

MAIDU NEIGHBORS

RCONA

MAIDU NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

August 2016

Fencing in Sargeant School

by Scott Reid

It has been noted by a number of neighbors that Sargeant School has a new wrought-iron fence around most of the property that had been fenceless in the past. And this has frustrated many who used the open space, particularly on the Stoney Point Drive side of the school (next to Willard Deitrich Park) for various outdoor activities.

One neighbor, Chris Kraft, started looking into why this was done. He met with the Roseville City School District's facilities director. It turns out the School Board had decided to do this, not just for Sargeant, but for all 18 of the elementary and middle schools that didn't already have fencing. Reasons for doing it included to provide security to school kids everywhere on the campuses, to reduce vandalism, and to slow or stop "runners," i.e., those students who try to escape the campus for any reason.

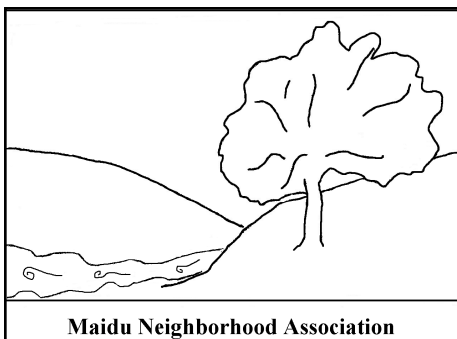
Particularly bothersome to Chris was the fact that generally the community had no input to the decision. It also appears that the City, particularly its Parks and Recreation Department, may not have been aware of the fencing decision either. The City has had a long-standing agreement with the School District to have dual-use space available in parks placed next to schools. It was planned so that the public would have access to both areas.

Chris has fully-grown children, but he recalls how he used the school grounds to teach his kids soccer, basketball, and baseball. He has used the space himself to walk, ride and exercise.

"That has all been taken away with the recent installation of the Brooklyn-style security fencing and locked gates," Chris recently wrote in a letter to the Superintendent of the School District. "Not only does the newly installed fencing look imposing, but sheds an image unbecoming to the laid back, safe, and enjoyable neighborhood we call home."

By the time you've read this, Chris and others will have attended the August School District Board meeting to ask for a change to allow access to the areas that have been closed off. As Chris put it in his letter, "I understand the concern to protect the school children while school is in session, whether to keep them in or perpetrators out. But beyond the active school hours, there should be no reason to lock the gates or restrict the free and enjoyed public use." (cont'd on Page 2)

It is possible these efforts to reach an accommodation with the School District will take some time to bring about. Chris spoke at our National Night Out event with neighbors to drum up more support. If you are interested in helping Chris, contact us at our web site [feedback(at)maiduna.com], or contact a board member (see the



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The next meeting of the Maidu Neighborhood Association will be held Tuesday, August 23, 2016, at 7 pm at Sargeant Elementary School, 1200 Ridgecrest. We meet in the Activity Room which is toward the back of the school. Enter off N. Cirby. We invite you to attend. It's a chance to get to know your neighbors and hear what's happening in the neighborhood. A City Police Officer will give us the crime report for our neighborhood.

*Search for Maidu N.A. on Facebook and "like" us.
Our web site is maiduna.com*

Fencing in Sargeant School (cont'd from Page 1)

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Maidu Neighborhood Association Board Elections

by Geoff Kragen

The Maidu Neighborhood Association will be holding its Annual Meeting in September. The meeting will be held at the same time as our regular monthly meeting on September 27.

This meeting will begin at 7 pm at Sargeant Elementary School, 1200 Ridgecrest Way. Here is opportunity for you to find out more about your Neighborhood Association.

The following individuals are up for election to the board: Scott Reid, Mary Steele, and Fran Web. If you are interested in being part of this association, contact President Scott Reid. His contact information is found on the front of this newsletter.

Following the Annual Meeting, the Board will elect officers. The regular monthly meeting will follow. We hope to you will join us.

Goat Grazing Plans

by Scott Reid

We mentioned in our June issue that the goats would not be grazing in Maidu Park this year. We since spoke with Brian Castelluccio, Roseville's Open Space Superintendent, about why that's the case.

Since initially making the grazing a more-regular part of how it manages open spaces undeveloped areas in City parks, the City has managed to graze all parts of such space. With that initial effort done, the City is experimenting to see what the right balance is for the program between grazing for fire-fighting and invasive plant removal versus allowing an area to recover and saving tax dollars.

This year the City decided not to graze Maidu Park, the local open space between McLaren Drive and Rocky Ridge, and the Lincoln Estates Park and open areas that parallel Harding Boulevard along Dry Creek. Brian noted, "Overall the strategy is to develop a sustainable grazing program. We plan for them to return to the un-grazed areas in 2017. We will continue to install firebreaks where required by Roseville Fire Department in all areas."

Brian acknowledged the City is still learning what the right balance is, so there may be future adjustments. In the meantime, he said, "This practice will provide time for the environment to re-establish and continue to control the growth."

An Unwelcome Neighborhood For Burglars

by David Allen

Let's say you are a burglar. You need to steal some stuff that you will sell to make money. You want to steal the most valuable stuff with the least effort at the lowest risk of capture.

To simplify the discussion, let's say you have two neighborhoods from which to choose. You drive through both. In both, you see many security alarm company signs and Neighborhood Watch signs. In the first one you visit, residents are in their yards. Many are walking and biking around the neighborhood. Kids are outside playing. In the other, you see few people. Which one seems like the better choice?

No security plan is foolproof, but next time you feel that pang of concern about crime, take a walk. Hop on your bike. Work in your yard. Smile and wave at others as they pass by. Make Maidu the most unwelcome neighborhood for burglars.

Humans: The best crime prevention tool.

Successful National Night Out

by Lance Hibben

The Maidu Neighborhood Association (MNA) hosted neighbors to a festive evening celebrating National Night Out on Tuesday evening, August 2 at Maidu Park.

Neighbors enjoyed a free Hawaiian BBQ from L&L Hawaiian BBQ located at Sunrise and Cirby. In addition, Phil Hornstra, owner of Jimmy John's Gourmet Sandwiches, near the corner of Douglas and Rocky Ridge, generously provided free fresh samples from the many menu selections.

Exhibitors included Melinda Schrader, our neighborhood real estate specialist from Coldwell Banker; Carol Garret and Jordan Mahallati representing the Maidu Museum and Library; Sarah Abalone and Nicole Reams our neighborhood Arbonne representatives offering health and beauty products; Nori and Ken Nitchke, neighborhood Norwex distributors of chemical-free microfiber cleaning cloths; and Ray Blain, neighborhood author of fiction books and retired pediatrician. City of Roseville police and fire crews visited along with Placer County Sheriff, Probation Department. The local Kona Ice truck sold flavored ice treats while neighbors were entertained by DJ Sneh Entertainment LLC.

National Night Out is one of the big events each year sponsored by the MNA for Maidu neighbors to enjoy and feel connected as part of a vibrant neighborhood. National Night Out provides opportunities that promote partnerships with the City of Roseville, local businesses, and friendships which makes our neighborhood a unique, desirable, and safe place to live. It's a fact that neighborhoods are safer when neighbors are active in their community and know each other.

The MNA sponsors the National Night Out event through proceeds from the Annual Garage Sale and a contribution from the Roseville Coalition of Neighborhood Associations (RCONA). A short video of this years event is available on the MNA Facebook page. Thank you to the MNA Board, food sponsors, exhibitors, business owners, and neighbors who made the evening an enjoyable success.