



CITY OF MERIDIAN

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MERIDIAN CELEBRATES GENE KLEINER DAY WITH A FREE CONCERT JUNE 11

MERIDIAN - The City of Meridian will celebrate Gene Kleiner Day on Saturday, June 11, 2016. Gene Kleiner Day honors the generosity of the day's namesake who donated the 60-acre, \$25 million Julius M. Kleiner Memorial Park to the City of Meridian and its residents. Gene made the donation in honor of his late father, Julius, who once farmed the land on which the park now sits and operated until Julius's passing in 1972.

"It's important that we continue to celebrate the philanthropy demonstrated by Gene Kleiner; this park is a treasure for residents and visitors to Meridian," said Mayor Tammy de Weerd, City of Meridian. "His incredible donation has created a lasting legacy each of us can enjoy and challenges us to pay it forward in countless new acts of service, either large or small, across the community and beyond."

The annual celebration features a free concert performed by the Meridian Symphony Orchestra in the Julius M. Kleiner Memorial Park Band Shell at 6:00 p.m. The performance, geared toward audience members of all ages, includes several popular pieces such as *The Empire Strikes Back*, Mendelssohn's *Wedding March*, and arrangements from the movie *Frozen* and *My Fair Lady*.

Guests are invited to come early and participate in the Dunkley Music Instrument Petting Zoo for an opportunity to play a tuba or a cello. Attendees are encouraged to bring folding chairs or lawn blankets for seating and are welcome to bring picnics. The park's concession stand will also be open for business to provide snacks and beverages.

Julius M. Kleiner Memorial Park is located at 1900 N. Records Avenue in Meridian. The nearly 60 acre park, which is situated behind The Village at Meridian at the corner of Eagle Road and Fairview. The park boasts 3.3 miles of walking paths, a growing tree arboretum, two fishing ponds, the Rock of Honor Veterans Memorial, a community garden and full spectrum of youth play equipment.

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The City of Meridian is located in the heart of the Treasure Valley in southwest Idaho. Founded in 1893 and incorporated as a city in 1903, Meridian is one of Idaho's largest and fastest growing communities. 24/7 Wall Street named Meridian the *Number One Place to Live in America*. America's Promise Alliance/ING recognized the city as one of the nation's *100 Best Communities for Young People*. For more information, visit www.meridiancity.org.