

21-4

Boise falls  
welfare

# Work Begins on Clean Up of Lot for Playground Use



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## Owner Donates River Street Lot; Volunteers Map Playground Plan

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By CARRIE EWING  
Statesman Staff Writer

Children who have never had access to a playground in their own neighborhood in the River Street area may soon see a significant project materialize.

A lot has been donated by Claire Hawkins, Maple Grove Road. Across the street from the River Street Neighborhood Center, at 1122 Grand Avenue, the land awaits leveling and other improvements to bring the playground idea to fruition.

Henry Durham, 1016 Oakland, an Outreach worker specializing in youth programs at Community Action Neighborhood Center who is affiliated with all youth programs in the River Street area, said the playground is a beginning of much more that is needed for children in that area.

"So many people have access to the large parks in town, and have a way to take their children there. But these children have no way to get to the parks. That's why a playground is so important to them," Durham said.

Durham is a senior at Boise State College majoring in social work. He will continue his work at both centers, which are under the direction of El-Ada, Inc., while pursuing his education.

Volunteer worker Liz Mowrey, 1123 Lee, also, a BSC senior majoring in art, foresees possibility of starting new activities for children

when the playground is made usable.

"Our problem," Miss Mowrey said, "is getting the ground leveled first, and then getting people interested in helping with other needs to carry through with the project. We don't have any funds to develop the lot."

A local contractor is considered leveling the ground, Miss Mowrey reported.

Topping of some kind of material, such as sand, will be needed to control dust, she said.

Both Durham and Miss Mowrey agreed volunteer carpentry, perhaps by retired carpenters interested in performing "worthwhile tasks," would be a boon to building the equipment planned by Outreach workers.

"We would like to develop playground equipment that is different from the usual run, since we can't buy it," Miss Mowrey said. "So we hope civic-minded individuals and firms will give surplus (or otherwise) labor, sand, lumber, nails, paint and even manufactured slides, swing sets and teeter-totters."

"We want this park to be an example of what people

working together can do for themselves," she added. "So when others see what has happened, they will want to do the same thing in their neighborhood."

Interested persons may contact Durham at the center, 1207 West Jefferson.

HENRY DURHAM, left, Liz Mowrey help clean lot at Ash and Grand as a playground for children in the area. Liz' dog, also checked out the which was donated to River Street Neighborhood Center.



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Boni Sabler  
Welfare

THE IDAHO STATESMAN, Boise, Monday, August 17, 1970

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