

Scrap Book

1983 - 1985 ★ A Gift ★

VALLEY NEWS, MERIDIAN, IDAHO, OCTOBER 5, 1983

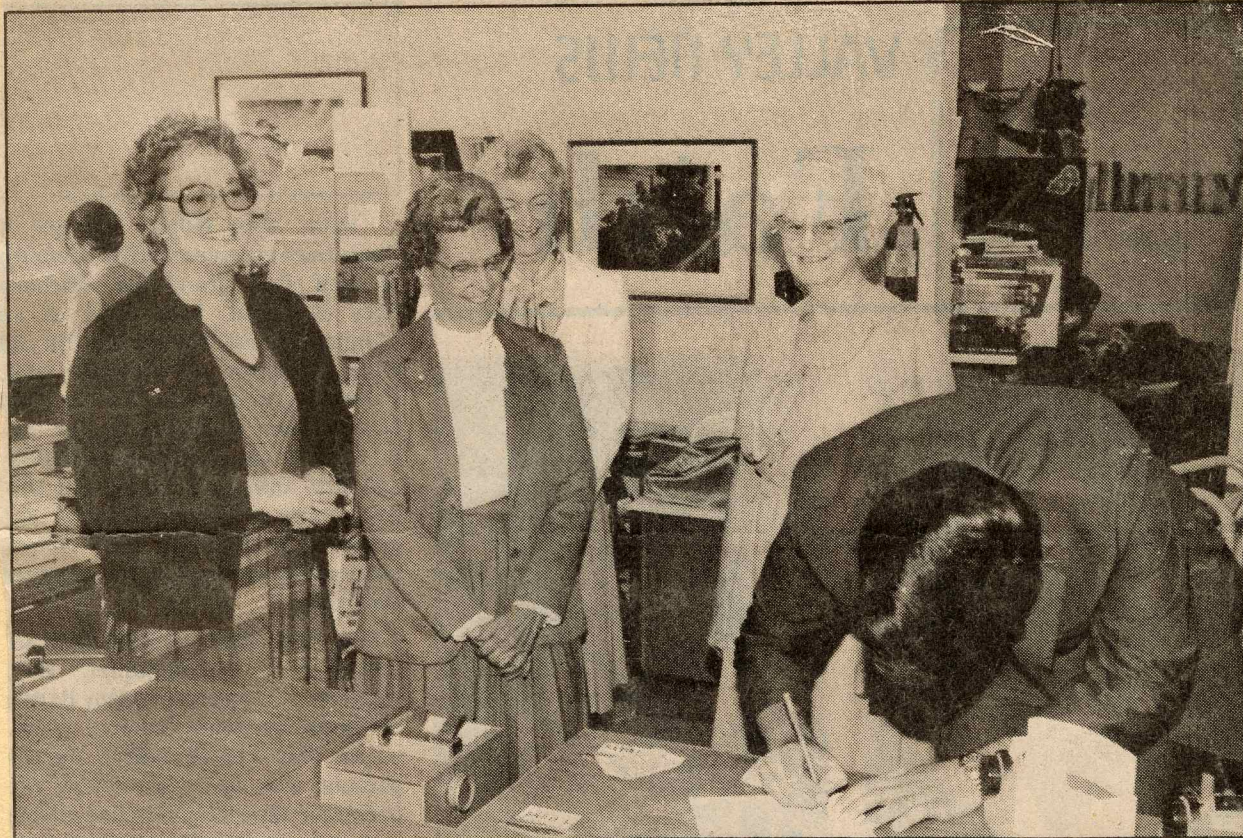


Photo by Jeff Stoffer

Friends of the Library and members of the Occident Club watch as Gerry Mattison officially notarizes the turning over of the building deed.

Occident Club signs over library deed; expansion plans to result

by John Redding

The Meridian Public Library will soon be able to expand its facility and service after receiving the deed to the entire building from the Occident Club.

Officers of the club met with library officials and a bank representative last week to sign over the deed.

June Thomas, Occident Club president, and Ester Sharp, secretary, put their signatures on the document as Gerry Mattison, Idaho First Bank official notarized the deed.

Shirley Spencer and Sharlene Denny, Friends of the Library members, were also on hand when the deed was signed.

Spencer said architects are looking into ways to expand the facility that is presently cramped for space. She said Occident Club members will still conduct meeting in a portion of the building.

The library has a monthly circulation of about 900 books, but there is presently only about 1,200 square feet of space in the building. Book circulation is 2,000 books above last year.

The Occident Club, a women's service group, started the first library

in Meridian on July 17, 1924. It was located in the Songer Drug Store on the corner of First and E. Idaho Ave.

The library was moved to the city hall in 1925 when there were about 2,000 books — most of which were donated.

After more shifts to other locations, the library moved into its present location June 1, 1974. On July 16, 1974, petitions were presented to the Ada County Commissioners calling for the formation of the Meridian Free Library District.

The Meridian Public Library became a charter member of the Southwestern Idaho Regional Library System in August 1974.



Statesman photo by Al Fuchs

Gaye Walter, head of the Meridian Public Library, has plans to eliminate cramped reading and activity spaces

Meridian library will expand

By JUDY GRIGG HANSEN
The Idaho Statesman

MERIDIAN — The Occident Club, a women's service group, started the Meridian Free Library 60 years ago. Now it is giving the library title to the building at the corner of Meridian and Idaho streets.

"We're so excited," said Gaye Walter, library director. "Besides more than doubling our space, we will now be able to qualify for state and federal grants requiring building ownership."

Monthly circulation is about 9,000 books — 2,000 a month above last year — yet there is only 1,200 square feet of floor space.

One of the most crowded areas is the children's section.

"When we have two children, we have a crowd," Walter said.

A program meeting room, a larger reference section and a reading room are also in the plans.

Walter, a resident of Boise, has

been a librarian since 1961.

"I never really considered any other career," she said. "I've always loved to read and had very good experiences in libraries while growing up."

Before coming to the Meridian Library, Walter worked at the Idaho State Library for six years.

"This Meridian library had always appealed to me," said Walter. "So, when I was approached to take the job on a temporary basis in January of 1982, I decided to take it and worry later whether I had a job in six months."

In the year and a half that Walter has been library director, many changes have taken place. New metal shelving was added, increasing shelving space 50 per cent. This also cut the book replacement cost because books could be shelved upright instead of on their sides.

The Idaho books were pooled into a special collection dedicated to Carl Rathjen and Nancy Sage. Rathjen has been on the library

board for many years and is also the author of young adult books. Sage was the librarian for 21 years.

The high school art class painted a mural in the children's section and two display cases have been added, one donated by Intermountain Arms.

"We have had great support from the community and from the library board," said Walter. "The Rotary Club just gave us a 16mm projector and, in August, they gave us \$1,200 to buy young adult books."

The library also boasts a new copy machine provided by the Friends of the Library, a support group formed last November.

Expansion is not the only thing on Walter's mind.

"Community awareness is really lacking," she said. "Many people in the library district are not even aware we are here."

The library district covers an area roughly from the Can-Ada Road on the west to Eagle Road

(and in some places beyond) on the east; then it goes from the Boise River on the north to Lake Hazel Road south.

Walter plans to keep adding programs to draw people in. This summer she started a Children's Reading Roundtable, a group made up of school librarians, authors and others interested in children's literature.

"We are also on a waiting list with Computer Time to have a coin-operated computer placed in the library," she said.

Beginning this week there will be a display of stumpwork, a medieval form of needlework, by Lois Rieger.

In November there will be a repeat of last year's brown bag lunches with special speakers. Children's author Glenn Balch will be featured on Nov. 15.

Ongoing favorites are the preschool story hours at 10:30 a.m. on Thursdays and after school programs on Tuesdays at 3:45 p.m.

\$100,000 needed for work on library

by Rick Mattoon

"Welcome to the Meridian Free Library," Children's Librarian Denise Evans starts out addressing the 20 children who are visitors that afternoon.

"We're a little larger than we were just a few months ago," she goes on. "Over here (she points to the east end of the library) is part of the adult section that's new. It's where your parents or their friends come to when they visit the library."

"You've got yourself a good library here," an older gentleman says to one of the staff in another conversation going on at the same time the children's librarian is speaking. His could have been a fitting closing statement to her short speech to the children. Short because like most kids they are restless. She quickly leads them on to the heart of their tour.

The library has indeed gone through some changes, and they're not through yet. The changes have involved a new librarian and will involve a second phase of a building program that will increase the library's ability to provide service to their Meridian patrons.

Bill Snyder has been librarian at Meridian Public Library for three months, joining the staff in June. He has spent 16 years in the library field. His first goal with the Meridian library was to see the completion of the first phase of the rebuilding program. Having accomplished his first goal, he looks forward to seeing the rest of his short-term goals and long-term goals come to fruition.

"We want to be giving as good library service as possible," Snyder said. He also wants to provide sound administration while doing his duties.

Those duties not only include taking care of financial accounts, but buying what he thinks are the best books available for the library.

"Some libraries," he said, "feel their task is to get the books" people

are interested in and on the best-seller's list. Other have the philosophy of "getting the best literature available in every subject. We need to do both, really," he said.

Snyder realizes that many people within the library district that covers 56 square miles don't know all that is in the library, so he's making efforts to go out and tell them. Last week he spoke before a women's church group, telling them about the number of Christian related books on the shelves.

"We try to serve those who need information and people who want a good novel to read," Snyder said.

Out of the library's total budget, just over \$7,000 is marked for books and periodicals, an amount that makes buying books an even tougher matter for Snyder. With the aid of the Friends of the Meridian Library and

a booksale that went on this past weekend at the library, Snyder is hoping that amount can go up to \$8,000. That would allow him to buy up to 533 books this next year. The new budget went into effect on Saturday.

The Meridian Library is associated with the Southwestern Idaho Regional Library System, which allows the library to purchase books at a greater discount than normal. It also allows them to get books for patrons through an inter-library loan system, which is free of charge except for postage in some cases.

Snyder's long term goal is to complete the second phase of the building program. After the Occident Club gave a deed to the entire building to the library, an extensive remodeling and construction of an

addition increased the usable space by 72 percent. The second phase would redesign and replace the roof, the exterior walls would be insulated, windows would be redesigned and replaced with insulated glass, a new entrance would be constructed, electrical service would be replaced, new acoustical ceiling and energy efficient lighting will be installed, and an old wall will be removed to allow for improved traffic within the library.

The total cost of the second phase was estimated at \$140,000 by architect James Shearer. The Library District has \$40,000 in its building fund, creating a need for an additional \$100,000.

Snyder is in the process of addressing the library's need to private

Continued on page 7

Library...

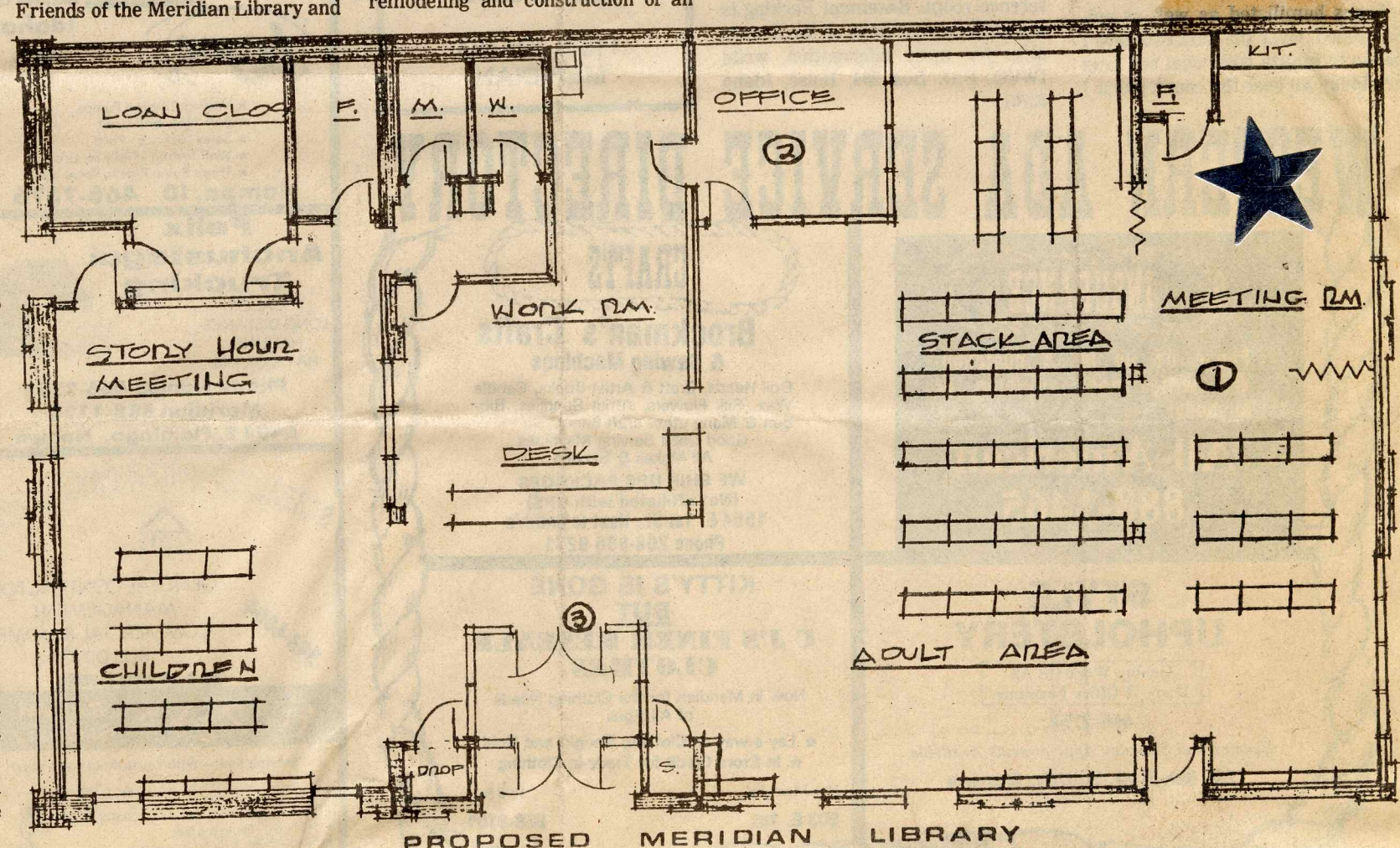
(Continued from page 1)

grants in hopes of attracting grant money for the project. Two possible sources Snyder is looking to is The Wittenberg Foundation in Caldwell and The Gannett Foundation.

If a portion of the money comes in, the second phase would be done in smaller phases, not the most economical way of completing the project, Snyder said.

Even though the second phase of construction may not happen for awhile, the library is not inactive. An extensive children's program allows children from Meridian's primary schools to use the library and preschool children are involved in a puppet story telling hour.

With Snyder's efforts in telling the adult population what is available for them at the library, he hopes to see an increasing number of members to the library. People within the library district can get a library card for free, while those outside the district can purchase a card for \$15.



PROPOSED MERIDIAN LIBRARY

Meridian and Kuna
on Pages 4 and 8 of

This is the layout of the Meridian Public Library once the second phase of construction is completed. Area No. 1 is the first

phase of construction which is already completed. The second phase includes: No. 2, a larger office, and No. 3, a new entrance.



Meridian Library District chairman Jack Riddlemoser turns the first shovel-full of earth, kicking off a \$50,000 expansion project.

Library breaks ground

Representatives of various Meridian community organizations and library officials and patrons were on hand Saturday morning for the official groundbreaking ceremony at the Meridian Free Library.

The library will be taking on a new look this summer with a 15-foot extension to its east wing. With a 10-foot easement from adjacent Mountain Bell Co., the library will have quite a bit more breathing room by next fall, according to librarian Gaye Walter.

But that's just the first phase. Phase II will remodel the interior and exterior of the building, giving new, larger resource areas for the district's increased number of patrons.

Jack Riddlemoser, Chairman of the Meridian Library District Board of Trustees, turned up the first shovel-full of earth in the area to be expanded.

Meridian Mayor Grant Kingsford spoke at the ceremony, as did Occident Club President June Thomas, and Evva Larsen, Assistant State Librarian.

Though Riddlemoser, who mastered the ceremony, broke the ground for the first time in the \$50,000 expansion project, the next shovel-full probably won't come until later next week, according to Walter.

She said construction bids have not yet been let. Once construction gets under way, the expansion should be complete no later than the end of July. There is a 90-day completion deadline on the job.

"I have no patience, I'm ready to move in tomorrow," Walter laughed, noting the benefits the library patrons will receive from the added space. She said the additional space will coincide with extended hours at the library.

Walter said she would like to see the library begin evening hours by the fall, when school starts.

She said the turnout and support shown at the ceremony was very representative of the community and its support for the library. "I thought the groundbreaking ceremony was really nice. I was really pleased. We had good representation from the community and the patrons," she said. Thirty-seven attended the ceremony.

Refreshments were served by the Friends of the Meridian Library following the ceremony.

Architect Jim Shearer said he would anticipate 120 days for the remodel project to be completed.

The work involves exterior renovation, increasing office space, and making a children's library section, among other things.

The original plans for the remodel, the second phase of a total remodeling project for the library, would have cost \$146,000.

"We ended up with a \$108,000 budget," Shearer pointed out, after a federal grant given the district was matched by the library.

The plans had to be revised, making changes to bring the cost down. Shearer said he finished revising the architect plans before the first of August.

Librarian Bill Snyder said he had hoped the construction could have gotten underway earlier. But he agreed with Riddlemoser that it's too late this season to go out to bid. "It's best to postpone," he said.

"Although I was expecting to get done this fall, it's not a great disappointment," he said.

One problem that was discovered after Shearer's plans were drawn was a lack of space for the Occident Club.

The Occident Club had donated the

library to the library board, with an agreement that space would be provided for them for their use.

Shearer said that because of lack of space, the library board is trying to find another space for them.

"We have everything taken care of," Riddlemoser said about finding space for the Occident Club.

"We're looking at space now. We have two to three deals, but no final decision yet. But we have that under control."

Riddlemoser said the delay in finding adequate space for the Occident Club did not play a part in delaying the remodel project.

President's Letter

1984



Library breaks ground

Representatives of various Meridian community organizations and library officials and patrons were on hand Saturday morning for the official groundbreaking ceremony at the Meridian Free Library.

The library will be taking on a summer with a 15-foot expansion to its east wing. With the removal of the adjacent building, the library will have a bit more breathing room next fall, according to Mayor Walter.

This is just the first phase. The library will remodel the interior of the building, giving more resource areas for the increased number of patrons. Riddlemoser, Chairman of the Meridian Library District Trustees, turned up the dirt for the first fill of earth in the area during the ceremony.

Mayor Grant spoke at the ceremony, along with Occident Club President John S. and Evva Larsen, the new Librarian.

Riddlemoser, who presided at the ceremony, broke the ground for the first time in the expansion project, the next phase of which probably won't come until next week, according to the architect.

Construction bids have been received. Letting will be let. Once construction begins, the expansion will be complete no later than next fall. There is a 90-day deadline on the job.

"With patience, I'm ready to start tomorrow," Walter said. "The benefits the library will receive from the expansion will coincide with the removal of the building at the library."

She said she would like to see the library begin evening hours by the time school starts.

The turnout and support for the ceremony was very good. "I have a lot of support for the library," she said. "The groundbreaking ceremony was really nice. I was pleased. We had good participation from the community and the patrons," she said. "The Occident Club members attended the ceremony."

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At the end of my first year I want to thank all my officers, committee members, trustees, program people and all who attended the meetings.

You have made my year a great success.

Some of the high lights of this year have kept us all "lit" up.

My project, Hazel Sheffer Home, which is a home for abused and run away children, operated by Tracy Emerson has been an inspiration. Through the Occident Club these things were donated:

a guitar, magazine, books a back yard

several tennis rackets a big Christmas cash donation plus a box of food. Tracy gives her thanks for our charity.

Hostess girls from Girl's

Meridian Library
of earth, kicking o



Meridian Library District chairman
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Library breaks ground

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State gave very interesting reports as well as thanking the club for financial help. Our first fall meeting will be last Monday in Aug because of Labor Day falling on our meeting date and too so many are gone over long week end.

The last one member Mildred Langley by death. ^{Doris Bower,} Two members have dropped Bernice Baath and Edith Cooper. Moved Beatrice Cooper

We gained a new member Delores Reardon.

We gave financial aid to the following

Hager Shelter Home
Girls State
Seniors Citizens for Bldg
~~on subjects~~ and Memorial
Tomorrow's Hope

Mr. Snyder has been most gracious in setting up for our meeting place when I have called at

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Thirty-seven attended the ceremony.

Refreshments were served by the Friends of the Meridian Library following the ceremony.

at least a week ahead of meeting. This has been a big help to the refreshment committee.

The programs have been most interesting and again I want to thank those who were responsible for the programs.

Average attendance has been 21 - out of 42 members.

President's letter

1984



Meridian Library District
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Meridian Library plans expansion and facelift

by Jeff Stoffer

The Meridian Free Library will be looking quite a bit different by fall of 1985.

Plans are currently coming together for a major facelift on the building at 18 E. Idaho, and librarian Gaye Walter says the move will better serve the community in several ways. "Our circulation has doubled in the past two years. This is why we're expanding. We really need to do this," she said.

The expansion will provide 800 more square feet to the east end of the building in its first phase. In its second phase, a major remodeling will open the interior, giving new resource and study areas to the library. Walter said the second phase will "modernize" the building.

The first phase is being funded through the Meridian Free Library Building Fund. The additional space will cost about \$50,000, according to architect James Shearer.

Walter said the library will not want to deplete the building fund with the first phase. She said it is hoped that federal grants will be available for Phase II. There were no federal grants available for libraries this year.

A matching-money grant from the federal government might be the ticket if funds are available next year, she said. If that is the case, Walter said the library would need as much of the existing building

fund as possible. She added that fund-raisers will also be conducted to help raise money for the project. An estimated \$150,000 would be needed to handle the second phase.

Carpeting, wall removal, new ceilings, and exterior improvements are planned for the second phase, according to Walter.

Twelve contractors have submitted bids on the project. Deadline is Thursday.

The expansion project will extend 15 feet into library-owned property east of the existing building. Mountain Bell, which owns the adjacent property has given the library a 10-foot easement. That will give the library room enough to put up a sign, Walter said.

The two foremost advantages to the first phase, says Walter, are increasing the children's area two-fold and providing a study area.

Following completion of the project, library hours will be extended into the evening at least a couple of nights a week, she said.

This is not the first expansion project to the building.

In 1912, what is now the west end of the Meridian Free Library, was the Interurban Train Depot. The Occident Club took it over in 1924, but it was not a library at that time. The Meridian Library was located in the building now occupied by Intermountain Arms, 105 E. Idaho.

The Occident Club later turned the former train

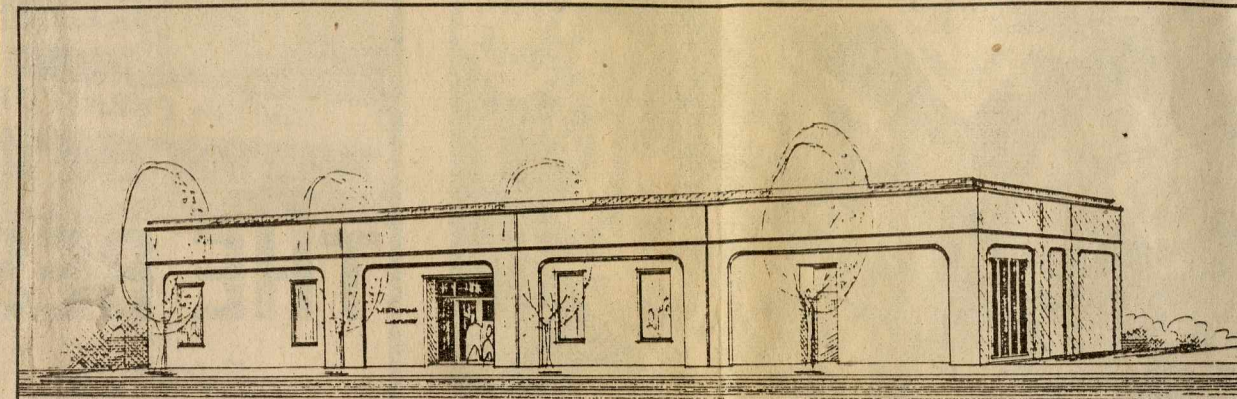
depot from their meeting hall to a library. The Meridian Library District was formed in 1974 and the building was expanded to its present size.

Last August, the building was turned over by the Occident Club to the district.

And in the two years Walter has been librarian, she has laid the groundwork for making the facility an especially attractive community service. "I think in the two years that I've been here, the community has shown a great deal of interest in the library," she said.

Money is needed to provide the changes Walter hopes to have accomplished within the next two years. "We could have a bond election or a major fund-raiser to raise the money," she said. However, on the heels of the senior citizens fund drive and the two past Meridian School District bond elections, she doesn't want to hit the community up so soon.

Groundbreaking for the first expansion has been set for Saturday at the library, at 10:30 a.m.



Proposed Meridian Library Extension

Graphic courtesy of Jim Shearer

DEED

ATTEST:

Esther J. Sharp

SECRETARY.

STATE OF IDAHO,

On this 29 day of SEPT., 1983, before me, a Notary Public in and for said State, personally appeared June Thomas and Esther Sharp, known to me to be the President and Secretary of the corporation that executed this instrument or the persons who executed the instrument on behalf of said corporation, and acknowledged to me that such corporation executed the same.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed my official seal, the day and year in this certificate first above written.

[Signature]
Notary Public

Residing at Meridian, Idaho
Comm. Expires 5-2-87

STATE OF IDAHO, COUNTY OF

I hereby certify that this instrument was filed for record at the request of

at _____ minutes past _____ o'clock M.,
this _____ day of _____,
19____, in my office, and duly recorded in Book _____
of Deeds at Page _____

Ex-Officio Recorder

By _____ Deputy.

Fees \$ _____
Mail to: _____

INSTRUMENT No.

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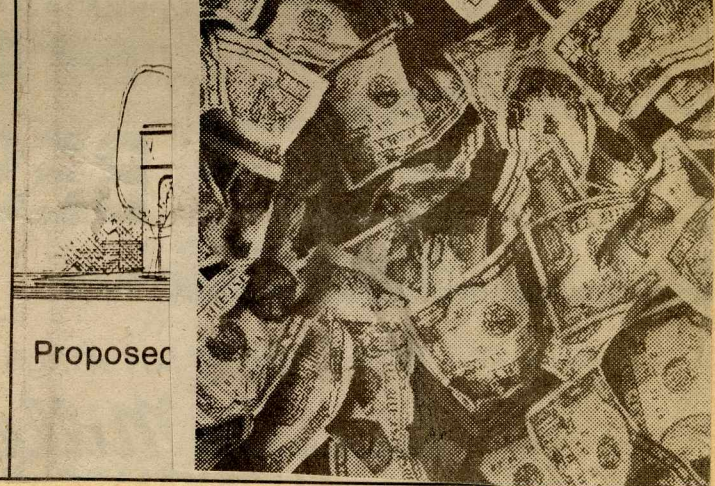
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DEED

FOR VALUE RECEIVED, Occident Club

a corporation duly organized and existing under the laws of the State of Idaho, grantor, does hereby Grant, Bargain, Sell and Convey unto

Meridian Free Library District

grantee whose current address is 18 E. Idaho, Meridian Library

the following described real estate, to-wit:

Lots 1, 2, and 3, in Block 3, of the original Townsite of Meridian, Ada County, Idaho, except the North 68 feet 10 inches thereof

TO HAVE AND TO HOLD The said premises, with their appurtenances unto the said Grantee its heirs and assigns forever

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, The Grantor, pursuant to a resolution of its Board of Directors has caused its corporate name to be hereunto subscribed by its President and its corporate seal to be affixed by its Secretary this

By *June Thomas* PRESIDENT.

ATTEST: *Esther Sharp* SECRETARY.

STATE OF IDAHO,
On this 29 day of SEPT, 1983,
before me, a Notary Public in and for said State, personally appeared June Thomas and Esther Sharp, known to me to be the President and Secretary of the corporation that executed this instrument or the persons who executed the instrument on behalf of said corporation, and acknowledged to me that such corporation executed the same.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed my official seal, the day and year in this certificate first above written.

Paul W. [Signature]
Notary Public
Residing at Meridian, Idaho
Comm. Expires 5-2-87

STATE OF IDAHO, COUNTY OF
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at _____ minutes past _____ o'clock M.,
this _____ day of _____,
19 _____, in my office, and duly recorded in Book _____ of Deeds at Page _____

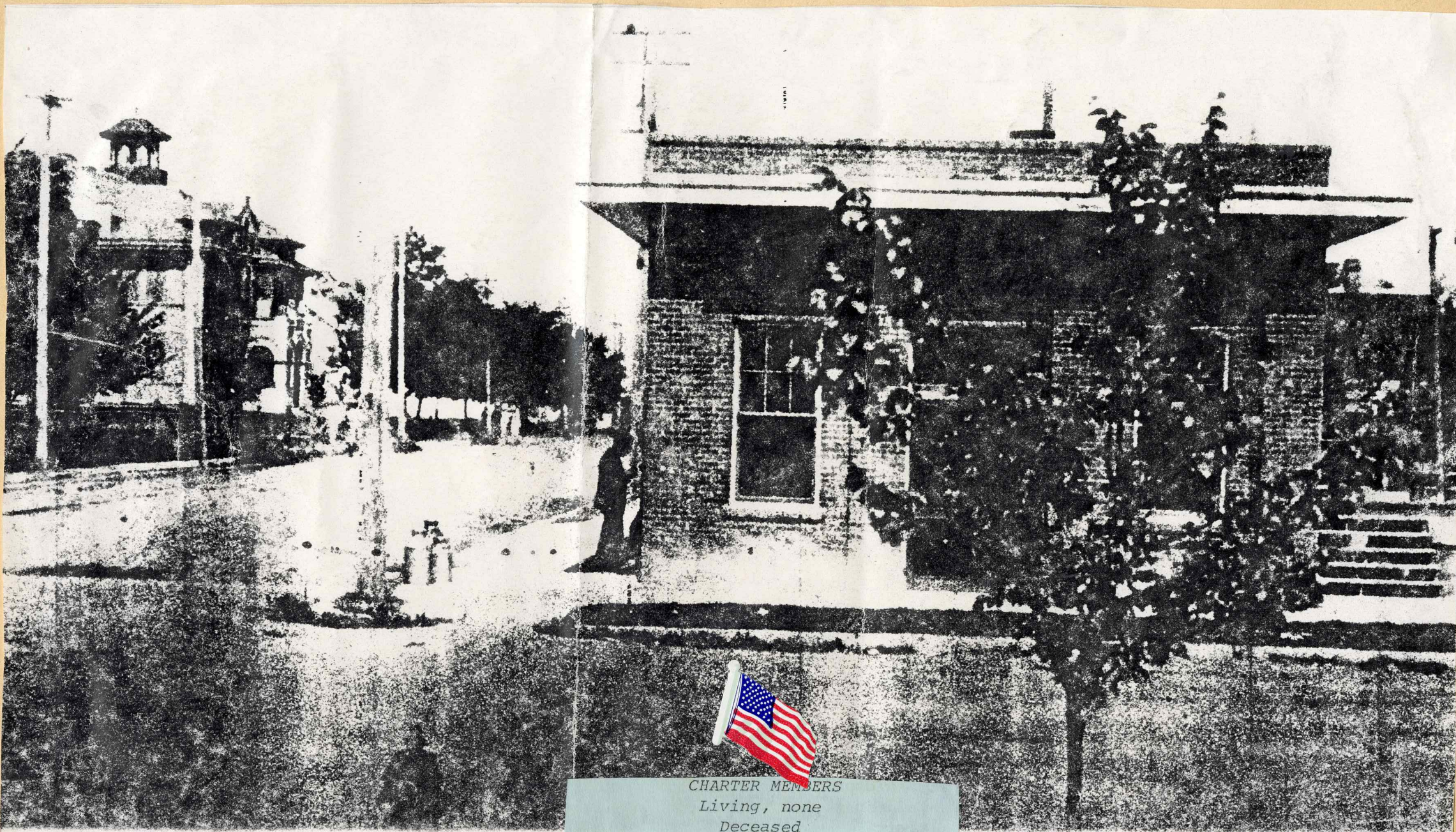
Ex-Officio Recorder

By _____ Deputy.

Fees \$
Mail to:

INSTRUMENT No.

HISTORY



CHARTER MEMBERS

Living, none

Deceased

- | | |
|-----------------|------------------|
| E. Pearl Baird | Zelma Haworth |
| Orpha Baldwin | Esther Hardin |
| Addie Barker | Dora Leighton |
| Mary Bean | Ethyl Lockwood |
| Susie Cairns | Cora Marner |
| Carrie Cato | Alice Mateer |
| Marion Clelen | Edna McCoy |
| Anna Curtis | Grace Neal |
| Tessie Davidson | Myrtle Songer |
| Nina Egbert | Gertrude Stanton |
| Mary Fenton | Hattie Wylie |
| Mertie Garrett | Maude Youngquist |



EMPLOYEE OF THE MONTH



"Assistant to the dietitians" is a job title that is a combination of many jobs, and performing each of these duties with skill and efficiency is the Employee of the Month for September, Dorothy Brace. Mrs. Brace began her employment at St. Luke's in 1959 as a cook in the diet kitchen. Shortly after this she transferred to her present position. In addition to keeping all of the records for the dietary department, which includes compiling monthly reports and keeping a perpetual inventory of all food items, Mrs. Brace relieves both the administrative and therapeutic dietitian and can perform both jobs well. Due to the illness of another employee she has often been seen performing numerous other jobs such as salad cook, evening cook, dishwasher, pots and pans washer and even houseman.

Mrs. Brace has two children. Her son, who is an engineer, has just returned to the United States after working three years in Venezuela. Her daughter resides in Burns, Oregon and visits here often with her four children.

The dietary department is certainly proud to have one of its employees chosen as Employee of the Month and no one is more deserving than Dorothy. Congratulations Dorothy!

Occident club marks 40th anniversary

by Catherine Franklin

Meridian's Occident club celebrated its fortieth anniversary Monday with a covered dish luncheon and an afternoon program.

The club was organized June 16, 1924, at the home of Mrs. Nina Egbert, with Mrs. Marion Clelen as the first president.

Present Monday were five of the original charter members—the Mmes. Clelen, Egbert, Susie Cairns, Zelma Rose, and Mrs. Herschel Davidson of Boise.

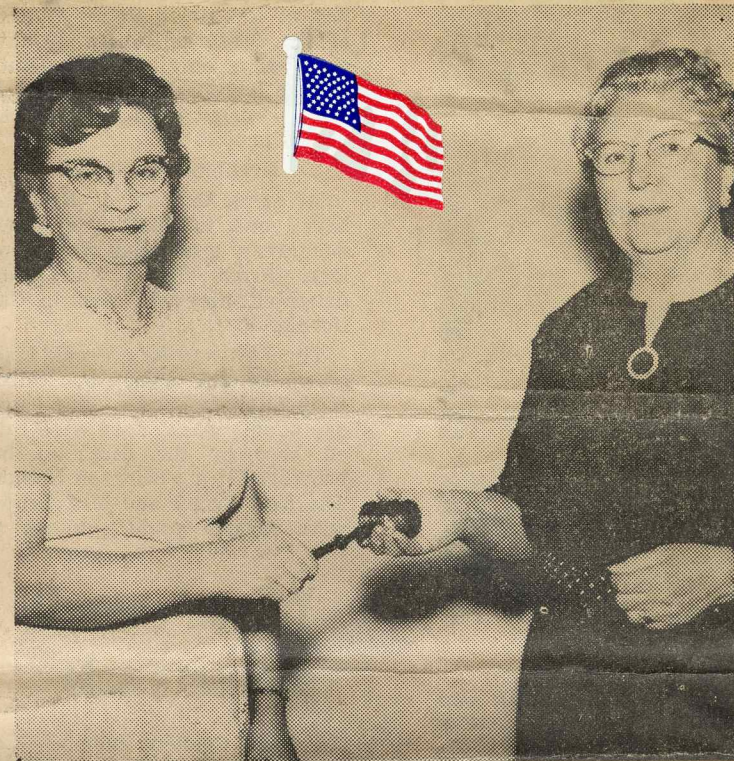
The birthday cake for Monday's event was inscribed "1924-64." Mrs. Nannette Brunn presented the club with a beautiful ceramic vase.

Program of memories

Mrs. Marguerite Patch built the program around the theme of reminiscing. She read a poem written by a charter member, Mrs. Gertrude Stanton, and first read in 1924, entitled "When the Preacher Came to Dinner."

Mrs. Clelen, the first president, related amusing incidents recorded in the minutes of the first two years. Mrs. Vera Miller of Boise, second president of the club, continued the reminiscing.

Mrs. Fred Bower, retiring president, reported highlights of the past year and thanked her officers and the members for their co-operation. Mrs. Davidson, accompanied by Mrs. Clarence Biggs of Boise, sang a song which was a repeat from one of the early programs, "A Little Brown Owl." Her second selection was "Prayer Perfect." To add to the early recollections Mrs. Davidson recalled accompanying a 32-year-old solo-



(Creason photo)

40TH ANNIVERSARY MEETING of Occident club included installation of new officers. The new president, Mrs. Ray Anderson, at left, accepts gavel from outgoing president, Mrs. Fred Bower.

ist, who was then ten years her senior. She said she wondered at that time why a woman so old would want to sing a solo!

Letters read

In the business session letters of thanks were read from Mrs. Earl Marks for help with volunteer service at Nampa State School, from the American Legion Auxiliary for rags for their rug project, and for assistance with the Girls' State expenses.

In yearly reports, committees listed two major projects that had been completed — buying a new electric range, and rewiring the clubhouse with heavy duty wire. The library reported 224 books loaned per library day in May. There are 6,727 books on the shelves and 23,619 books were loaned during the year.

The club received \$121 in memorials during the year.

Emergency Loan

The Emergency Loan committee reported loaning 272 articles to 92 families, and receiving gifts of a walker and other small items, plus \$179 in cash. The ways and means committee, and the committee serving Lions Club dinners, reported satisfactory results for the year.

Mrs. Marguerite Patch gave a report of the state convention held in Twin Falls, and reports were made on the second district meeting in Nampa. At the request of state president Mrs. Charles Winkler, Mrs. Patch has compiled a two-year history of the club activities to be put in a scrap book.

The membership committee announced 26 new members added

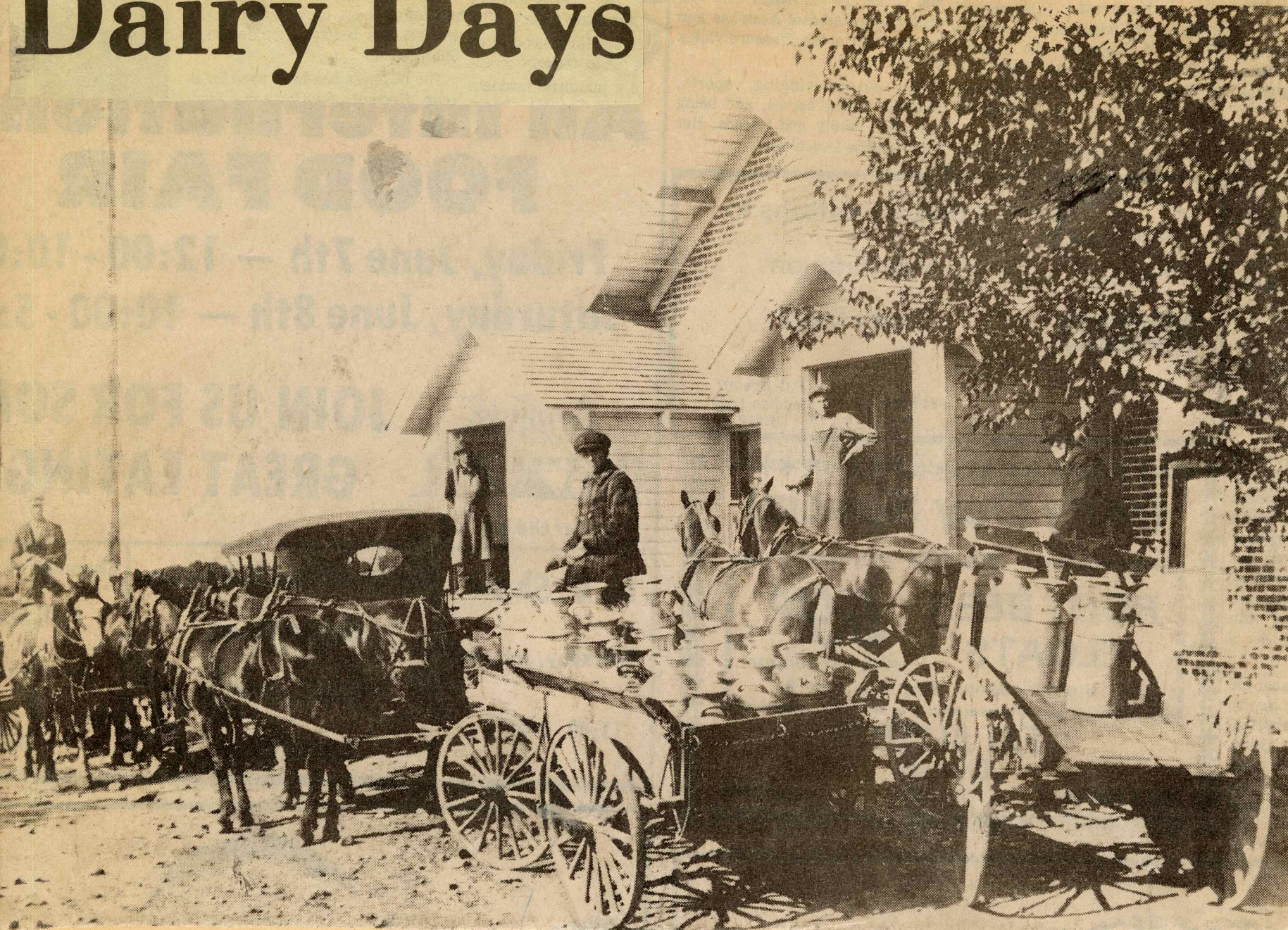
this year, making 78 names on the roll.

Officers installed

Mrs. Ray Anderson, president elect, spoke briefly using as her theme, pride in our past and faith in our future. As Mrs. Nina Egbert installed the officers, Mrs. Leo Heikes pinned corsages on each one. They were gifts from Mrs. Fred Bower, retiring president. Installed were the Mmes. Ray Anderson, president; Myrtle Songer, vice president; Francis Veach, secretary; Neal Scrivner, assistant secretary; Warren Moore, treasurer, and Fred Bower, historian. Mrs. Ray Ulmer read the prayer for the new president. Committees appointed included a new one, a committee for volunteer service. Mrs. R. H. Bell was appointed and she stressed again the need for individuals or groups to sponsor the forgotten residents of Nampa State School.

About 40 members and guests attended the Monday luncheon and meeting.

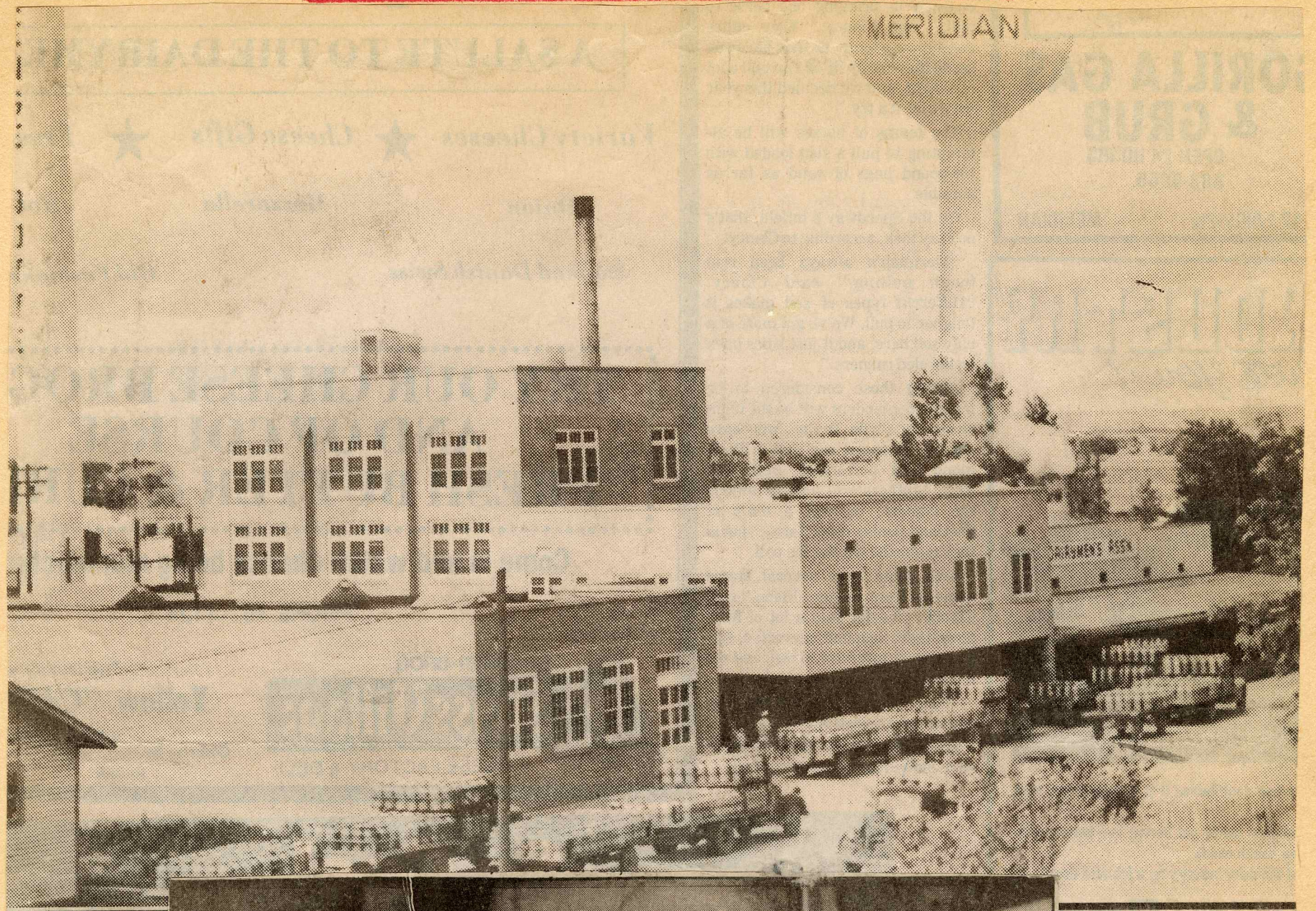
Dairy Days



Welcome to Meridian Dairy Days

This photo courtesy of Cletus Minton shows what was a common sight in Meridian during the time when the old Creamery Building on Meridian and Broadway was the central location for dairymen to bring their milk. This photo is looking east on Broadway.





Hazel and Roy Goodwin came up with the oldest copy of a Valley News predecessor, the Meridian Times, to win the Valley News' contest held in recognition of National Newspaper Week, Oct. 10-16. The June 9, 1939 issue garnered the Goodwins \$50. They found the issue under the linoleum in an upstairs room of a house they moved into in 1944. They saved the paper because it contained an article on the Occident Club of which Mrs. Goodwin was a member.

Projects

Lisa packed a lifetime into 23 years

By KAREN BOSSICK
The Idaho Statesman

For most of her 23 years, Lisa Clark bucked the establishment, government bureaucracy and even her own limitations concerning money, education and business know-how.

Last week, however, Clark succumbed to a foe she couldn't beat — cancer.

"She was aware that she had cancer, she acknowledged it, but she ignored it for several months," said Debbie Pond, a friend and co-worker of Clark's.

"Her attitude was, 'So I have cancer. I have things to do. I don't have time to worry about it.'"

Clark lived that philosophy during the final years of her life, pouring her hopes and efforts into a group home for mentally disabled children.

The recipient of those efforts — Tomorrow's Hope, a single-family residence at 4782 Armga in Southwest Boise — is home to six mentally retarded children ages 4-16.

One of a few intermediate-care facilities in Boise, it offers round-the-clock supervision and one-to-one training for severely disabled children. Twelve staff members teach the children such fundamentals as personal hygiene and help them achieve emotional stability.

Clark's dream to open such a home began nearly three years ago when she was working as a teacher's aide for handicapped children in the public schools.

Friends and family called it "the impossible dream," pointing out that she had no car (she hitchhiked to work each day), only a high school education and was barely able to pay her rent and groceries on her \$325 monthly salary.

But they failed to consider Clark's determination, with which she hurdled such roadblocks.

"She was headstrong, bull-headed," said Pond, administrator of Tomorrow's Hope. "She'd charge into anything or anyone to accomplish what she set out to do, yet she was exceptionally soft and compassionate — a natural at working with children."

After several unsuccessful attempts to get a loan for the home, Clark convinced the mother of a handicapped child to back her financially. With the help of a library book, she wrote a 200-page application for a grant and license, including detailed job descriptions and budgets in it.

Her partners dropped out of the effort after the license was turned down, but Clark persisted until she got it. Two days after she got her certificate of need, her administrator backed out.

She never thought of giving up, however, said Clark's mother, Marjorie Balmer, the morning after Clark's death.

"She wrote in her journal, 'I've worked so hard they can't stop me now,'" Balmer said. "She was always saying, 'I don't want it done today. I want it done yesterday.' That's the kind of person she was."

Shortly before she opened the home, Clark learned she had melanoma, a malignant cancer that starts in a mole. Doctors removed the lymph nodes under her arm in October 1981 and then repeated the surgery in December.

She was released from the hospital on Dec. 23 and opened Tomorrow's Hope three days later, working 12- and 14-hour days at the home for the next several months. She also began attending Boise State University to earn the education required to be administrator of the home.



Lisa Jan Clark

Memorial services for Lisa Jan Clark, 23, of 6792 San Bruno, who died March 2, 1983, in a local hospital from natural causes, will be held at 10:30 a.m. Monday, March 7, in the King of Glory Lutheran Church with the Rev. Tom Stutelberg officiating. Cremation will be under the direction of the Alden-Waggoner Crematory.

She was born in Boise on June 24, 1959. She attended schools in Twin Falls and Boise, graduating from Capitol High School in 1976. In August of 1977, she married Dean Wilson. They later divorced.

She worked as a teacher's aide in Cloverdale and Frontier Elementary Schools in Meridian. She then owned and operated an intermediate care facility "Tomorrow's Hope, Inc." for developmentally delayed children, which opened on Dec. 26, 1981. She also attended Boise State University.

She is survived by her mother and stepfather, Marjorie J. and William T. Balmer of Boise; her father, George Duaine Clark of Wasilla, Alaska; her maternal grandparents, Gay and Ester Meerkatz of Boise; and numerous aunts, uncles, and cousins.

The family suggests donations to Tomorrow's Hope, Inc., 4782 Armga Drive, Meridian, Idaho 83642.

1982

1983

Hayes House
1984-85

Speaker



Larry Bennett Boys State



Florance Hall Dorothy Brace Leone Lund

THE GAVEL MAKER: Every Meridian Job's Daughters queen for the last 20½ years has a piece of wood she cherishes — a gavel, handmade and engraved by E.O. Boice. So do his friends and relatives who are or have been Eastern Star, Masonic and DeMolay officers. The Herrell Peters family in Caldwell has five.

Swede, as his friends call him, is a retired Meridian drugstore owner with a woodworking shop at home. He spends a lot of time there, making all kinds of things, including wooden toys for his great-grandchildren.

Job's Daughters officers change every six months, so twice a year Swede makes and engraves a gavel for the new queen.

"Every girl wants her own," he said. "I make it from whatever she wants.

"I've used rosewood, sagebrush, plastic. I remember one piece of wood that came from a mine shaft," he said. "One girl received a cherrywood gavel that came from a tree in Glens Ferry. When I told her that, she remembered that she used to have a swing under that tree."

Another time he made a gavel from a piece of black walnut that had been cut from a tree in Kansas and sent to him by bus.

The gavels are a gift to the queens from Swede, who is a Mason himself. "If I make it and present it to them, it's an honor for me to do it," he said.

Club holds yule party

Members and guests of the Meridian Occident Club enjoyed a Christmas luncheon at OJ's Restaurant last Monday.

The tables were made festive with evergreens and red candles and poinsettia napkin holders that were made by club member June Thomas.

After the luncheon the club members went to the Library for the regular monthly meeting and a program of piano selections.

Lottie Gibson of Boise entertained the group with a medley of easy listening tunes and two Christmas carols were sung by the group.

Mary Alice White gave a reading "The Legend of the Poinsettia."

Following the program dessert in the form of assorted cakes and cookies were served by LaVerne Hartwell and Annie Jones.

The next regular meeting will be the first Monday in January.

South America trip discussed

Blanche Wolf related highlights of her trip to Colombia, South America, to members of the Meridian Occident Club at their meeting April 1.

She went to Colombia to visit her son and daughter-in-law. Mrs. Wolf also displayed several momentos of her trip including basketry and wood work items.

Two guests, Mrs. Wolf and Kate Moore, along with 25 members attending the meeting.

President Opal Merrell presided. Program Chairman Clara Hamming introduced Mrs. Wolf.

Esther Sharp presided at the tea table. The table was decorated with a bouquet of spring flowers and miniature Easter baskets.

Hostesses were Lena Bodine, Mary Alice White and Elizabeth Ryan.

The next meeting is scheduled for May 6 in the city library.

1984

1985



Left to right: Genevieve Gile, Midge Henriksen, Nell Buskey, Gen Mitchell, Annie Jones, Helen Rodney, Ann Astleford and Alma Wray. (seated) Rose Osterhout and Bernice Booth. Not pictured are Melba Smith and Fern Hutchins.

The Joy Belles—These are little old ladies?

At first glance, they look like a group of sweet little old ladies, but just stand back and give them room, and they'll show you what being a little old lady is all about.

These 10 Meridian senior citizen women first got together only two months ago when they were trying to come up with something fun to do for the Senior Citizen Talent Contest in Kuna.

"We'd been talking about it for a long time," says Gen Mitchell, one of the group members. "Then we finally got down to business."

What they did was form a kazoo band, which they named the Joy Belles. They bought a bunch of kazoos in good condition at a local pawn shop and cleverly incorporated them into all sorts of interesting "instruments."

They've used PVC pipe, vacuum cleaner extensions, all sorts of funnels, plumbing pipes, a dryer exhaust hose and even a meat baster to fashion all sorts of "horns" to which they've added bangles, bracelets and bells.

Then there's that old musical standby, the washboard, a silver bowl on a stick (which dings very nicely), an assortment of bells, and a plastic bucket "drum."

They entered the Kuna talent contest and, to their delight, won second place. The group then traveled by bus to Idaho Falls to entertain the troops at the Idaho Senior Citizen Convention.

Last week, they performed again, this time for the Meridian Chamber of Commerce.

All dressed alike in black slacks and long-sleeved white blouses set off by a bright red ribbon at their throats, the 10 women make an impressive entrance. They strut into the room blowing, banging and clapping to such old favorites as "Turkey in the Straw" and "K-K-K-Katy."

They even sang a rousing rendition of "Baby-Face," during which 82-year-old Annie Jones playfully ruffled Mayor Joe Glaisyer's hair, crooning into his ear as his boyish face reddened becomingly. The usually-serious chamber members ate it up,

laughing and clapping.

"Don't throw any raw eggs or tomatoes," leader Alma Wray warned the chamber members before the music began. "Remember, we're all grandmothers, or even great-grandmothers!"

The ladies, who range in age from 68-82, say they get together about once a week to practice, though most of them deny they need it.

Last Friday, they rode in the Dairy Days Parade, playing their instruments and waving gleefully to the crowds that lined the streets.

The ladies say they plan to stay together a long time and are now looking for new gigs to play.

"We're not anticipating a break-up," says Midge Hendriksen. "We'll just die off one by one."

"We'll play until we're a hundred or die," adds Nell Buskey, "which ever comes first."