, a witty defense of economic growth by Wilfred A. Beckerman.

Men and Dinosaurs, by Edwin Colbert, the story of the discovery and study of dinosaur fossils.

Entertaining Your Child, Lucille Hein's collection of suggestions for keeping the little darling occupied.

Total Fitness in 30 Minutes a Week, by Laurence Morehouse, a program for getting yourself into shape without really trying.

Choosing a Nursing Home, by Jean Nassau, a guide to assessing the quality, range and type of care offered.

A Concise History of Modern Sculpture, by Herbert Read, an

illustrated survey from Rodin to the non-objective masters of today.

Straw Work and Corn Dollies, by Lettice Sandford, an introduction to a newly-revived folk craft.

The Collected Poems of Robert Service, a generous sampling from the work of the vagabond poet.

AUG 29 '75
**Library lists
new book titles**

Librarian Grove Koger has announced the following titles of new books that will be available at the Meridian library beginning this Friday, August 29.

Dandelion Wine, a classic evocation of boyhood in the Middle West, by Ray Bradbury.

Shogun, by James Clavell, a panoramic novel of Japan in the 17th century by the author of Tai-Pan.

Vinegar Puss, S. J. Perelman's latest collection of humorous sketches.

The Locked Room, by Maj. Sjowall and Per Wahloo, a mystery featuring detective Martin Beck and the Stockholm police.

A Journey to the Center of the Earth, one of Jules Verne's best science fiction adventures.

Kites, a survey of their first 2500 years, by Clive Hart.

Prime Time, a guide to the pleasures and opportunities of the new middle age, by Bernice Hunt and Morton Hunt.

The Great Columbia Plain, by D. W. Meinig, an historical geography of one of the nation's richest farmlands from 1805 to 1910.

Woman's Work, a look at woman's life at home and the work she does there, by Ann Oakley.

Freud and his Followers, a study by Paul Roazen of the founder of psychoanalysis and the men and women who made up his entourage.

Modern Landscape Painting, a richly illustrated survey by Pier Carlo Santini.

Word People, by Nancy Sorel, an inquiry into the lives of those who have lent their names to the English language.

Trying Out the Dream, the record of a year in the life of an American family, by Paul Wilkes.

Activity doubles Meridian public library gains patrons, use, books and staff

Meridian librarian Grove Koger said library activity has been increasing ever since the Meridian public library moved into its new quarters in June, 1974.

In a little more than a year since the present facility opened its doors, said Koger, 900 new patrons have taken out cards, more than doubling the number of active readers.

Of the new patrons, half live within the library district and half within the city of Meridian. As a result, circulation has climbed averaging more than 3,500 items per month this summer.

Nearly 1,000 new books have been added during the past year, a number of them purchased with grant money secured by the district. Grant funds have also enabled the district to purchase several pieces of

furniture and equipment, and to subscribe to various periodicals.

New building

The new building, housing the Meridian public library, was the result of years of work by the Occident Club and librarian Nancy Sage. It was also made possible by numerous donations from groups and individuals.

Since last August, the Meridian Free Library District has shared the library facilities, with the Occident Club donating that use without charge.

Marie Sandy is the librarian for the city library, sponsored by the Occident Club. Grove Koger is librarian for the new library district, assisted by Nancy Spear.

WHAT? Election to merge City of Meridian with Meridian Free Library District

WHEN? Tuesday, August 26, noon until 8 p.m.

WHERE? Residents of Meridian: Meridian Fire Station, 716 Meridian Street
Residents of MFLD: Seven Mile Ballroom, Eagle Road and Highway 20
Southside Grade School, 1050 East Amity Road

WHO CAN VOTE? Meridian: 18 or older
Citizen of U.S.
Resided in Meridian not less than 3 months
Registered for election or voted in last general
municipal election
(Registration with Herald Cox, City Clerk)
(Those who have moved from precinct where they last
registered or voted must re-register.)

MFLD: 18 or older
Citizen of U.S.
Resident of MFLD
(Elector's oath will be sworn at polling place.)

WHY? When MFLD was created by election August 27, 1974, residents of Meridian could not legally vote. Therefore, MFLD surrounds Meridian but does not include it. Residents of Meridian have now raised petitions asking that Meridian become part of MFLD. MFLD residents have been allowed to use Meridian Public Library; grants to MFLD have allowed hiring of a professional librarian and a second clerk who have served residents of Meridian as well as those of MFLD. Merger will mean greater efficiency, less duplication of work, bookkeeping, etc. The two libraries have served the public as one unit. Merger will formalize the arrangement.

HOW? Merger takes place if majority in each election votes in favor.

WILL THE MERGER MEAN DOUBLE TAXATION? No! If the merger is successful, Meridian residents will pay taxes to MFLD; they will no longer pay library taxes to Meridian. In the past, residents of Meridian have paid about 2 mills to support the library; as city residents they could be taxed up to 5 mills; as residents of MFLD they are liable for no more than 3 mills. Maximum liability will have been reduced.

For immediate release

Meridian area electors will vote Tuesday, August 26, on a proposal to merge the City of Meridian with the Meridian Free Library District.

The Meridian city council and the district library board acted on petitions from Meridian residents requesting the merger. Law requires two separate elections, one within Meridian and one within the district, which follows the boundaries of the Western Ada Recreation District with the exception of territory within the Kuna School District. Polls will be open from noon until 8 p.m. in both elections. Residents of Meridian must be registered and may vote at the Meridian Fire Station, 716 Meridian Street; residents of the district will swear an elector's oath and must vote at Southside Grade School, 1050 East Amity Road, or the Seven Mile Ballroom, Eagle Road and Highway 20.

Librarian Grove Koger said that a majority in each election must approve the merger. If the merger is successful, Meridian residents will no longer pay a library levy through the city, but will pay taxes to the District on an equal basis with those already living within the district.

If the merger is approved, the two libraries would become one entity, with one governing body and one budget. Until now the district, which was formed by election a year ago, has been allowed the use of the Meridian Public Library, and residents of the district have been allowed the same privileges as Meridian residents.

Grove Koger, Librarian
Meridian Free Library District &
Meridian Public Library
18 East Idaho Avenue
Meridian, Idaho 83642
ph. # 888-4451

**VOTE YES ON
THE
LIBRARY MERGER**

AUG 26 12-8 PM

CITY: FIRE STATION

**DIST.: 7 MILE BALLROOM
SOUTHSIDE SCH.**

VOTE "YES" ON AUGUST 27 FOR THE LIBRARY

On Tuesday, August 27, residents of the Western Ada Recreation District will have the opportunity to vote for the establishment of a Meridian Library District.

The polling places will be: Occident Club Rooms, American Legion Hall, and Meridian Grade School. Hours for voting will be 12 noon to 8 p.m.

HISTORY OF THE LIBRARY. On July 17, 1924 members of the Meridian Occident Club started a small library in the Songer Drug Store. In 1925 the library was moved to City Hall. In 1929 the Club raised funds, incorporated, and purchased the old Interurban Depot to house the Club and the Library. By that date there were about 2,000 books, mostly donations.

After 20 years, the space was quite inadequate, and fund raising efforts brought enough money to add a 50 by 20 foot room on the East side of the Depot. The Library moved into that addition in 1951.

In the fall of 1968 the Library was again pinched for space, and steps were begun toward further expansion of the building. Like the struggle of 40 years before, and the similar effort in the late 1940's, many fund-raising ideas were used to reach the goal of 40% in local funds to match for \$17,879 in federal funds from the Library Services and Construction Act. Unforeseen problems delayed completion until a final push was made in April and May of 1974, with the new addition opened to the public on June 1, 1974.

The Occident Club has sponsored the Library for these 50 years of its existence. The Club members have provided a "Library Board", volunteer hours of service, and have donated funds for its operation. Early reports indicate \$40 to \$60 per year spent on books, and last year's report shows 192 books purchased, plus 250 from gifts. The Library is open four afternoons and two evenings each week.

In the new building use is increasing rapidly, with 3,882 books checked out in July and with 90 new borrowers added in that one month. 51 hours of volunteer service from Boy Scouts, other students, and Occident Club members helped librarians Nancy Sage and Marie Sandy keep up with the demands of the public. About half of the borrowers seem to live outside of the city limits of Meridian.

A LARGER AREA OF SUPPORT IS NEEDED, so that the Library can provide more new books, more hours of service, to the growing community of Western Ada County.

Idaho now has 30 Library Districts, formed in areas which vary from an entire County to such local units as a cemetery, irrigation, highway, or school district. It is proposed that the same area now included in the Western Ada Recreation District, with the exclusion of a small portion already within the Kuna Library District, be organized as a Library District. This area has an assessed valuation of about \$14,000,000 and thus could provide as much as \$14,000 annually on a one mill tax levy, for library service to the estimated 7,000 residents. The maximum levy allowed by law is three mills.

Petitions were filed with the Ada County Commissioners asking that an election be held on the question of the establishment of this Library District, and a hearing was held at the County Courthouse on July 16, followed by the setting of August 27 as the election date.

If the election is successful, the County Commissioners will appoint the first board of 5 Trustees, from residents of the District, and they will serve until the annual Trustee election next June. The Occident Club members have stated that they will lease their Library and its contents to the new District for a nominal \$1 so that there can be a quick transition from the Club Library status to the District Library.

The first tax levy by the new District cannot be made until September 1975, and the first monies received in January 1976. In the meantime, the Library will continue as best it can, with the help of the Occident Club, generous citizens and volunteers, and any contributions which the City or County may be able to make from such funds as Revenue Sharing.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, contact members of the Occident Club: Mrs. Mildred Langley, Pres., 888-2013; Mrs. Mary Alice White, Sec'y, 888-2233; Mrs. Leona Egbert, Library Committee chairman, 888-2188; Mrs. Marie Sandy, 888-2889; or Nancy Sage, Librarian, 888-2333.



Library merger election lies just ahead Tuesday, August 26

JUST A REMINDER is what Meridian librarian Grove Koger is posting outside the Meridian public library, reminding all city and library district residents that the library merger election will be held from noon to 8 p.m. Tuesday, August 26. Meridian residents

will vote at the city fire station, while district residents will vote at Southside grade school and Seven Mile ballroom at Eagle Road and Highway 20. The election is being held to resolve the question of the city merging with the library district.

(Valley News-Times Photo)

MERIDIAN, IDAHO, THURSDAY, AUGUST 21, 1975

Separate elections

Polls open noon Tuesday, August 26; voters to decide on library merger

Polls will be open from noon till 8 p.m. Tuesday, August 26, to allow residents of Meridian and the Meridian Free Library District to vote on the question of the city merging with the library district.

If the merger is approved, Meridian residents will no longer pay a city-tax for library. Costs will be shared equally by all residents of the district.

Meridian residents will vote at the City fire station, while library district residents will vote at Southside grade school and Seven Mile ballroom at Eagle Road and Highway 20.

at city hall from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. and 7 to 9 p.m. Thursday, Friday and Saturday.

Voter requirements

No pre-registration is required for library district residents. All that is required of them is to sign an oath that they are qualified electors at the time they cast their votes.

City residents who didn't vote in the 1973 city election (for mayor and city council members) must register before voting in the August 26 election. Meridian residents must also re-register if they have moved to a different precinct since voting in 1973.

Where to register

Meridian residents may register



NOTICE OF MERGER ELECTION
BETWEEN MERIDIAN FREE
LIBRARY DISTRICT AND THE
CITY OF MERIDIAN

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, That an election will be held on the 26th day of August, 1975, within the territory of the above-named District, at the polling places hereinafter named, by the qualified electors residing within said District, to vote upon the proposed merger of the City of Meridian with the Meridian Free Library District.

The polls at said election will be open between the hours of noon and eight p.m., and the places of holding said election will be as follows: Seven Mile Ballroom, Eagle Road and Highway 20; and Southside Grade School, 1050 East Amity Road.

Every person over the age of eighteen years, possessing the qualifications following shall be entitled to vote at said election: He shall be a citizen of the United States and shall reside in the County of Ada and said Meridian Free Library District of Ada County, Idaho. Each voter will be required to execute an oath of election attesting his qualification, and file said oath with the board of election at the time he casts his ballot. Said election will be by secret and separate ballot. Dated this 1st day of August, 1975.

Grove Koger, Clerk
Meridian Free Library District
August 7, 14, 21, 1975

August 14, 1975 Valley News-Times, Meridian, Idaho

Separate elections Meridian and library-district voters ballot August 26 on merger proposal

Residents of the city of Meridian and of the Meridian Free Library District will vote in separate elections Tuesday, August 26, on the question of the city merging with the library district.

Meridian residents will vote at the City fire station, and the library district residents will vote at the Southside grade school and the Seven Mile ballroom on Eagle Road and Highway 20.

Polls will be open from 12 noon until 8 p.m. Eligible to vote will be all qualified persons 18 years old or older.

Voter requirements

Any resident who did not vote in the 1973 city election (for mayor and city council members) must register before voting in the August 26 election. Meridian residents must also re-register if they have moved to a different precinct since voting in 1973.

No pre-registration is required for library district residents. They will sign an oath that they are qualified electors at the time they cast their votes.

Backed by Occident Club

The Meridian Free Library District was formed last fall through efforts of the Occident Club, which operates the Meridian library with the aid of city-tax funds.

Because the Meridian city library was tax-supported, state law did not permit the city to be a charter member of the library district—which includes approximately the same area as the Meridian rural fire

district, except for a small section which is in the Kuna library district.

The Occident Club has provided the new library district with free use of the Meridian library facilities and both libraries have been operating in the same quarters.

If the merger is approved in the August 26 elections, Meridian residents will no longer pay a city-tax for the library. Instead, costs of the district library will be shared equally by all residents of the district.

PAGE 14-B

THE IDAHO STATESMAN, Boise,

Meridian Slates Vote on Merger Of 2 Libraries

MERIDIAN — Residents of the Meridian area will vote Aug. 26 on merging the Meridian Public Library into the Meridian Free Library District, which serves the city's suburbs.

The district was formed a year ago. Its boundaries are those of the Meridian Fire District, with the exception of a small area served by the Kuna library system.

Library district residents now use the facilities of the city library, though they do not pay a 2-mill library tax assessed on city properties.

Grove Koger, librarian for both entities, said a majority vote in both the city and the district will be needed to merge them.

Should an enlarged district be formed, trustees will have until the second Monday in September to set a levy of up to 3 mills for both city and suburban properties, Koger said. However, if voters turn down the merger, district trustees may still levy up to 3 mills on district property, he said.

Interest apparently has not been high in the library district. It was formed in August, 1974, by a 61 to 47 vote after some 80 residents signed petitions calling for the election. In June, only 12 voters cast ballots to elect directors of the new district.

One district resident, who asked not to be identified,

charged the city advertised the Aug. 26 election a month before the merger petition was signed by the district library board.

But Clarence Planting, county clerk and auditor, said Meridian codes required publication of the election announcement 45 days in advance. And in an opinion for the city of Meridian, Prosecutor David LeRoy indicated the two elections could be combined for convenience.

The resident also objected to being asked to pay more taxes, when homeowners are already supporting through taxes various public libraries they have access to.

Koger said consolidation of the two systems would make things simpler. "Now we really have two separate entities, even though we use the same building."

The city library tax produces about \$7,000 annually, Koger said. His salary and that of a clerk are subsidized by \$1,400 a month in federal funds which run out Dec. 31.

Citizens over 18 who live in the present district may vote from 12 noon to 8 p.m. Aug. 26, at Seven Mile Ballroom and South Side Grade School, Koger said.

City residents may cast ballots during the same hours at the Meridian Fire Station, but they must be registered voters, LeRoy said in his written opinion.

Meridian area

Voters approve formation of valley library district

With an extremely light vote, residents of the rural areas surrounding Meridian approved formation of a new library district in Tuesday's election.

Only 108 ballots were cast in the election, with 61 voting "yes", and 47 "no". Only a simple majority was required for passage of the measure.

The area includes all of Meridian's fire district, except for the city of Meridian and a small area that is already in the Kuna library district.

Residents of the city of Meridian were not eligible to vote, because the city library is supported by tax funds. It is expected that the new district and the Meridian library will eventually merge.

Building-use donated

Members of the Occident Club, which owns the Meridian library building, have voted unanimously to provide use of the building to the new district at a nominal cost of only \$1 per year.

Last-minute opposition by a very small group of area residents failed to defeat the library-district proposal. The small group erroneously claimed that the area was already served by a county library. There is no Ada County library.

Valley News-Times, Meridian, Idaho August 28, 1975

Voters approve library merger

In very light balloting Tuesday, residents of Meridian and the adjoining area approved the merger of the Meridian Free Library District and the city of Meridian.

In the district, only 32 ballots were cast—29 in favor of the merger, 3 opposed.

In the city of Meridian, 100 residents voted—90 in favor to 10 opposed.

The merger completes the plan sponsored by the Occident Club, which for many years operated the Meridian public library with city-tax support. Both the city library and the district library have operated in the Meridian library facility since the district was formed last fall.

With the merger, there will be only the one library, supported by a tax levy for the entire district. No library tax will be levied by the city of Meridian next year.

District librarian Grove Koger said that the library board would meet Wednesday night to decide what tax levy would be set for the district. State law permits a maximum levy of three mills.



Meridian Public Library
 Idaho Rodeo
 Summer reading program
 August 8, 1975 Jethro's \$3.00 deposit

Hungry Onion 3.00 "
 A & W 3.00 "
 Little Hickory no deposit required

These drive-ins request a copy of the slip of paper entitling contestants to an ice cream cone. ✓
 Jethro's may be 25¢ the others are 20¢

1	Karin Nelson ✓ (mailed 8/20)	25	Francis Huston ✓
2	Robyn Fowler ✓	26	Janet Strough ✓
3	Keely Crofts ✓	27	Dorothy Groom ✓
4	Jo Nell Strough ✓	28	Wendy Anderson ✓
5	Patti Hughes ✓	29	Mike Hoffman ✓
6	Kim Stevens ✓	30	Jalene Todd ✓
7	Linda Spear ✓	31	Robert Strikwerda ✓
8	Michael Lorce ✓	32	Velvet Burkowsky ✓
9	Kiley Ruwe ✓	33	Stacy McClure ✓ (sister took kit)
10	Kendra Ruwe ✓	34	Thomas Boatright
11	Donelle Ruwe ✓	35	Mike Nelson ✓
12	Damara Jaeger ✓	36	Lena Bush ✓
13	Jan Mitchell ✓	37	Drenton Ruwe ✓
14	Kristine Roberts	38	Rick Leininger ✓
15	Leslie Brice ✓	39	Marcine Hill ✓
16	Laura Brice ✓	40	Kati Balderston
17	Cindy Coff ✓	41	Karen Balderston
18	Brenda Coff ✓	42	Holly Hill ✓
19	Jopli Fisher ✓	43	Maureen Hill ✓
20	Jan Fisher	44	Kim Mitchell
21	Shauna Garrett ✓	45	Mary Dent
22	Richard Garrett ✓	46	Christine Mundt ✓
23	Laura Hewett ✓	47	Michelle Larson ✓
24	Sam Papenfuss ✓		

MERIDIAN PUBLIC LIBRARY
 MERIDIAN, IDAHO

#0 Jane Doe
 1 ice cream cone
 Nancy Spear

SEP 18 '75

41



Book reading becomes summer pastime of Meridian youngsters

BOOK READERS EXTRAORDINAIRE, that would be Keely Croft, 8, left, and Robyn Fowler, 9. Both have already read more than 50 books apiece this summer, as part of the Meridian district library's summer reading program headed by assistant librarian Nancy Spear. The program began in June and will

end August 16, at which time individuals in the program will be rewarded for their efforts. Keely is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Terry Croft, 526 West Pine Street, and Robyn is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Ben Fowler, 406 East Broadway Avenue, all of Meridian. (Valley News-Times photo)

Reading program rewards youth for books read

August 21, 1975 Valley News-Times, Meridian, Idaho

Nearly 90 youngsters participated in the Idaho Rodeo summer reading program at the Meridian public library. It began in June and ended Saturday, August 16.

Top readers, reading more than 50 books, included Karin Nelson, Robyn Fowler, Kelly Crofts, JoNell Strough, Patti Hughes, Kim Stevens, Linda Spear, Michael Loree, Kiley, Kendra and Donelle Ruwe, Tamara Jaeger, and Jan Mitchell.

The district library board decided that all participants reading at least six books will receive a special prize, an ice cream cone available at three Meridian outlets with verification slip from the library. The offer is good until September 18.

Award winner

Also eligible for the ice cream cone awards in addition to the top book readers are Kristine Roberts, Leslie and Laura Brice, Cindy and Brenda Eoff, Jodi and Sam Fisher, Shawna and Richard Garrett, Laura Hewett, Sam Papenfuss, Frances Huston, Janet Strough, Terry Groom, Dena Anderson, Mike Hoffman, Jalene Todd.

Other eligible readers include Robert Strikwerda, Velvet Burkowsky, Stacey McClure, Thomas Boatright, Mike Nelson, Lena Bush, Trenton Ruwe, Rick Leininger, Marcine Hull, Kati and Karen Balderston, Holly and Maureen Hill, Kim Mitchell, Mary Dent, Christine Mundt, Michelle Larson.

SEP 12 '75

Meridian library offers new books

A list of new books that will be available for checking out at the Meridian library this Friday has been announced by librarian Grove Koger.

Humboldt's Gift, the highly acclaimed new novel by one of America's most eminent writers, Saul Bellow.

The Great Train Robbery, by Michael Crichton, a chronicle of crime and punishment in Victorian England.

Malevil, a science fiction novel by Robert Merle that begins on Easter 1977 with the end of the world.

Chaos and Night, by Henry de Montherlant, a psychological study of a Spanish exile and his return to his homeland.

Local Lives, a collection of poems about the Pennsylvania Dutch by Millen Brand.

I Never Danced at the White House, Art Buchwald's latest series of jabs at the Establishment and its representatives.

A Choice of Sundials, a leisurely look at time-honored timepieces, by Winthrop Dolan.

Understanding the Mentally Retarded Child, by Richard Koch, a survey of the latest theories and treatments.

Questions and Answers on Real Estate, the eighth edition of a classic and valuable work by Robert Semenov.

The Art of Being Beautiful at Any Age, Bedford Shelmire's medically-sound guide to skin care for all ages.

With Occident Club

SEP 19 '75

Community calendar invites groups to schedule coming events at library

Meridian Free Library and the Occident Club are maintaining a community calendar at the library. Any organization which has an event scheduled in the near future, is invited to come by the library and let other people know by putting it on the calendar.

Librarian Grove Koger is looking for volunteers for a storytelling program for children. Interested persons should contact him for further details. The extent of the program will depend on the interests of the volunteers.

The following new books may be checked out at the library Friday, September 26.

DOG YEARS, Gunter Grass's phantasmagoric novel of pre- and post-war Germany.

HEART OF GOLD, by Russell Greenan, a comedy about an aging miser who wants to take it all with him and a minister more than willing to help.

THE DEATH OF ATTILA, an historical novel dealing with the conflict of Hun, Goth and Roman, by Cecilia Holland.

THIEF HUNT, a western by William Turner centering on the theft of an ancient deerskin robe from the treasury of the Cherokee nation.

BEET SUGAR IN THE WEST, by Leonard Arrington, a history of the Utah-Idaho Sugar Company.

CONSUMER SURVIVAL KIT, by John Dorfman, a dollar-saving guide to what to look for and avoid in food, clothing, shelter and other goods and services.

THE TALLEST TOWER, by Joseph Harriss, the story of Gustave Eiffel and the Eiffel Tower.

THE COMPLETE BOOK OF CHEERLEADING, edited by L.R. Herkimer and Phyllis Hollander, a step-by-step, cheer-by-cheer, fully illustrated manual.

THE SECRET LIFE OF THE FOREST, Richard Ketchum's colorful look at the forest and the animals who make their home there.

SUCCESSFUL AGING, an optimistic, positive book addressed to the aged by a doctor, Olga Knopf, who is herself 85.

THE COMING COLLAPSE OF

THE POST OFFICE, Robert Myers' expose of what could become a national disaster.

INTRODUCING FURNITURE MAKING, by John Trussell, a simplified approach for the student or amateur.

Library groups take final step for merger

Representatives of Meridian, the Meridian public library, the Occident Club and the Meridian free library district met September 17 to complete the library merger approved by voters August 26.

The meeting saw the administration of the library pass to the board of the library district, which thanked the Occident Club for its long and dedicated support of the library.

The controlling district board is composed of these members: Dave McFaddan, Evelyn Olsen, Jack Riddlemoser, Charlene Denny and June Black.

Relinquishing their duties as a result of the merger were these Occident Club board members: Leona Egbert, Mary Alice White, Marie Wollney, Edith Crockett, Ethyl Pilkington, Marie Sandy.

Grove Koger is the district librarian, assisted by Nancy Spear.

The district was created by election a year ago, even though Meridian residents legally were not able to cast votes. However, the library district was invited to make its headquarters at the city library at 18 East Idaho Street and district residents were given borrowing privileges.

Residents of Meridian recently signed petitions asking to be taken into the district, so an election was held August 26 and it was decided by a wide margin of votes to merge the two libraries.

Doughnuts' IS movie for week

The featured movie for the regular Saturday morning story hour at the Meridian Free Library will be "Doughnuts," the story of Homer Price and his victory over an automatic doughnut machine that won't shut off.

The film is a live action presentation of the popular novel by Robert McClosky. Mrs. Laurianne Reinhart will serve as the hostess and story teller this week and all young people are invited to attend the program which is scheduled for 11 a.m.

Free library announces list of books

Topping the Meridian library's list of new books this week are Meridian writer Carl Rathjen's two novels based on The Waltons television series, **THE PUZZLE** and **THE TREASURES**.

Other new books include: **KNOCKDOWN**, a racing world mystery by Dick Francis.

LORD OF THE FAR ISLAND, by Victoria Holt, a gothic novel set on an island off the wild coast of Cornwall.

THE SURVIVORS, a story by Kristin Hunter about the alliance between a middle-aged, respectable black woman and a thirteen-year-old street kid.

THE GREEK TREASURE, Irving Stone's biographical novel of Henry Schliemann, who discovered the

ruins of Troy.

HUMPHREY BOGART, a biography of the legendary actor by Nathaniel Benchley.

THE CASE AGAINST COLLEGE, by Caroline Bird, an attack on the myth that every 18-to-22-year-old American should go to college.

FATU-HIVA, explorer Thor Heyerdahl's account of his year-long residence in the primitive Marquesas Islands.

THE POUND ERA, by Hugh Kenner, an exploration of the Idaho-born poet's impact on the 20th century.

THE FIRST CASUALTY, Phillip Knightley's critical examination of the role of the war correspondent.

LAROUSSE WORLD MYTHOLOGY, a sumptuously illustrated

survey from ancient Egypt to Oceania.

JEWELRY CRAFT FOR BEGINNERS, by Gloria Mosesson and Virginie Elbert, a manual covering a wide range of materials and techniques.

THE AFRICAN ADVENTURE, Timothy Severin's chronicle of 400 years of exploration in the Dangerous Continent.

OCT 10 '76

OCT 31 '76

Library lists Halloween books

Librarian Grove Koger has announced that the following new books are now available at the Meridian public library for Halloween reading pleasure.

THE BEST GHOST STORIES OF ALGERNON BLACKWOOD, a collection by a modern master of the supernatural.

THE REINCARNATION OF PETER PROUD, by Max Ehrlich, a terrifying fictional investigation of one man's previous existence.

THE ENCHANTERS, Romain Gary's romance of Venetian adventurers and magicians at the court of Catherine the Great of Russia.

THE GREAT VICTORIAN COLLECTION, a novel by Brian Moore about a young man who dreams to life an assemblage of Victorian artifacts.

A TREASURY OF MODERN MYSTERIES, a two-volume collection of novels and stories of crime and detection.

OWLS, by Tony Angell, an album of drawings of North America's winged nocturnal predators.

DRACULA, a biography by Radu Florescu and Raymond McNally of the bloodthirsty Romanian nobleman who inspired the famous vampire novel.

ENIGMAS AND ODDITIES, two classic collections of "unexplained facts" by Rupert Gould.

THE UFO CONTROVERSY IN AMERICAN, an examination by David Jacobs not of flying saucers themselves but of the furor their appearance has created.

THE CLASSIC FAIRY TALES, a collection by Iona and Peter Opie that includes the original colorful illustrations.

THE CURSE OF THE PHAROAHs, by Philipp Vandanberg, an investigation of the deaths that have followed the openings of Egyptian tombs.

Games Stories
Books
Movies Parties!

Games Stories
Books
Movies Parties!

Games Stories
Books
Movies Parties!

Games Stories
Books
Movies Parties!

Games Stories
Books
Movies Parties!

PRE-SCHOOL

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EVERY
SATURDAY

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FREE
LIBRARY

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Designs for Bookmarks

Free entertainment

NOV 14 '75

Library names 13 new books ready Friday for area readers

The following 13 new books may be checked out at Meridian free library this Friday, November 14.

RAGTIME, by E.L. Doctorow, a cornucopia of real and fictional characters from turn-of-century America.

THE FIFTH QUEEN, a trilogy by Ford Madox Ford about Henry the Eighth's fifth wife, Katharine Howard.

CONTRACT ON CHERRY STREET, by Philip Rosenburg, a novel about crime and a police inspector's extra-legal attempts to stop it.

THE MANDELBAUM GATE, a novel of contemporary Jerusalem by Muriel Spark.

PASSAGE TO ARARAT, the

record of Michael Arlen's search for Armenia and the Armenians.

READING WITH A SMILE, 90 games by Audrey Burie and Mary Heltshel to help you teach your child to read.

SELECTED POEMS by Eugenio Montale, winner of this year's Nobel Prize for Literature.

IDAHO'S PLACE IN THE SUN, a collection of historical sketches by local writer Helen Newell.

NO MAN'S LAND, the latest work by England's leading playwright, Harold Pinter.

HOW TO MAKE MEN'S CLOTHES, by Jane Rhinehart, an illustrated, step-by-step guide.

NO LEFT TURNS, an hilarious but somewhat jaundiced personal memoir of the FBI.

POWERS OF MIND, an investigation of brain potential by Adam Smith.

AFTER BABEL, a penetrating but readable study of language and translation by George Steiner.

Christie's latest

Library adds 12 books to reading inventory

New books at the Meridian library this week include:

CURTAIN, the last bow of Agatha Christie's detective Hercule Poirot, bound with his first adventure, *The mysterious affair at styles*.

THE EAGLE HAS LANDED, Jack Higgins' thriller about a desperate Nazi attempt to abduct Winston Churchill from an English seaside village.

THE MAN IN THE MOON, edited by Faith Pizor and T. Allan Comp, a collection of early lunar fantasies and adventures.

THE WHITE BUFFALO, Richard Sale's epic novel of the West pitting Wild Bill Hickok and Crazy Horse against a legendary but all too real beast.

TM, by Harold Bloomfield, a guide to overcoming stress and tension through Transcendental Meditation.

THE O'HARA CONCERN, Matthew Bruccoli's biography of one of America's most popular writers, John O'Hara.

FREEDOM AT MIDNIGHT, by Larry Collins and Dominique Lapierre, the story of India's tumultuous coming of age.

ARISTOCRAT IN BURLAP, by James Davis and Nikki Balch Stilwell, a history of the potato in Idaho.

AMONG THE ELEPHANTS, the result of a five-year study of the world's largest land animal, by Iain and Oria Douglas-Hamilton.

LONDON WAS YESTERDAY, 1934-1939, Janet Flanner's record of an elegant era and its end.

ANNA, by Dagfinn Gronoset, the story of a Norwegian woman's lifelong struggle against suffering and cruelty and her triumphant survival as a human being.

MODERN FURNITURE AND DECORATION, a collection of stunning color photographs edited by Robert Harling.

Gallico Yule tale

Library adds dozen books to shelves as of Friday

The following new books may be checked out at Meridian Free Library this Friday, December 19:

MIRACLE IN THE WILDERNESS, Paul Gallico's story of a Christmas in colonial America.

TRIPLE PURSUIT, three classics of suspense and intrigue by Graham Greene: *THIS GUN FOR HIRE*, *THE THIRD MAN*, and *OUR MAN IN HAVANNA*.

IN THE BEGINNING, by Chaim Potok, a novel of Jewish family life in the Bronx before WW II.

THE PROMETHEUS CRISIS, a fictional account of an accident in a nuclear reactor by Frank Robinson and Thomas Scortia.

DENISON'S ICE ROAD, a report by Edith Iglauer about the opening of an Arctic truck route.

DOCTOR, G. Timothy Johnson's detailed discussion of what you should know about health care before you become a patient.

FIELD GUIDE TO SNOW CRYSTALS, by Edward LaChapelle, an album of remarkable photographs for snow buffs.

AULD ACQUAINTANCE, the au-

tobiography of one of America's favorite music-makers, Guy Lombardo.

MY LIFE, Golda Meir's own account of a long and tumultuous career.

ALL ABOUT BEER, a light compendium by John Porter of facts, fancies and recipes.

HOMETOWN U.S.A., a photographic re-creation by Stephen Sears and American Heritage of life 75 years ago.

THE GULAG ARCHIPELAGO, volume two of Aleksandr Solzhenitsyn's expose of Soviet repression.

Meridian Free Library will kick off its new story-hour program with a Christmas party on Saturday, December 20, from 11 till 12 a.m. Parents are invited to join their pre-school children at the festivities, which will be held in the Occident clubrooms adjoining the library. There will be gifts, entertainment, refreshments and a surprise guest. Further information about the weekly story-hour will be available at the party.

December 25, 1975 Valley News-Times, Meridian, Idaho



Meridian library starts story-hour

The Meridian library will kick off its new story-hour program with a Christmas party this Saturday, December 20, from 11 to 12 noon.

Parents are invited to join their pre-school children at the festivities, which will be held in the Occident clubrooms next door to the library. There will be gifts, entertainment, refreshments and a surprise guest.

Stories and fun highlight Christmas party

CHRISTMAS PARTY sponsored by Meridian Library drew a roomful of pre-schoolers and early-year grade schoolers last Saturday at the Occident clubrooms. Chief volunteer Terri Irving reads the youngsters stories while volunteer Karen Neld seems as entranced as anyone. Later, the kids enjoyed refreshments

and a visit from Santa. It was the first of a weekly Story Hour series to be held at the clubrooms from 11 to 12 noon Saturdays. Films, puppet shows, music and other entertainment will be featured in coming weeks. Interested parents should call the library if they intend to bring children.

(Valley News-Times photo)

Notices of the story-hour Christmas party were sent to the
News Department of the following papers and Radio-TV stations

The Idaho Statesman
1200 N. Curtis
Boise, ID 83704

Valley News Times
714 E. 1st
Meridian, ID 83642

Free Press
316 10 Av S.
Nampa, ID 83651

KAID-TV
1910 College Blvd.
Boise, ID 83706

KBOI TELEVISION
1007 W. Jefferson
Boise, ID 83702

K I V I CHANNEL 6
1866 E. Chisholm Dr.
Nampa, ID 83651

K T V B CHANNEL 7
5407 Fariview Ave.
Boise, ID 83704

K B O I RADIO
1007 W. Jefferson
Boise, ID 83702

K B R J-AM
9400 Fairview Ave.
83702

KFXD RADIO STATION
455 W Amity Rd.
Meridian, ID 83642

K G E M BROADCASTING STATION
5601 Cassia
Boise, ID 83705

K I D O RADIO STATION
Owyhee Plaza
1109 Main
Boise, ID 83702

K S P D NEWS RADIO
800 W Bannock
Boise, ID 83702

K Y M E Broadcasters Inc.
8200 Preece Dr.
Boise, ID 83704

TO OUR LIBRARY PATRONS

BEST WISHES

FOR THE HOLIDAYS

AND HAPPINESS

THROUGHOUT

THE NEW YEAR



Meridian Free Library

*Maureen Koger
Nancy Spear
Marie Sandy*

Library lists change of hours

Meridian library has announced new hours, effective this week.

The library will be open to the public Monday and Friday from 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. and Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Saturday from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. The change almost triples the number of hours patrons can use the library.

The library's weekly story hour will be held again this Saturday at 11 a.m. Pre-schoolers and early elementary students are invited to take part.

Programs vary, but include films, story-telling, songs and crafts. The sessions last from 30 to 45 minutes.

Library stock grows by dozen

The following new books may be checked out at Meridian library this Friday, January 9.

THE MONKEY WRENCH GANG, by Edward Abbey, the story of a band of misfits who resist the encroachment of civilization in the canyonlands of Utah and Arizona.

WOOD MAGIC, by Richard Jefferies, a 19th century fantasy about a small boy growing up in the English countryside.

THE INVERTED WORLD, a science-fiction novel by Christopher Priest about an extraordinary city winching its way forward on tracks picked up and laid anew every day.

THE GATES OF HELL, Harrison Salisbury's novel following the life of a prominent Russian dissident forced into exile in the West.

AGAINST OUR WILL, Susan Brownmiller's best-selling study of men, women and rape.

SUPER HANDYMAN'S FIX AND FINISH FURNITURE GUIDE, by Al Carrell, a simple illustrated manual that takes you from repairing small scratches to creating your own furniture.

TEACH YOU CHILD TO MANAGE MONEY, by Catherine DeCamp, basic information for tots and teens as well as their parents.

WWII, a richly illustrated pictorial survey of the Second World War with a text by James Jones.

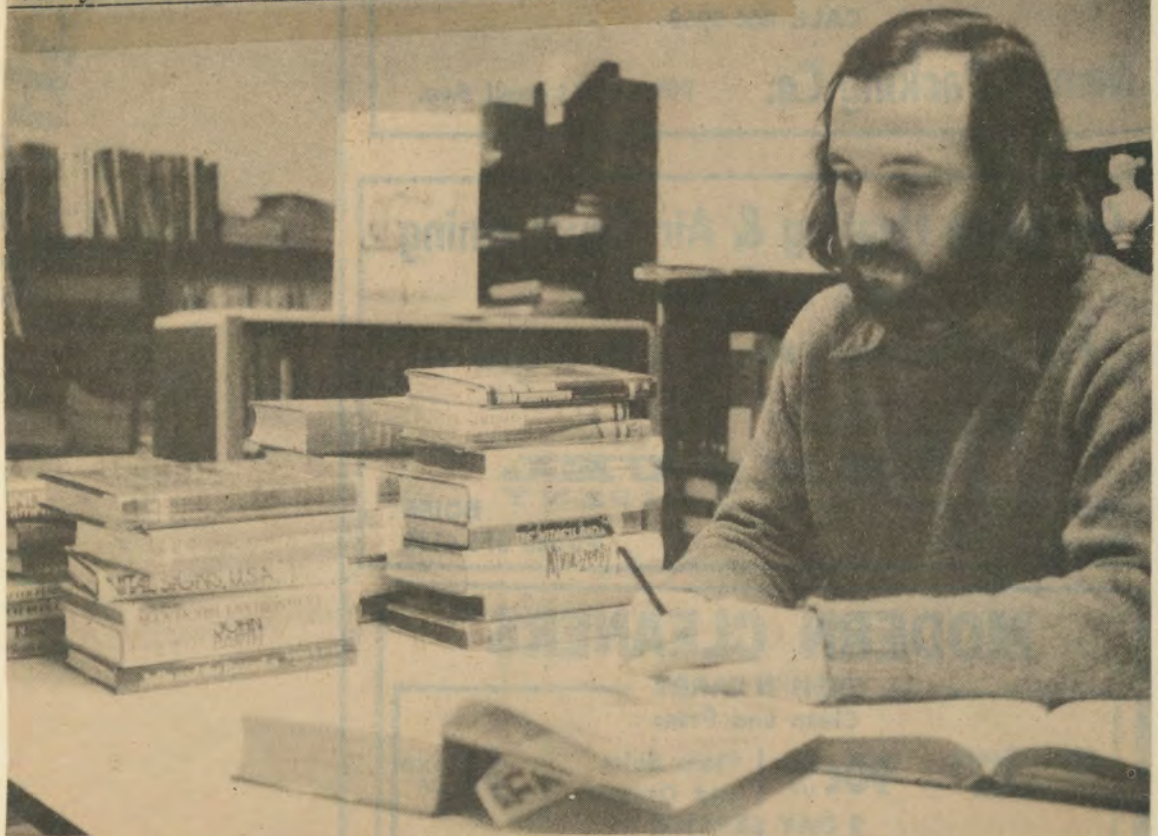
ON THE CATTLE RANCHES OF THE OREGON COUNTRY, by J. Orin Oliphant, a study of the Oregon cattle industry in the second half of the 19th century.

RELIGIONS OF AMERICA, a new guide to all our country's faiths, edited by Leo Rosten.

THE MYTH OF THE HYPERACTIVE CHILD, an expose by Peter Schrag and Diane Divoky of the new medical and social methods of child control.

THE FOREST KILLERS, Jack Shepherd's chronicle of the destruction of the American wilderness.

Valley News-Times, Meridian, Idaho January 15, 1976



Meridian library experiences year of rapid growth

INCOMING VOLUMES continue to expand the Meridian library's collection, and librarian Grove Koger, shown here cataloguing some of those arrivals, revealed that more than 1,000 new titles were purchased in

1975. The library currently lists 13,297 volumes, but patronage continues to grow, also. A total of 919 new cards were issued in 1975.

(Valley News-Times photo)



New clerk helps lighten workload at library

STRAIGHTENING THE BOOKS is a full-time job for two people nowadays at the Meridian Library. Nancy Spear, right, who has been working there for slightly more than a year, sorts through a card catalogue, while Debra Higgins, who was hired last December to

lighten the workload, helps a young patron find what she wants. The two women and librarian Grove Koger form the core of the library's staff. See library feature, Page 4. (Valley News-Times photo)

Dozen books

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.

Story-hour slates films, puppet show

Story-hour this Saturday at Meridian library will feature two movies and a puppet show.

Pre-school children, early elementary students and their parents are urged to attend the program, which begins at 11 a.m. and lasts 30 to 45 minutes. Interested parents may call the library for further information.

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 accommodate 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 accommodating 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 McFaddan, 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), children's 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.

Library lists more volumes for Meridian

The following new books may be checked out at Meridian library this Friday, February 13.

SAVING THE QUEEN, William Buckley's novel of espionage and the CIA of the 1950s.

HAMMETT, a mystery by Joe Gores featuring real-life detective and writer Dashiell Hammett.

THE FINAL FIRE, a firefighting novel from the author of Report from Engine Co. 82, Dennis Smith.

THE SUMMER BEFORE, by Patricia Windsor, a story for teenagers about death and its impact on the living.

U.S. WEST, the saga of Wells Fargo by Lucius Beebe and Charles Clegg.

WE ALMOST LOST DETROIT, John Fuller's true account of a near disaster in the Enrico Fermi atomic reactor.

ANGELS, a study by Billy Graham of supernatural forces working for good rather than evil.

THE RIGHT TO DIE, Dr. Milton Heifetz' plea for euthanasia.

MAN IN THE ENVIRONMENT, a calm, clear exposition of ecology by Ruth Moore.

SYLVIA PORTER'S MONEY Book, a guide to earning it, spending it, saving it and borrowing it.

THE WHALE, a brilliantly illustrated chronicle of whales and whaling.

NO CHINESE STRANGER, by Jade Snow Wong, a sequel to Fifth Chinese Daughter and a picture of contemporary Chinese-American life.

Meridian library lists new books available Friday

The following new books will be available at the Meridian library this Friday, March 12.

Free library cards are available to all residents of the Meridian Free Library District, which includes the city of Meridian.

Fabrications—Michael Ayerton, a collection of bizarre stories dealing with historical and imaginary anomalies.

One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest—Ken Kesey's novel about a mental hospital on which the popular movie is based.

Over on the Dry Side—a western by Louis L'Amour set on the slopes of the Rocky Mountains.

1876—Gore Vidal's sequel to Burr and a chronicle of one of our country's most scandalous elections.

Vanishing Wildlife of North America—A survey of endangered species by Thomas B. Allen.

Abingdon Bible Handbook—Edward Blair, a guide to the Bible, its history and meaning.

Money—An explanation by John Kenneth Galbraith of where it came from and where it has gone.

Mathematical Carnival—a collection of puzzles and teasers from Scientific American, edited by Martin Gardner.

How To Protect Yourself From Crime—by Ira Lipman, a compilation of everything you need to know to guard yourself, your home, your possessions and your business.

Bring on the Empty Horses—David Niven's account of the golden days of Hollywood.

The Peter Plan—Dr. Laurence Peter's proposal for transforming our obsolete system into a new civilization.

A Ford, Not a Lincoln—by Richard Reeves, an examination of the politics of the lowest common denominator.

Meridian library lists new books

The following new books are now available at the Meridian library.

Beyond the Looking Glass—a collection of Victorian fairy tales and fantasies edited by Jonathan Cott.

Salem's Lot, by Stephen King—a story of horror in a small New England town.

The Boys From Brazil—Ira Levin's novel about a bizarre attempt to revive Hitler's Reich.

The Cricket Cage—by R. H. Shimer, a mystery-thriller set in the Seattle of 1886.

The World of Twentieth Century Music—by David Ewen, a guide to 150 composers and over 1500 pieces of music.

The Complete Book of Rug Making—a collection of folk methods and ethnic designs by Cecilia Felcher.

On the Track of Murder—Barbara Gelb's description of a New York homicide commando squad.

The American Heritage History of the Congress of the U.S.—by Alvin Josephy, a colorfully illustrated volume for the Bicentennial year.

The Kitchen Sink Papers—Mike McGrady's story of his life as a househusband.

The Greatest—Muhammad Ali's own story of his life in the ring.

The Russians—by Hedrick Smith, a Pulitzer Prize-winning reporter's picture of life in the Soviet Union.

Children's hour features drama

Area pre-school and elementary age children are invited to Meridian library's story-hour this Saturday, March 13, which will feature a dramatization of "Three Billy Goats Gruff."

The program, beginning at 11 a.m. and lasting from 30 to 45 minutes, also will feature stories and puppets with which the children may play.

In coming weeks, the story-hour, which is organized and run entirely by volunteers, will feature visits from community representatives, such as firemen and policemen.

Volunteers who have helped with the weekly program include director Terri Irving, Clarice Wood, Allison White, Laura Thomason, Emily Case, Sue Nichols, Karen Hield, Charline Denny, Evelyn Olsen, Debbie Morton, Deanne Anderson, Susan Hughes, LeAnne Domka, and Deanna Berry.

Meridian police visit story hour

Story hour this Saturday, March 20, at Meridian library will feature a visit by an officer from the Meridian police department. The program, designed for pre-school and early elementary students, will begin at 11 a.m. and last 30 to 45 minutes.

Interested parents may inquire at the library for further details.

New books list

Shut-ins get library services delivery volunteers sought

The Meridian library celebrated this year's National Library Week by starting a new service to library district residents, plus announcing a large selection of new books for patrons of all ages.

A books-to-shut-ins program, which librarian Grove Koger hopes to run almost entirely with volunteer help, will deliver library materials to patrons who cannot come to the library because of their health.

The library will also supply information and applications for the talking book and cassette book programs, which make available free of charge almost 10,000 titles to the legally blind, the visually impaired and the physically handicapped. Large-print books and books in braille are also available.

For shut-ins

Library district residents who would like to use the books-to-shut-ins service, or who can recommend the names of others who would be interested, should contact the library. The library is also anxious to hear from those who would like to volunteer a few hours a month to deliver the books, Koger said.

New books

New books on display at the library include the following:

The Investigation, an astonishingly different mystery by one of Poland's leading writers, Stanislaw Lem.

The Fireship, by C. Northcote

Parkinson, a novel of the war at sea against Napoleon.

Trinity, Leon Uris' epic novel of Ireland, culminating in the Easter Uprising of 1916.

Beyond the Bedroom Wall, the chronicle of a family and its life in the Midwest, by Larry Woiwode.

Crazy Horse and Custer, a dual biography of two American warriors, by Stephen Ambrose.

Child Health Encyclopedia, a complete guide for parents, prepared by the Boston Children's Medical Center.

Handcrafted Playgrounds, a collection of spring projects for amateur craftsmen, by M. Paul Friedberg.

The Strong Brown God, by Sanche de Gramont, the story of the exploration of Africa's Niger River.

Nightmare, J. Anthony Lukas' examination of the underside of the Nixon years.

Handbook of Lawn Mower Repair, by Franklynn Peterson, a simply written and illustrated manual for placating the obstinate machine.

The Save-Your-Life Diet, Dr. David Reuben's plan for avoiding six of civilization's most serious diseases.

Social Security, an expose of the fraud in your future, by Warren Shore.

Librarian appointed

MERIDIAN — The board of trustees of Meridian Free Library District has announced the appointment of Eleanor Arndt to the position of librarian.

Born in Pocatello, Mrs. Arndt was employed by the San Jose, Calif., public library system from 1966 to 1974. She recently returned to Boise, where she has worked at Idaho State Library and Idaho State Law Library. She holds masters degree from California State University in San Jose.

Grove Koger, district librarian since 1974, will leave in mid-April to visit Greece and Yugoslavia with his wife, Ellen. Mrs. Koger is presently employed as a cataloger at the Caldwell library. The couple plans to return to the Boise area in January of 1977.

MERIDIAN, IDAHO, THURSDAY, APRIL 8, 1976

Koger resigns

Library under new wings as Mrs. Arndt takes over

"If they learn that reading can be fun, I think reading problems will vanish," said Eleanor Arndt, new librarian at the Meridian library.

Mrs. Arndt was sharing her philosophy as a librarian with Grove Koger, librarian for almost two years, who has resigned to travel in Greece and Yugoslavia.

Mrs. Arndt is leaving a post at Caldwell public library to take the Meridian job. She has worked as a branch librarian in San Jose, California, and has worked extensively in cataloging and reference, during her 12 years as a librarian. Eight of those years were spent in the San Jose library system.

Master's degree

Born in Pocatello, Mrs. Arndt went back to college at age 42 and after her children were in their late teens, and earned a bachelor's degree and a master's degree in library science from California State University at San Jose.

She recently returned to Boise where she had lived previously for 35 years, and worked for the state library and the state law library.

"I'm pleased to work in a small library," Mrs. Arndt said on the morning of her first day on the job. "In a small library you can work with the people. With a large library there are too many people and too many books for that sort of thing. I like to know everyone."

Because it was her first day on the job Mrs. Arndt said she did not have a full list of plans for the Meridian library but one thing she wanted to do was to build rapport with the library users to find out what kind of books they wanted to read.

"It is my desire to meet the needs of the community," the new librarian said. "I'll be listening to everyone. I can't guarantee we can do everything they suggest but I

want to hear their suggestions."

Library survey

She said she may in time take a survey to see when the busiest library hours are and if they should be changed.

"I want the library circulation to meet the needs of the community," she said. "We will be wanting to increase our children's collection. Children are what you build your future on."

The district has a \$4,800 book budget which can buy about 1,000 books, but the rising cost of books means the money doesn't buy as much as it has, the new librarian said.

The Meridian library had a 38,226 circulation in the past 12 months, Koger said, adding there are 2,500 active patrons on the library rolls.

Koger, who was hired almost two years ago when the library district was formed, became librarian after Nancy Sage retired. Mrs. Sage had been librarian since 1961.

Koger and his wife Ellen will spend the rest of the year in Europe.

"We were there in 1972 and 1973 and we liked it so much we want to do it again," he said.

During his time as Meridian librarian Koger said he tried to meet the needs of the district which he said were broadening as new people move in.

He has been buying self-help books, current history, how-to books, best sellers, classics, semi-classics, modern classics, westerns and mysteries.



New Meridian librarian gets acquainted

ELEANOR ARNDT, new Meridian librarian, gets a tour of her new charge from Grove Koger who is resigning his post. Mrs. Arndt will take over in mid-April from Koger who is quitting to tour Greece and Yugoslavia. Mrs. Arndt has a master's degree in library science and works as a cataloger at the Caldwell library. She has been a Boise resident 35 years.

May 13, 1976 Valley News-Times, Meridian, Idaho

Story hour winds up for summer months

Story hour at the Meridian Library will continue two more Saturdays before adjourning for the summer.

Children are invited for a puppet show this Saturday at 11 a.m.

Valley News-Times, Meridian, Idaho May 27, 1976

Registration set for rec program

Lloyd Hiner wants Meridian area youth for the summer.

Hiner isn't a youth employer but he is director of the City of Meridian's annual summer recreation program, and he invites all area youngsters to enroll.

Registration for the summer program, which will feature 15 different activities ranging from bowling to reading, will be held June 2-4, Hiner said.

Youngsters should register between 9 a.m. and 4 p.m. or from 7 to 9 p.m. at Meridian Junior High School, Hiner said. No registration fees will be charged for youth living inside the Meridian city limits while cost for kids living outside the city will be \$7.50 per child or \$15 per family.

"We have added quite a few different activities this summer" to the schedule, Hiner said, including a bicycle club and a special reading program in cooperation with the Meridian Public Library.

May 20, 1976 Valley News-Times, Meridian, Idaho

Summer reading program set

The Meridian Library's summer reading program will start June 1 for students from the first grade through junior high school.

The Bicentennial-themed program will have certificates and progress awards.

The children's story hour at the library will have its last meeting before the summer vacation this Saturday, May 22. Plans include a party for the participants, with cake and favors.

Valley News-Times, Meridian, Idaho June 3, 1976

Library plans reading program

The Meridian Library has 200 new children's books on its shelves to whet the appetites of youngsters enrolled in the library's summer reading program.

It is the largest number of children's books the library district has purchased at one time, said Eleanor Arndt, librarian.

The books are for readers in kindergarten to junior high school. They are shelved together in the children's section and readers may check out a maximum of three at a time, said Mrs. Arndt. There is no limit on the number of other books which district residents may check out.

The summer reading program

started Tuesday and about 150 youngsters are expected to enroll in the two-and-a-half month program.

As a reading incentive, the young readers will be given stickers as they read their books. The colored stickers can be applied to a plain Revolutionary War soldier to become his uniform and equipment.

It takes seven books to get his service stripes sticker, 14 to get his buttons and 35 to win the sword sticker. To outfit him completely requires reading 90 books this summer.

Readers may register for the program by signing up at the library.

Library election slated June 14

The Meridian Library district will hold its first regular election June 14 since forming last year.

The seats of Sharline Denny and David McFadden will be open for election. Denny is seeking election to the remaining two years of the term to which she was appointed last year to fill a vacancy.

McFadden has announced he will not seek re-election, according to Eleanor Arndt, librarian and clerk of the library district.

June 8 is the last day candidates may sign up at the library to run for either seat. Voters and candidates must be residents in the library district.

The only person signed up so far is Carl Rathjen, a candidate for McFadden's seat.

Polling places will be at the Occident Club rooms, corner of E. Idaho Avenue and Meridian Street, and at Southside School, 1050 E. Amity Road.

The polls will be open from noon to 8 p.m. June 14 and the election will be conducted by the county election office.

Names of candidates will be on view at the library six days before the election.

McFadden's seat is a five-year term and Denny's is two years.

Rathjen, Denny elected to board

Carl Rathjen and Charline Denny were unanimously elected to the board of directors of the Meridian library district this week with 21 votes each.

Neither Rathjen, who ran for the seat of David McFadden who did not seek re-election, nor Mrs. Denny, who was seeking her own term after being appointed to a vacancy, were challenged.

Rathjen will serve a five-year term and Mrs. Denny, two years.

Library seeks story-tellers

Men and women who can spin a tale or read stories to children are needed as volunteers at the Meridian library district's Saturday story hour.

The program is in a summer hiatus, but will start again in the fall, said librarian Eleanor Arndt who put out the call for volunteers.

"No experience is needed," she said, "only a liking and empathy for kids."

The library also has bought a movie projector and reserved films it will show in the fall during story hour. The Saturday morning hour is for grade school children, and younger.

The library is starting a story hour on Tuesday mornings this fall for preschoolers.

Finger puppets and musical games will also be played.



Eleanor Arndt

Says librarian:

You can go home again, and like it

by Dianne Whitacre
Valley News-Times

There's a book by Thomas Wolfe on the shelf in the Meridian library, titled "You can't go home again."

But librarian Eleanor Arndt doesn't think author Wolfe is telling it like it is.

Mrs. Arndt, like Wolfe, came from a small town, tried the bright lights of the big city and is now back home. She likes the ways of the slower moving, smaller town like Meridian, compared to the big city pressures of her former home near San Francisco.

So, the idea that you can't go home again, or that life in the big city is the only way, a frank and outspoken Eleanor Arndt says "bunk." She's tried the big towns and the little towns, and now says she's home for good.

The 55-year old grandmother, who got her degree at age 42, has been Meridian's librarian only three months. But in those few weeks, she has met and knows by name more people than she did in three years at her last big city job in San Jose, not far from San Francisco.

She and her husband moved back to the boise Valley where they had lived for 35 years before their 13-year trek to California. She worked in the state library and at Caldwell before the Meridian job opened up after librarian Grove Koger resigned to travel.

"It is the best move I've ever made," she insists.

"This is the ideal job anyone has ever dreamed of," she said. "I've never regretted coming here." It is ideal because of the small town and the people who use the library, said the chain-smoking librarian who said she wasn't happy in the big city and decided to come home to Meridian.

"And I've never regretted it," she said. She has few good things to say about large cities and only the best for Meridian.

The Arndt family moved to California in the 1960s when Mrs. Arndt's engineering husband got a job in the booming aerospace industry. She got jobs in libraries on the west coast at San Jose, Santa Clara and Sunnyville.

There were all the pressures of the big city, even at the library level. In one city library Mrs. Arndt found 20 per cent of the collection was systematically stolen and the entire staff had to leave at night en mass for the parking lot to thwart smugglers.

What finally convinced Eleanor Arndt that the time had come to go home was her grandson wasn't getting what it takes to have a normal little boy childhood.

"There's no place in the city for a little boy to dig a cave," she said simply. "It's important for a little boy to be able to dig a cave.

"When we moved here and he saw large lawns as we drove around, he would point at them and say, 'Look, a

golf course.'

"That was the extent of any large green space in his mind. If it was big and green, it must be a golf course."

Eleanor Arndt is glad to be home in Meridian and glad that her grandson can grow up here where he soon won't be dazzled by a wide green lawn.

The scenery is different for Mrs. Arndt, also, especially on the way to work. Instead of staring at the bumper ahead of her on a jammed freeway, she's entertained by the antics of new born colts in pastures that she passes on the way to Meridian.

"I don't know why anyone would want to live in a large city," she said. "You don't have to go there to find out what life's about—your books can bring it all here to you. You don't have to live in the muck to find out about it."

You can't talk to Eleanor Arndt about Eleanor Arndt without learning more about books. She believes there is something for the library for everyone and is delighted to help a browser discover a book they enjoy.

"I never know what they will want when they come in," she said, "Maybe a good mystery or a book on quantum theory."

Mrs. Arndt says she is of the old school of library science—that a library is for fun reading as well as for learning. The new school, she says, teaches that a community should be exposed to quality reading and upgrade itself.

"You can have all the quality literature in the world here," she said, "but it's not doing any good if it's not being read."

No one has to feel guilty about coming in after a hard day at work to get a good mystery, she said. "Reading to learn and reading for fun are equally valid. One is not more important than the other."

Mrs. Arndt laughed about the popularity of the book, Rich Man, Poor Man since the television show became popular. Before the TV show, the book was only checked out twice. Now there's a long waiting list.

"A book doesn't have to be made into a movie or TV series for it to be good," she said. "There are lots of books here on the shelf that are just as good."

Reading for enjoyment and introducing children to reading are favorite subjects with Eleanor Arndt. She's making plans for an expanded children's collection and is strengthening the story hour concept.

This is her first job in a small library where she can remember names and know what genre of reading many of the library users likes. There are book sales to plan, titles to order and even two caged gerbils to feed. There was never anything like it in the big California libraries where for years she worked in the science and technical collections.

"This is a lot more fun," she says.



Tell me, when is a pup, the mixture of a Pekinese and a poodle, a Pekinoodle? And when is it a Pookinese?

Or maybe you know just how short to trim a turtle's toenails?

These aren't questions put to your local petshop, but to your local librarian who in the course of a workday, can expect to research puzzlers ranging from the birthdate of Johnny Carson to the nesting habits of coots.

Eleanor Arndt, for three months Meridian's librarian, has faced some of these questions, and come up with the answers, in large municipal libraries.

Meridian residents don't ask as many questions or on such colorful topics as some Mrs. Arndt has heard in her other jobs. Perhaps not everyone knows the library usually has the answer, she reasons.

"The basic point is knowing where to find the answer," she explained, adding that she turned to a pet store for help on her most interesting puzzler—turtle toenail cutting.

"It just stays in your mind and you realize how

deperately people need access to information," Mrs. Arndt said.

Some stories she tells of people's need for information can be as trite and amusing as a Pookinese or as sad as the high school dropout, who was trying to educate himself at a library where she once worked.

"He was reading the encyclopedia volume by volume to educate himself," she recalled. The process had literally taken him years and by the time Mrs. Arndt found out what he was doing when he was in volume J or K. She steered him to books on general history and on science. He read famous writers rather than reading about them.

The determined young man passed his high school equivalency test, and went on to college in California. Mrs. Arndt lost track of him during his senior year. But his single-minded determination, although misfocused, still touches her deeply with how hungry many people are for knowledge.

"It was a shame I didn't catch him three or four years sooner," she said.

Valley News-Times, Meridian, Idaho, July 29, 1976

Jack Riddlemoser to head board

Jack Riddlemoser was elected president of the Meridian Library District board of directors during the group's annual re-organization meeting last week.

Riddlemoser took over the board's reins from Dave McFarland, who did not seek re-election to the body during the recent district election.

Other officers selected were June Black, vice-president; Evelyn Olsen, treasurer, and Eleanor Arndt, secretary and clerk.

In other business, the board approved a weekly pre-school story hour to start Sept. 14 at 10:30 a.m.

Valley News-Times, Meridian, Idaho, July 29, 1976

Books to sell by the inch in Meridian sale this fall

Do you have a shelf of paperback books you've read that you want to get rid of, but still don't want to throw them away?

Or do you need a good book to read but refuse to pay \$10.95 for one?

The Meridian Library District is planning a book sale this fall that can solve both problems, says librarian Eleanor Arndt.

The library is donating old books it cannot longer use and duplicate copies of other books for the sale. It is also asking local residents to bring by books they no longer want, either paperbacks or hardcovers. Both kinds of books will be sold at the sale. A firm date hasn't been set yet, she said.

A collection box is in the library now, for books people bring by. The box will stay there throughout the summer as the library collects books for the fall sale.

Mrs. Arndt said phonograph

records would also be sold if any are donated.

"I think we will try something I don't think has been done around here before," she explained. "We will sell the books by the inch. You select a stack of books you want to buy and we'll measure them to add up your bill."

The price per inch hasn't been set, she said.

Money from the used book sale will be used to buy new books for the library district which serves Meridian as well as some county areas.

The sale will allow the library to clear unneeded books from its shelves and use the money to replace them with a newer collections.

Mrs. Arndt said some people might be concerned that the library is selling some of its older books, but she explained that the ones being sold would be outdated for most library users.

Library reps attend picnic

Seven representatives of the Meridian Free Library District were among those attending the annual summer picnic Aug. 12 of the Southwestern Idaho Regional Library System.

Attending from Meridian were Eleanor Arndt, librarian, Carl Rathjen, Evelyn Olsen, Mr. and Mrs. Reed Black and Mr. and Mrs. William Spear.

Representatives of 30 member and associate member libraries attended the event which was held at the Boise Public Library.

Ice cream coupons ready for bookworms

More than 145 children participated this year in the Meridian Free Library District's summer reading program, but only 48 read seven or more books in order to qualify for an ice cream coupon.

The coupons, which are good at any drive-in restaurant in Meridian, are valid until Aug. 31, but should be picked up as soon as possible at the library, the library offices said.

Youths qualifying for a coupon were Cindy and Greg Stewart, Kiley and Chad Rowe, Rodney Spencer, Dawn Blattner, Carl Magette, Kimberly Dean, Jennifer and David Lowe, Stuart King, Susie Hoffman, Chrissy Mundt, Chris and Cheri Sabola, Glenn Letteer, Shelley Stewart, Terry Groom, Bruce Kelsey, Jill and Gina Giese and Mike Hoffman.

Others were Ann and Susan Jarvis, Mary Dent, Alaina Beck, Sam Pappenfuss, Bret Galloway, Alena Pappenfuss, Joel and David Campbell, Catherine and Wendy Heavrin, Leslie McDonald, Ted and David Boren, Lunette Barrus, Jaura Jane Hewett, Robby and Teresa Haddock, Nancy Dent, Jane Gregory, Jeana Nelson, Ken Couch, Felesha Eddins and Greg Dean.

Library program

A special winter program at the Meridian Free Library for preschool age children will kick-off Tuesday morning, Eleanor Arndt, librarian, announced this week.

The weekly program will be held each Tuesday beginning at 10:30 a.m. and will include a story-hour and films, puppet shows and music events, Arndt said.

The program is designed for children age two to six, she said, and will last about a half-hour.

A story-hour for all ages is being planned for Saturday mornings, the librarian announced, with several films booked for showing. Volunteer story-tellers are needed to get that program underway, she said. Anyone interested in donating their time to the program is urged to call the library at 888-4451 and indicate the days when they might be available to help.

A special class in story-telling techniques may be offered if enough volunteers sign up, Arndt added.

Lack of Volunteers Plagues Meridian Library Story Hour

MERIDIAN - The Meridian library's Saturday story hour may be dropped this year because there are not enough volunteer readers, according to librarian Eleanor Arndt.

The story hour is scheduled to start Sept. 18.

"We have films booked and we will show them but we need community volunteers to tell stories or read to the children, or do anything to entertain them," she said.

One volunteer who has signed up will sing folk songs, Arndt said, adding she was looking for a variety of talents.

If enough people sign up, volunteers probably will work every two months, she said. There will be a short training session for volunteer readers.

The Meridian Library District will start its Tuesday preschool story hour Sept. 14 at 10:30 a.m.

Book sale set by library

The Meridian Free Library will hold a used book sale Sept. 25 from 12 noon to 4 p.m. at the Library, Eleanor Arndt, librarian, announced.

Included in the sale will be books discarded from both the adult and juvenile library shelves along with books donated by patrons. Magazines and some pocket books which

the library no longer has room to house will also be on sale.

Hardbound books will be sold for 25 cents per vertical inch, while magazines and pocket books will be on sale for 15 cents per inch.

Proceeds will be used to purchase books for the library in both the juvenile and adult categories, Arndt said.

Library slates children's hour

A plea for volunteer story tellers has met with success and the first story hour of the season at the Meridian Free Library will go on as planned Saturday morning, librarian Eleanor Arndt said.

the session will begin at 11 a.m., she said, and will last about 30 minutes. Short films are planned during later story hour sessions throughout the school year.

Fourteen volunteers have signed

up to serve as story-tellers, the librarian said, with each person serving once every three months.

A special training program for the story-tellers has been arranged on Oct. 7 from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the library with Eva Larsen and Mrs. Gaye Walter from the Idaho State Library serving as instructors.

Anyone interested in attending the class should call the library at 888-4451.

Schedule film for library story hour

The Meridian Free Library Story hour program will be highlighted by a children's film, "The Velvetine Rabbit" this week.

The program begins at 11 a.m. Saturday. All area children are encouraged to attend, Librarian Eleanor Arndt said.

Meridian Free Library District

Telephone (208) 888-4451

18 East Idaho Avenue
Meridian, Idaho 83642
June 3, 1977

The Honorable John V. Evans
Governor of Idaho
Statehouse
Boise, Idaho 83706

Dear Governor Evans:

My Staff and I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your thoughtfulness in sending me your greeting on my picture that appeared in The Idaho Statesman.

If there is anything that I can do for you, please let me know.

I hope that you have a purrfectly nice summer.

Sincerely yours,

Figaro

F/ns

Valley News-Times, Meridian, Idaho, October 14, 1976

Library session to feature film

The Meridian Free Library's regular Saturday morning story and film hour will feature an all-time favorite children's film entitled, "Curious George Rides a Bike."

Activities will start at 11 a.m. this Saturday with Lola Stout serving as story-teller.

In library activities last week, Eva Larsen, Gale Walter and Richard Wilson from the Idaho State Library, Boise, presented a three-hour training course in story-telling methods for volunteers in the local program.

The trio instructed the volunteers in how to use flannel boards, finger puppets and voice expressions. The volunteer story-tellers brought their lunches, and cake and coffee was furnished by the library.

Valley News, Meridian, Idaho, October 21, 1976

"Cats" film set for story hour

The film, "Millions of Cats," based upon the book by Wilma Gag, will highlight the Meridian Free Library Story Hour for young children this week.

The Saturday story hour begins at 11 a.m. and will be hosted by Judy Booth.

The library also holds a special story hour program every week at 10:30 a.m. Tuesday for pre-school students.



Valley News, Meridian, Idaho, November 4, 1976

STORY HOUR

The Meridian Free Library will highlight its Saturday morning story hour with a film this week of "Jack and the Beanstalk".

The hostess and storyteller for this week's program will be Lindy Grapatin.



Statesman Photos by Eric Robbins

FIGARO LOOKS OVER BOOKS IN HIS LIBRARY HOME

... he likes Dr. Seuss and paper bags; runs away from sirens

Best Regards, Figaro,
Jane Toews
Coventry - 1977

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.



Mrs. Nancy S. Sage
 909 East 4th Street
 Meridian, Idaho 83642

Mr. Figaro Cat.

"To Figaro"
 (our Library "Greeter").

We have a feline 'greeter', in our
 library down town,
 who by his endearing antics,
 wins himself & renown.
 At times he weaves among the
 books like an undulating fan -
 Some times he squinches up his
 eyes, to show one that he can!
 At times he visits with the Gorbils
 in a somewhat abandoned state
 so that a sudden reprimand
 becomes his certain fate.
 Those paper bags hold extra charm,
 in which he sticks his pate -
 Curiosity really is his forte - he
must investigate!!

Or perhaps by chance one
 finds him sleeping atop of ^{the shelves}
 His tail adrop for larny - As
 Though he didn't care!
 Indoors or out, there's always
 people, & always lots to do!
 So at this Merry Christmas
 Time, I'd like to greet him too!

Nancy S. Sage
 12/20/77



Meridian Public Library assistra assistants (left to right) Patricia Rabehl and Nancy Spear check out new library cards to former Meridian Librarians Nancy Sage and Marie Sandy. The cards were issued under the library's new card filing system

Including gerbils and a pet cat

Small town library offers a little of everything



Librarian Eleanor Arndt introduces 19-month-old Jennifer Nesmith to her first book

Statesman photo by Tom Treick

By DIANNE WHITACRE
The Idaho Statesman

MERIDIAN — There are two adult hangouts in Meridian — a corner restaurant where farmers and businessmen gather for hot coffee and the town library where Meridian readers drop in to talk about the latest book they've read.

Meridian's collection is meager compared to the much larger Boise Public Library. But the talk is friendly and there's always a cup of coffee for a patron who wants to compare notes about favorite writers and the newest novel with librarian Eleanor Arndt or other staff members.

Arndt says patrons have a hard time stopping with just one book. Some carry grocery bags to hold all their selections.

The coffee and the chitchat, plus a cage of gerbils and a pet cat who prowls the stacks, make the Meridian library a favorite stopping-off spot for many area residents.

"I feel like it's my library — like I'm in my own home. It's so comfortable," visitor Shirley Potter said. "It has Figaro (the cat) and the gerbils and when you come in you aren't bound by a 'sssh-sssh' all the time. I've got books to come down for and good friends to come down to talk with."

Potter came in with a grocery bag full of books. She grumbles good naturedly that at 2 cents a day in overdue fines, she is buying a lot of new books for the library. But in a matter of minutes she is getting advice on new ones to take home.

Potter currently has a literary appetite for the demon-genre. And before she left, Arndt and her assistant Nancy Sage had filled her head with suggestions on enough demonic novels to make her too scared to sleep for a week.

"They turn me on to new authors. I tell them what I like and they tell me about other books they know about that I might like," said Potter, who went home with a haunted house thriller.

Arndt listened as Potter talked enthusiastically, nodded her head and added, "The biggest fun in being a

librarian is to find just the right book and get it into the hands of the right person."

And not many head librarians get that chance, said Arndt, who is a cheerleader for the job of the small town librarian. She was raised in Boise and attended Boise High and Boise Junior College and returned to the Treasure Valley two years ago after 10 years in some of California's larger libraries.

There, she was head of a San Jose branch library that circulated a quarter-million books annually. Now in Meridian, she controls circulation of only a fifth of that number or 46,726 last year. Boise's circulation last year was 621,000.

But Arndt says it's not a come-down to work in a library that one can cross in a half-dozen strides and that has an annual budget of \$52,500.

The collection is only 14,000 books, compared to 189,600 in the Boise library.

"To me this is so much better. There's a variety of work and you get to know people. They aren't just faceless numbers. If someone comes in who wants a mystery, you don't just show them the shelf, but find out what they like and tell them what you have they might like," said Arndt, who seems excited about the advantages of a small town library.

"There's no place quite like it. After all those years in big impersonal libraries, this is a place people can feel like it is their own," Arndt said.

The Meridian library covers the city and unincorporated areas outside town. Boundaries are roughly the south bank of the Boise River on the north, McDermott Road on the west, Lake Hazel Road on the south and Cloverdale Road on the east. There are several jogs in the southwest corner and eastern boundary and exact boundaries can be obtained by calling the library at 888-4451.

The library is financed by taxpayers in the district and is not a department of the city of Meridian. District residents don't pay extra to use the library, but non-district residents can buy a family card for \$10 a year or \$2 for a single senior citizen.

Library wants readers, users

MERIDIAN — Eleanor Arndt, head librarian of the Meridian Free Library District, invites the reading public in Meridian and the surrounding area to use the library. "Our main interest is in providing reading material people want", Arndt said.

The Meridian Free Library contains 14,000 to 15,000 volumes in a remodeled section of the Occident Club building at 18 E. Idaho Ave. There are three full-time and one part-time employees to provide service to the public.

The library is free to city residents while persons outside the city limits must pay \$10 per year. Senior Citizens may pay a special reduced fee of \$2.

Although there is no rural library service of the Book-mobile type, the library has an inter-library loan system. Arndt explained the library has obtained materials from the Library of Congress and books and records from as far away as Maine and Louisiana.

Commenting on the problems Boise has had with lost and overdue books, Arndt stated, "We hope we won't be forced to take drastic steps to reclaim missing and overdue books, but we will if we have to. We're a friendly small-town library and we want it to stay that way."

Fines of two cents per day are charged on overdue books, and lost or misplaced books must be paid for at the replacement price — not the original cost of the book.

The district library has a board of Trustees composed of chairman Jack Riddlemoser, vice-chairman June Black, treasurer Evelyn Olsen, and members Charline Denny and Carl Rathjen. The board of Trustees is elected for terms of five years and meetings are held every fourth Thursday at 8 p.m. in the library.

The library is open from 10 a.m.-9 p.m. Monday-Friday and from 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, and Saturday.

Meridian Free Lib.

6/7/78

Every person who approaches the Meridian Free Library knows immediately that it is not an ordinary library. Visitors who come to the door are "greeted" personally by the library's "guard lion," whose name is "Figaro."

In reality, Figaro is a cat, but he thinks he's a member of the library staff and he takes his job very seriously. He even goes so far as to wander up and down the aisles, checking on customers. Most of the time, however, he resorts simply to "laying on top of shelves" and looking as though he could give you some advice on which book to read next.

"Figaro is our press relations person," says Librarian Eleanor Arndt. "I think he's probably the most popular citizen of Meridian." Figaro has even met Governor John Evans, who sent him an autograph, to which he replied with a thank-you, complete with "paw prints."

Figaro is not the only unique feature of Meridian's Free Library.

The outstanding difference between this library and most others, is that it is "free." Well, you might wonder, 'what does that-mean?'

"In the first place, you have to realize that we're not 'free' in the sense of money," notes Arndt. "We're 'free' in the sense of being separate from the city."

The reason for this arrangement, is due to the fact that the library serves an area much larger than the city of Meridian. It is a "district" library and extends its services over approximately 60 square miles, which takes in about a five mile radius around the city.

Rather than being a department of the city government, as most city libraries are, the Free Library is governed by an elected board of district trustees.

There are several advantages to such an arrangement, according to Arndt. "The primary advantage is that we aren't confined to the city for the people we serve." Another advantage is that "we can draw on a bigger tax support base." In addition, she noted, the

library is fortunate to have a board that works exclusively in establishing the policies.

"We are able to serve more people for less cost. I don't think there's any way they can get more for their tax dollar."

Arndt is pleased with the "high level of community support" for the library. "People feel it's their library," she said. "It's almost a social center. The use of the library is growing much faster than the population increase is growing."

Small libraries have a definite function, according to Arndt. "We have more of an opportunity to give individual attention. It's a personal rather than impersonal thing. We know what they're interested in."

"I can order a new book and tell who's going to want it," she noted.

Arndt feels a library has to have something to offer everyone. "Whatever people want — whatever will fill a need for them — that's what we'll give them."

The library has a staff of four people, (not including Figaro). It operates on a budget of approximately \$60,000. "We've been allowed to ask for 3 mills," says Arndt, "but we've never even asked for half of that. We've always kept tight control of the money."

Adequate funding of the library did not occur until it

became a "free" library five years ago, Arndt noted. Before that time, it was privately operated by the Occident Club, with "minimal" help and a "minimal" budget. Many of the books were donations, she said.

The library is now able to purchase most of their own books. The number of volumes has increased significantly and the periodical and reference sections have been expanded.

The hours have been increased to 52 hours a week, much more than most small libraries. They are open Monday through Saturday from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. and Monday and Friday evenings until 8 p.m. "It sometimes spreads the staff a little thin, but we get good evening crowds," reported Arndt.

The library boasts over 3,000 registered card holders in the district. "That's about one-third of the population, which is a pretty good average," she said. "We probably serve as high a percentage of the population as any other tax supported institution."

Arndt is concerned about the effect of the One Percent, since the library funding comes from property taxes. "I hope we can survive." She doesn't know yet to what extend the funding will be cut.

"If we can just continue to save money and provide a place where people can meet and be entertained, then we're a valuable service."

"This Rock"

Ah, yes, there's "~~old~~ Gibraltar", "Rock of
Ages", even "Rock-a-bye",

But this Rock, is for a Special Lady, so
we hope to try,

And properly salute our Mentor of all
these years gone by.

She gave us confidence, more courage,
always with a smile,

Shored-up our troubled spirits in just
a little while.

So this "Rock" for memory's sake, to fit
within her garden space,-

A timeless memento from all of us, who'll
miss her gentleness and grace.

(from all of us at Meridian.
via,

Nancy R. Dyer
7/2/80

Poem, along with a rock for her garden,
presented to Helen Miller, retiring ISL
librarian

June 5, 1981

Summer reading program theme is circus fun

"Come, Join the Circus!" There is no age limit—every child is welcome! Sound like fun? That is exactly what the librarians at the Meridian Free Library want it to be. What is "It?" "It" is the Summer Reading Program which will be available to all children from June 8 to August 3.

Registration for the program began June 1 and will continue until July 1. The Summer Reading Program can benefit children of all ages and offers the friendly services of the librarians to help locate just the right book.

The theme of this year's program is, "Come, Join the Circus." Free balloons, bookmarks and dot-to-dot-pictures will be given away, according to Evelyn Olsen, children's librarian. Olsen, who is a mother and a homemaker besides being a librarian, invites all children to come in and check out a book. "The program is never competitive," she said, and explained that each child will receive a colored dot for every book that he or she reads. The child may choose the color of the dot he or she wants and then paste it on a dot-to-dot picture.

Olsen told the Treasure Valley Times that 376 children signed up last summer to take advantage of the reading program, and over 1800 stars (instead of dots) were given out last year.

Displayed in a prominent place in the library is an oil painting of a clown. It is on loan from its owner until June 13. The clown is an appropriate symbol

of the theme, "Come, Join the Circus," and it also has an interesting story behind it.

The painting was done by Rulon Schwendiman, 82 of Twin Falls for his great-grandson, nine year old Tyler Rountree of Meridian. Tyler's mother, Mrs. Charles Rountree, Jr., of 231 W. Camellia Ave., said Tyler showed a great fear of clowns when he was an infant. "Until he was six years old, he wouldn't sleep in a bedroom with a (picture of a) clown in it," she said. "He would break out in a cold sweat at the sight of one."

Tyler's great-grandfather, in an effort to help him overcome the fear of clowns, began painting clowns with familiar faces. The painting now hanging in the Meridian Free Library is Schwendiman's version of Tyler himself as a clown. It was painted several years ago and is inscribed, "Little Boy Clown," and signed, "Great-Grandpa Schwendiman."

Painting is Schwendiman's hobby. He was the last mayor of Twin Falls before the city went to a city manager system, according to Tyler's mother.

Tyler's father, Charles M. Rountree, Jr., works in Boise as Transportation Planner for the Department of Transportation. The Rountrees have lived in Meridian for the last seven years.

Tyler's feelings about clowns have changed since his early childhood days. When asked how he felt about the clown portrait which his great grandfather painted for him, Tyler answered with a big smile, "I like it alot!."



Great-grandpa's painting



Tyler Rountree

Local Artists Department

Meridian woman is graduate of "School of Experience"

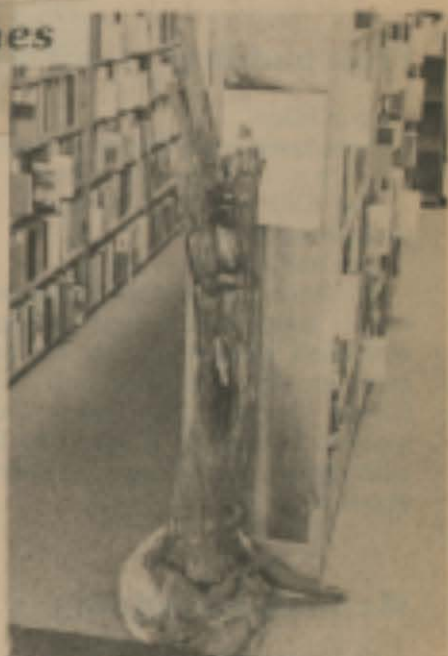
Treasure Valley Times

July 10, 1981

by Kathy Williams



Shirley Potter is shown with "Look at me," a bronze sculpture of a "niad" (a mythical creature of the woods) peering into the dark pool of water that is her home.



"Awakening," an ironwood sculpture of a dryad emerging from the wood, by Shirley Potter

Currently on exhibition at the Meridian Free Library is the artwork of Meridian artist, Shirley Potter. Shirley has been producing art in one form or another since she was a small child. Her work ranges "from miniatures to murals; from private commissions to greeting cards."

The creations displayed include paintings, wood carvings and sculptures—the sculptures being in various mediums.

After talking with Shirley a few minutes, it is evident that she enjoys life, enjoys her work, and enjoys the people she meets. Her ready smile matches the twinkle in her eyes as she talks about her "Whimsies" and her imaginative creations. Her sense of humor is evident in her artwork also, especially such pieces as "April 15th" and "Pooped-(They all laughed when I sat down to play)".

April 15th depicts a huge white egg, with human sized hands reaching up to grab it and life-sized talons (Eagle) gripping the egg from above and ready to fly away with it. A small crack in the egg has developed at the tip of one claw as though from the strain of being pulled in two directions. Shirley says the egg depicts her "nest egg" and the talons, "the Federal government walking away with my life savings!"

Drawing and painting occupied her interest until she began studying with master carver, Clay Johnston of San Diego, California in 1972. She studied with him for three years and at that time, decided to focus on sculpture as the art form she most enjoyed.

Her wood carvings are done with a wide variety of woods, tools, and methods, some of her own design. Each art piece created by Shirley is an original—a unique, one-of-a-kind and special item, not to be copied.

One of the most interesting, beautiful and intriguing woods is ironwood. It is very heavy and very hard, and so dense it will not float. There are several ironwood carvings on display. Perhaps the most beautiful is one titled, "Awakening". It depicts a dryad emerging from the trunk of a tree. Shirley told us how she envisioned the whole carving before she ever touched a tool to the wood, even to the size and exact place of the knee, head, etc.

Another ironwood sculpture, titled "Mermaid," won for her one of her most prized awards. Entered in the

Southern California Exposition which encompassed the area from Santa Barbara south to the border, she felt honored to have her piece accepted, however when it was awarded honorable mention, she said she was thrilled. "An honorable mention there is as good as a blue ribbon in smaller shows." It took Shirley approximately 25 hours a week for a month to finish that particular piece.

Many of the wood carvings are of animals, and they are caricatures. "I cannot do caricatures of people; I take people very seriously," Shirley said, "However, I see people I know in the animals I carve. I see their personalities." This is evidenced in the delightful expressions and appealing charm of the wooden figures. Again, here it can be seen that each one of Shirley's carvings or sculptures are one-of-a-kind.

Since 1979 this artist has been studying with Al Kober at Boise State University. She says that the door of discovery that partially opened when she began woodcarving is now open wide. She is now working with a large variety of sculptural mediums. Many of the art pieces on display are bronze sculptures, and are very lifelike, even to texture—as the skin of two lifesize lizards she has posed on a tree limb.

A delicate and enchanting bronze sculpture of a Niad (Faerie) is titled "Look at Me," and depicts a Niad peering into the reflective surface of the dark forest pool which is her home. (Niads are faeries who inhabit dark pools and if they are struck by sunlight, they melt back into water.) This is the first of a series of four which Shirley wants to complete. Two succeeding sculptures will depict the Niad in the process of melting back into water. The fourth will depict re-birth—the Niad again springing forth from the water.

Another of the bronze works on display at the library now (and one of Shirley's favorites) is titled "Eden Tri", and depicts Adam, Eve, the serpent, the apple and the tree of knowledge in a very original manner.

Shirley Potter is a self-taught artist who has developed her own style through experience. She is a native of San Francisco, California and has lived in Meridian for the last 6 years. She and her husband, Bob, have three daughters, two of whom live in California and one, Robin, who is still at home.

Shirley will be honored at an open house at the library this evening from 7 p.m. until 9 p.m.

1981

Hey look, Sis, it's a camera!"



Jeff Mazer, 6, and his sister Jessie, 5, check out the books and decorations in the Halloween atmosphere of the Meridian Free Library. Both are students at Meridian Primary. Their parents are Wes and Sandy Manzer of Meridian.

Treasure Valley Times

October 30, 1981

Meridian library slates Halloween kids' party

There is a treat in store for children who visit the Meridian Free Library Saturday, October 31, and there are no tricks involved!

The library will be open from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., and the staff invites all children of the area to celebrate Halloween with them. "They are invited to come in costume, or as they are," said

librarian Evelyn Olsen. "There will be free refreshments and storytelling all day." She said some of the staff would also be in costume.

"Stories are being taped by Robin Joy," Olsen noted, "and these will be played Saturday. We may have one more person telling stories that day, also." Joy is also a full-time employee of the library.

Treasure Valley Times

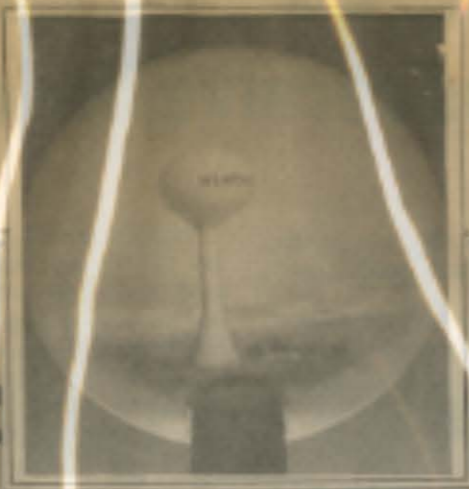
November 13, 1981

Community benefactor recognized



Jim Fuller, honored as a generous and civic-minded donor of land and labor to his community, receives sketch of himself drawn by Madeline Rathjen from longtime friend and fellow Meridianite, Mary Bodine.

MERIDIAN... YESTERDAY AND TODAY



Meridian Free Library District established August 27, 1974

On August 27, 1974, voters approved the establishment of the Meridian Free Library District. The area served by this library follows the Western Ada Recreation District with the exclusion of a small portion served by the Kama Library District. Residents of the City of Meridian were not allowed to vote as they were being served by the Meridian Public Library.

The Ada County Commissioners appointed the first Board of five trustees. The trustees elected Ralph Hunter, chairman, Carl Rathjen, vice chairman; Pat Fabricius, sec., Dave McFadden and Nancy Spear members of the board.

Federal funding (CECA) was obtained to pay the salary of a librarian and a clerk-typist and tax support was available.

On Sept. 27th, Grove Keger was hired as the District librarian and at the trustees meeting, he assumed the duty of secretary; Carl Rathjen was named treasurer.

On Oct. 31, 1974, Nancy Spear resigned from the board of trustees to begin her duties as clerk-typist. Evelyn Olsen was appointed to fill the vacancy on the board.

At this time there were two libraries operating in one building owned by Occident Club at 14 E. Idaho Ave. Mr. Keger was District Librarian and Mrs. Nancy Sage was Meridian Public Library Librarian and Mrs. Marie Sandy was her assistant.

The Meridian Public Library had its beginning on July 17, 1934 when members of the Occident Club started a small library in the Songer Drug Store on the corner of 1st and E. Idaho Ave. with a few shelves of books. Mostly donations.

In 1939 the Club raised funds, incorporated and purchased the old Interurban Depot on the Northeast corner of Meridian Street and East Idaho Avenue to house the Club and the library. When space proved inadequate, fund raising efforts

brought enough money to add a 50 by 28 foot room on the east side of the depot and the library moved into this addition in 1941. Meridian City Clerk Herald Cox reports that the Occident Club received a levy of 1 mill for the library in 1969. Up to this time the Club had volunteered their time to the library. Help from the City was appreciated, but volunteers were still a necessary part of taking care of the library needs.

In 1968 plans were made for further expansion of the library. Fund raising efforts were begun to reach the goal of 40 percent in local funds to match for \$37,823 in federal funds from the Library Service and Construction Act. Bake sales and the sale of popcorn balls and miniature rose bushes along with contributions from individuals and local organizations including the Meridian Athletic Association who donated their 1974 Easter Day race proceeds to the building and helped the realization of a bigger library of approximately 1,800 square feet.

Mrs. Nancy Sage came to work in the library under Ruth Cline in 1964. Nancy became librarian in 1965 when Mrs. Amy Ambrose retired. Many students in the Meridian area will remember Nancy as being willing to help them at all times by finding the necessary information to complete a school assignment and help them with their problems. All the patrons of the Meridian Public Library will remember her and Mrs. Sandy as being cheerful and anxious to help find just the right book for enjoyable reading. Mrs. Sage retired in Feb., 1972, and Mrs. Sandy in December of that year.

Before the move into the new addition on June 1, 1974, the Library Board and Occident Club members knew that Meridian and Ada County were growing in population and that more library service was going to be needed. They were receiving money from the City of Meridian to

administer the library and the staff but many people outside the City wanted the use of a library through taxation. The Occident Library Board members at that time were Mildred Langley, pres.; Mary Alice White, Leona Egbert, Marie Sandy and Nancy Spear. Petitions were circulated calling for the formation of the Meridian Free Library District. The petitions were filed with the Ada County Commissioners and a hearing was held at the Ada County Courthouse on July 16, 1974 attended by many citizens of the area and this was followed by a setting of the August 27th election date. Members of the Occident Club voted unanimously to provide the Meridian Free Library District use of the Meridian Public Library building for a fee of \$1 a year.

At the time of the formation of the District Library, it had been planned that the Meridian Public Library and the District Library should merge and become known under one name—Meridian Free Library District.

The Meridian Public Library became a charter member of the Southwestern Idaho Regional Library System (SIRLS) in August, 1974, and after the appointment of the Meridian Free Library District trustees, the two libraries were represented by Nancy Spear with Pat Fabricius as alternate. After Mrs. Spear's resignation, Pat Fabricius and her alternate Evelyn Olsen attended as SIRLS members and Mrs. Olsen currently fills that position and is secretary of the SIRLS executive board.

When Mrs. Sage retired in Feb., 1972, Mr. Keger as appointed acting city librarian, Mrs. Sandy continued

as part-time librarian.

On June 9, 1975, members of the board of trustees were Dave McFadden, president; June Black, vice president; Evelyn Olsen, treasurer; Jack Riddlemeier and Charline Denny, trustees and Dave Keger secretary. Charline was Marilyn Plant's appointed replacement after Marilyn was forced to resign shortly after the voting took place. These were the first elected trustees of the District.

On August 28, 1973, the hoped for merger took place. The City residents had to vote to join the District and the District had to vote on whether or not to accept them.

In Jan., 1976, funds were provided for a full-time clerk typist and Mrs. Spear became librarian assistant and Debbie Higgins assumed the clerk-typist position. Mrs. Sandy retired and along with Mrs. Sage and Mrs. Kay Howell provided substitute help when we needed it. As of June, 1977 the clerk's job has seen changes. Mrs. Higgins was unable to continue due to illness in her family and Mrs. Pat Rabehl took over. She left after a few months and now Mrs. Fern Wilson is at the circulation desk.

In April, 1976 Mr. Keger resigned and Mrs. Eleanor Arndt was hired as head librarian.

In July, 1974, Jack Riddlemeier was elected president of the trustees; June Black, vice-president; Evelyn Olsen, treasurer; Charline Denny and Carl Rathjen members of the board and Eleanor Arndt, sec. and clerk.

The Meridian Free Library District is open 54 hours a week, including Monday and Friday evenings until 9 p.m. Due to forecasted energy

shortages, this may change in the upcoming fall and winter months. We had our library insulated this spring, hoping to keep in the heat and bring down our high power bills. We have a successful Tuesday morning preschool storyhour conducted by Eleanor Arndt from October to May. Our Saturday storyhour and movies were cancelled after two months because competition from T.V. cartoons was too strong. Mrs. Arndt is taking books to a studio. We have volunteers for this job, but as Meridian's older people are so active, we haven't had to call on them for help. We have had a very successful Summer Reading Club in connection with Idaho State Library for three years. This year gives us the most cause for pleasure with close to 299 members and membership is still open. The competition has been taken out of the program and Mrs. Arndt credits our success to fun (not quantity) in reading. We had a book sale in the fall of 1978.

In Sept. 1978, a three-month-old white and black cat adopted us. He joined our two resident gerbils (Dot and Dash) and was named Figaro by the staff. He has quickly become an important staff member. He met Gov. John Evans in May, 1977 when the governor held his press conference at the library and the following week our friend Diane Whitacre of the Idaho Statesman did a front-page feature on him. The governor sent his best wishes and autograph to Figaro and Figaro sent a thank-you letter back complete with paw print. Figaro is our press relations person and a good one, too, judging from the gifts he receives throughout the year and the

verbal greetings from patrons and passersby alike.

Our board of trustees remain the same after the elections held this month in which June Black was up for re-election. John Evans opposed her and June was re-elected.

Total circulation figures for 1974 was 42,562. The circulation figures for January to May, 1975 were 15,968. The circulation figures for the same period in 1977 is 19,291. Our circulation is up by almost 3,300 books and library material over last year for the first five months. We have added 484 new books in this five-month period.

The total circulation figures for 1977 were 46,728; for 1978 they were 52,408; (by law the fiscal reporting date changed at this time, making comparison difficult). For 1980 they were 65,880 and for 1981 the figures were 62,317.

The Board membership has remained unchanged with incumbent members being unopposed at the annual elections, except for Mrs. Shirley Spencer replacing Mrs. Evelyn Olsen when Mrs. Olsen resigned to take a position as part time juvenile librarian.

Mrs. Rabehl is back at work as technical services clerk and Miss Robin Joy has replaced Mrs. Wilson in the clerk position. Mrs. Arndt and Mrs. Spear continue to serve as librarian and assistant respectively.

One sad note—in December, 1980, Figaro died from injuries incurred in October of that year.

We are currently open 54 hours per week including Monday and Friday evenings until 9 p.m.

N.W. 1981 cut back to 48 hours per week

November 20, 1981

Meridian library has new hours

Nancy Spear of the Meridian Free Library has announced that, effective immediately, the Library Hours will be changed.

New Hours are Monday through Saturday from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Spear said the library staff would be spread too thin if the library were to continue to stay open evenings. Also, the Library

Board objected to one person being alone in the library evenings.

Although the library was being used regularly by a few people in the evenings, it is hoped by the staff that these persons can find times during the week from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. to use the library, as the new hours are already in effect.

The Treasure Valley Times

Treasure Valley Times

December 18, 1981

Meridian library sets Open House

A Christmas Open House will be held all day at the Meridian Free Library on Wednesday, December 23, during the regular hours of 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

The staff of the library invites everyone to come in and visit and enjoy cookies and punch provided by Char-Lies' Catering.

Holiday hours for the library will be:

Thursday, Dec. 24 - 10 a.m. to noon.

Friday, Dec. 25 - closed.

Saturday, Dec. 26 - closed.

Thursday, Dec. 31 - 10 a.m. to noon.

Friday, Jan. 1 - closed.

Saturday, Jan 2 - closed.

Nancy Spear, librarian, told the Treasure Valley Times, "The library staff and board members extend to everyone their sincere wishes for a Merry Christmas and a Peaceful New Year!"

Treasure Valley Times

January 15, 1982

Meridian library to hold story hour

Something new is happening at the Meridian Free Library. A story hour will be held Tuesday morning, January 19, from 10:30-11.

A story entitled "The Cross Country Cat" will be narrated by Gaye Walter, librarian. Walter said, "We hope this program for pre-schoolers will become a weekly event."

Mothers are encouraged to stay and browse at the library during the story hour, Walter said.



Marnell Chenowith Entertainment Weekly

Some of you have reported receiving free tickets in the mail to an event in Boise called "Earth: Theater of the Universe."

I was intrigued by the publicity and find myself with mixed emotions after attending the Friday evening performance. I will reserve judgement by just giving you the information from the pamphlet handed me at the door, thanking me for being their guest.

I was invited to sign my name and indicate my desire as to the free information they would provide, which included a set of Bible study guides that would help me study this concept from my Bible.

For those of you who would like a good buy on used books, don't miss the sale at the Meridian Library this Friday and Saturday.

If you missed Ginger Scott as Mae West in "Come What Mae" earlier this month, you've got a second chance to catch her act, because Mae's back.

The Women's Club, Ltd. is sponsoring a special encore presentation of Mary Steelsmith's one-woman show about Mae West, one of Hollywood's most colorful leading ladies. This is the first of many attractions featuring female artists.

Watch next weeks edition of the Valley News for the listing of donated items to be auctioned at the 3rd Annual Radio Auction March 6.

Alpha Omega Chapter (Kuna-Meridian area) of Epsilon Sigma Alpha International is helping other E.S.A. Chapters sponsor the event to benefit the Idaho Easter Seal Society. No need to leave your house for this event. Just tune to KBOI Radio between 9-4 p.m.

The Mekida Charter Chapter of the American Business Womens Association is sponsoring a Stress Seminar for Women this Saturday. Registration is \$15 and the proceeds will go to the scholarship fund.

Also don't miss the coupon special offered by Keystone Pizza this week.

Hope some of you will be able to attend the Boise Little Theater production "A Funny Thing Happened On The Way To The Forum." The lively entertainment by 18 performers in song and dance is playing today through Saturday at BLT.

The Kuna Library is holding an open house this week and you can call them for details.

Keep those cards and letters coming and call me at 888-4423 with any entertainment news.

Meridian library to sell discarded books 2/26/27

Like to read? Love a bargain? The ladies at the Meridian Free Library have rummaged through

their collection of oldies-but-goodies and have decided to sell (cheap!) about 750 of those books that have not

been checked out in over three years, according to Librarian Gay Walters.

"Some have also been pulled because of their poor condition," Walters said.

But regardless of what shape the book is in (remember what they say about judging a book by its cover) each and every book will be selling for 50 cents. The collection includes everything from children's books to mysteries to a set of 1962 Richard's Topical Encyclopedias.

The sale will be held Friday from noon to 7 p.m. and Saturday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., in the Occident Club adjoining the library at Meridian and Idaho Streets.

According to Walters, money raised from the book sale will go toward building up the library's Idaho collection, a group of books about Idaho and by Idaho authors.

BOOK WORM ALERT



BOOK SALE

MERIDIAN FREE LIBRARY
18 EAST IDAHO

FEB 26 - 12 - 7

FEB 27 - 9 - 5

5/5/82 (P.M.)

Dear Nancy & Gay;

Yes, we have survived April,
& could be it wasn't all That
bad ???

I am sending a copy of "April
Passed" to show I wasn't
'jinning'

You know April's liked the song,
"she's a nice girl, a proper girl,
but one of the Rowing kind!"

Have fun!

Andy
Nancy

APRIL Passed.

Oh April! I arrived with us, on her way
To other climes,
That Roughish Weyden, bright-eyed; Alas,
Untempt at times!
Her Teasing sun, her equally
Chilling breeze,
Gently mocks, to find a man
his knees.

Be silent! Say naught of any
Past regrets; —
Who else leaves such carpets
Of fragile vishets?
So heedless dear, as you
pass by,
Perhaps no other loves you, quite
As much as I!

Nancy S. Sage
4/26/82

CAROL RYRIE BRINK – OUR IDAHO AUTHOR – 1895-1981

A BIOGRAPHICAL AND LITERARY PRESENTATION

Sponsored by The Association for the Humanities in Idaho and The Latah County Historical Society

A slide presentation by Mary Reed, Historian, using selections from Carol Brink's work and interviews with the author.

Carol Brink wrote 27 books for children and adults and received numerous awards, including the Newbery Medal for *Caddie Woodlawn*. Her three Idaho novels, *Buffalo Coat*, *Strangers in the Forest*, and *Snow in the River*, and the booklet, *Four Girls on a Homestead*, are based on the history of Moscow and the surrounding area.

Date: April 19
Time: 7:30
Place: Meridian Free Library
For More Information: 888-4451



Carol Ryrie Brink, ca 1915

Library to observe Animals Week

The Meridian Free Library will be observing Be Kind to Animals Week, May 2-8.

Yesterday a speaker from the Idaho Humane Society presented a program on pet care for children.

Thursday at 4 p.m. a Pet Parade will be held at the library, 14 E. Idaho St. Pets must be caged or leashed. Special prizes will be awarded to children participating in the parade.

Saturday has been designated fine free day for all mothers returning

overdue books.

Other programs have been scheduled by the library for the month of May. Copies of the schedule of activities are available at the library.

Library to dedicate Sage/Rathjen Idaho Collection

Two Meridian residents will be honored May 10 by the Meridian Free

Library with the official dedication of the Nancy S. Sage and Carl Rathjen

Idaho Collection.

The day has been officially set aside in a proclamation by Mayor Joe Glaisyer, and an open house will be held at 2 p.m. at the library, 18 E. Idaho.

Sage was the town's librarian beginning in 1954, becoming full time in 1961 and retiring in 1975.

Carl Rathjen, a popular local author of 16 novels and numerous short stories, has been an active participant in the activities of the library, serving on the original city library board.

Other distinguished guests to be recognized at the open house are members of the Occident Club, whose membership started the library in 1924.

The Idaho Collection is comprised of books about Idahoans and by Idaho authors. Many books in the collection are no longer in print.

May 12, 1982

Library holds open house, dedication

The Meridian Free Library District held the dedication of the Nancy S. Sage and Carl H. Rathjen Idaho Collection May 10 at the library, with an open house and refreshments following.

Nancy Sage was the librarian in Meridian beginning in 1954. In 1961, she was appointed full-time librarian, retiring in 1975.

Carl H. Rathjen, a popular local author of 16 novels and numerous short stories, has been an active participant in the activities of the library, serving on the original city library board.

Other local people recognized were members of the Occident Club, which started the city library in 1924.

The Idaho Collection is comprised of books by and about Idaho authors. Many of the books in the collection are no longer in print, according to librarian Gaye Walter.

Eagle Flower
Shoppe

939-0556

Meridian Library

To pay the the library
staff

From,

Eagle Public
Library



was sponsored by the Friends of Eagle Public Library.

Among Ourselves

MERIDIAN FREE DISTRICT LIBRARY honored trustee Carl Rathjen and former librarian Nancy Sage at an open house and reception on May 10th. Former librarians Eleanor Arndt and Grove Koger were also in attendance.

Dear Staff -

The Meridian Free Library and its delightful staff have had a special place in our lives and hearts for many years. It is one of those wonderful small oases of sanity and joy in our often mad and violent world. You help to keep us civilized, enlightened and entertained. You are all greatly appreciated.

As to the great tribute you have paid to Carl - all he can think of to say, as he stands twisting his toe in the rug, is "Aw gee-

thanks."

As his extremely prejudiced wife, I am sure that those who have known him will never forget Carl, but it has made us both very

A note of appreciation

because you've been

especially kind.

proud and happy to have this lasting reminder that he passed this way and did his part.

Thank you for thinking of it. It was a beautiful gesture. Much love,

Madeline + Carl Rathjens



Laura Hall (l) looks on as Teresa Gasaway (r) balances precariously on a ladder at the Meridian Free Library. The girls and 8 other members of the Meridian High School Art Club are painting a fairyland rainbow above the children's books sections. Lois Collinsworth is the club's advisor.

Laura Hall

John Anderson

Marna Jorgensen

Teresa Jorgensen

Ron Harrison

Lois Collinsworth

Teresa Gasaway

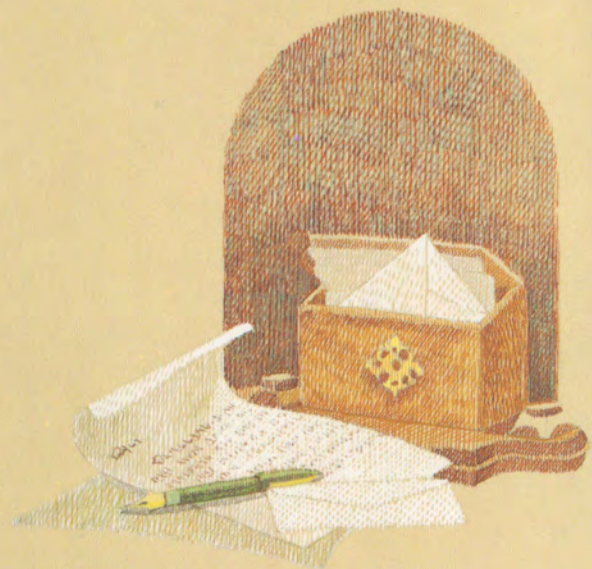
6-17-82

Dear Friends,

A note like this
can't quite convey
the gratitude
that's sent your way,
But may these words
somehow express
warm thanks
for all your thoughtfulness.

Thank you for the lovely
book on our favorite state,
and the bookmark.
These will be treasured.

We love you.
Milda & Reg
S.



Library to sponsor financial seminars

A series of Financial Management seminars have been scheduled at the Meridian Free Library from 7 - 9 p.m. on Wednesday, May 26 from 9 - 11 a.m. on Saturday, June 5th.

Each of these sessions will deal with a different area of Financial Planning and Money Management. Mary Foster, Boise, a representative of a financial services organization, will be conducting the seminars.

Topics will include building your own financial security, reducing your income taxes, abuses and misuses of money today, hedging against inflation, as well as many other topics concerning money management.

There is no charge for the seminar, and the public is invited.

Valley News May 19

VALLEY NEWS, MERIDIAN, IDAHO, JUNE 9, 1982

Library announces "Keys to the Castle" summer reading program

Meridian Free Library District will begin the summer reading program June 17, 1982. The theme for the summer will be Keys to the Castle.

Thursday mornings at 10:30 special programs around this theme will be held at the library.

June 17, TOUR OF ENGLISH CASTLES; June 24, Castle storyhour; July 1, MEDIEVAL Games; July 8, Archery; July 15, Magician; July 22,

Films from the castle; July 29, Medieval Faire.

Special booklets will be given to each participant, to record the books they have read, or that have been read to them. Comic books or magazines may not be counted. Children will receive a "key to the castle" for each five books read. Special bookmarks will also be awarded.

July 7, 1982

Autograph session set at library

Tim Woodward, author of "Shirttail Journalist, the Best of Tim Woodward," will be autographing copies of his books at the Meridian Free Library District, today at 11 a.m.

The book is hardbound and sells for \$10.95. Woodward will donate a dollar for every book sold at the library to the local library fund.

Woodward went to work for the Idaho Statesman in 1971 as a bureau reporter. He later worked as a government reporter, investigative reporter, feature writer and editorial writer. He began writing a weekly column in 1975.

"Shirttail Journalist" was published in 1981. The first printing, 1,500 copies, sold out in 30 days. The

books being sold now are from the second printing. The book is a collection of columns from over the years.

Woodward is a native of Boise and a graduate of the University of Idaho. He and his wife have two daughters, ages five and seven.

Food presentation classes slated

Safe food preservation is the topic of two classes being held at the Meridian Free Library, 18 E. Idaho St.

Home Canning Update, scheduled for July 28 from 10 a.m. to noon, will highlight safe canning methods for fruits, vegetables, fish and meat. New recommendations for canning tomatoes and mock zucchini pineapple will be included.

Drying Food at Home, Aug. 4 from 10:30 a.m. to noon, includes

pretreatment methods, recommendations for oven, dehydrator or sun drying, packaging and storage.

There is no charge for either class. Preregister by calling 377-2107. U.S.D.A. and University of Idaho food preservation publications will be available for purchase during the classes.

Both classes will be taught by Marilyn Shinn, University of Idaho Extension Home Economist in Ada County.

Medieval Faire to be July 29

The Medieval Faire at the Meridian Library will be Thursday, July 29 at 10 a.m.

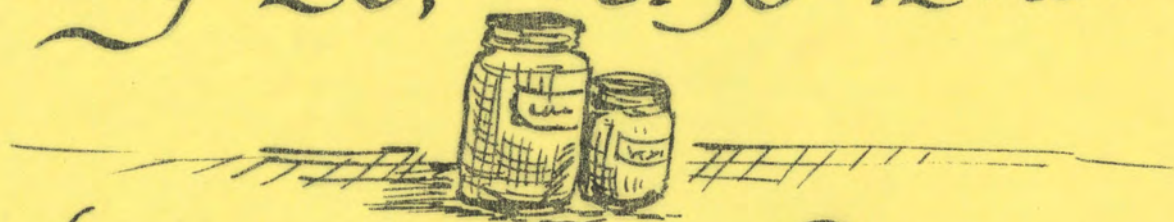
This is the last of the scheduled programs for the Keep to the Castle Summer Reading Program.

The program will feature food and music of a Medieval nature.

Certificates will be awarded to all children who have participated in the reading program.

The University of Idaho Sponsors
Home Canning Update

July 28, 10:30-12 noon



How to Dry Foods

Aug. 4, 10:30-12 noon

Meridian Pub. Library

call 377-2107 to register

No charge