

MAIDU NEIGHBORS

RCONA

MAIDU NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

January 2021



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Homes Recognized for Holiday Decorations

The Maidu Neighborhood Association, with sponsorship by Melinda Shrader, Realtor, recognized three homes in the neighborhood for having outstanding holiday decorations. They were

- 1305 Champion Oaks - Most Festive
- 2424 Valley Forge - Most Elegant (shown below)
- 1931 Johnson Ranch - Best Lights

Melinda delivered each of them a lawn-sign that identified them as being recognized for their efforts.

We'd also like to give an honorable mention to the following homes:

- 2214 North Cirby
- 2201 Lee Way
- 281 Park Meadow

Judging was harder this year because many neighbors made quite an effort to

share holiday cheer by having extensive light displays. Thank you all for making our neighborhood merry and bright!



Need More Exercise? How About Delivering Newsletters?

One of our "Block Captains" will no longer be able to deliver this newsletter to homes on Rebecca Court, Sally Way, McKinley Drive, and Jo Court. To volunteer, contact Jim Kidd (left box—you may use his phone number or Watchmail email address) or drop us an email at the address in the box below.

211 Placer Offers Helpful Information

This service provides connections to health, food, transportation, senior care, housing, and more. To make contact, call 2-1-1 or 1-833-DIAL211, or text your zip code to 898211, or visit 211Placer.org. The online option lets you search a database for resources, or you can chat with or email specialists.

Our next meeting, online via Zoom, will be on Tuesday, January 26th at 7 p.m.. Go to our web site on the day of the meeting to get the link.

Search for **Maidu N.A.** on Facebook and "like" us. Feedback or Questions? Email us at [feedback\(at\)maiduna.com](mailto:feedback(at)maiduna.com)

Our web site is maiduna.com

Zip Books as a Way to Read Something the Library Doesn't Have

By Scott Reid

If there is a book you want to read that the City Library doesn't have available, you may be able to get it via the *Zip Books* program. It allows you to have the program, of which our libraries in Roseville are a part of, buy the book for you and send it to you via Amazon. After an initial check-out period, you return the book to the Library where it likely becomes a part of its collection.

The Roseville Public Library borrower must have a Library card (an account) that is in good standing (not more than \$5 outstanding in overdue fees). You must also be at a Roseville address that can receive an Amazon delivery. The books you may select follow these guidelines:

- They are items not already owned by the library or marked as Lost.
- They must not be a textbook or test prep guide.
- They may be a book, large print book, or a book on CD.
- They must not have been published within the last six months.

Actually, for the remainder of January, that last requirement has been waived, i.e., you may request a book published within the last six months as part of a special *Zip Books* promotion as long as it isn't a current *New York Times* best seller.

Personal Experience Ordering a Zip Book

I tried using the *Zip Books* program when I first learned about it last year. My first request for an Audio CD that was out of print was turned down as it was not currently available via Amazon. My second request was for a business book that had been published the month before, so it was turned down because of the six-month rule. In each case I received emails telling me why I had been refused.

With the special promotion this month, I decided to give a try with the book *The WEIRDEST People in the World: How the West Became Psychologically Peculiar and Particularly Prosperous*, published in September 2020. Normally I would need to wait until March to order it. First, I searched the Library's catalog online to see if the Library already had it. It did not.

Then I placed the order using the Roseville Library's web page *Zip Books* order form at 11 p.m. on a Thursday, and immediately got the auto reply confirming it was received and that I should "hear back...within a week." On Saturday by mid-afternoon I'd received an answer that my request was accepted, and by the next day Amazon had delivered the book. Two and half days from ordering to receiving the book—not bad!

Additional Zip Books Program Details

To order a *Zip Book*, go to the City web site at roseville.ca.us and search for "Zip Books."

The *Zip Books* program is funded by a grant from the California Library Services Act Funds via the California State Library. The NorthNet Library System, a coalition of northern California libraries including the Roseville and Placer County libraries, is the administrator of the program locally.

The *Zip Books* program is also available through the Placer County Library system. Their closest branch is 4 to 5 miles away from our neighborhood at 6475 Douglas Boulevard, and to use the program there you must ask library staff directly (no online alternative).

Library and Maidu Museum Services as of January 12th

Here is what is offered via the Library at this time:

- Libraries are open but have a maximum capacity of 20%, so they highly encourage those who can to use the Sidewalk Pickup service.
- Library computer use is available at all three locations. It is available on a first come, first serve basis at the Downtown and Riley locations, but reservations are required at Maidu Library. For more information call (916) 774-5221.
- The trail through the Maidu historic site is open while the Museum is closed. More information at roseville.ca.us/museum, or see our story in last month's Newsletter issue on page 2.

Letter on Bike Jumps in Park Stirs Strong Opinions

"The kids aren't doing it to harm anything, they're doing it out of boredom. If you don't like it, don't go near it. No one is forcing you to go near it."

"The responses of "destruction," "liability," and "obtrusive" are so disproportionate I do not know where to begin."

These were a couple of responses to the letter we ran in last month's newsletter. Clearly this letter had opinions not everyone shared.

The letter was from a neighbor concerned with bike jumps being built by neighborhood children at Maidu Park in the undeveloped area south east of the soccer fields. They said one reason wildlife is plentiful in the Park is that the eastern half of the park is left undisturbed. When they noticed the holes and ramps that had been built there, they were dismayed by the "damage...to the land" and the "potential liability issue" that the resulting holes and ramps caused.

In the past the Parks Department brought in a tractor when the issue was brought to their attention, flattened the ramps, and filled the holes, but since then, the ramps have been reconstructed and are larger than before. The letter offered solutions including having a neighborhood "restoration day" with volunteers removing the ramps, taking picture the "diggers" in the act, discussing it with their parents, or involving the police.

In response we received emails from neighbors who were both dismayed by the proposed responses and felt the benefits to the children outweighed the amount of damage to the Park.

Once the Maidu Board members saw these responses, it inspired conversation among us about what was the right thing to do. We swiftly recognized that we have a variety of opinions and ideas on this. We recognize that humans have affected all areas of the park in one way or another over the last several hundred years as, first, the Maidu, then settlers, occupied and changed the land. The City's Open Space and Parks Departments continue to make changes by removing or adding trees, removing beaver dams, and so on.

But we do see a difference in changes City departments make, whether we agree with them or not, as the legal stewards of the land versus changes by just anyone. Do we say "no one else can make a change"? Is any "unauthorized" change too much? To the last question we said "yes" because if the question is formally asked, it seems the formal answer can't be otherwise.

Yet we also recognize the need for children to have an opportunity to play creatively. Building these ramps took imagination, planning ("someone remember to bring a shovel"), strength, and coordination. The play they derive from it is healthy, if no serious accidents occur, and they provide an important mental and physical outlet at this time when there have been so many restrictions on all of us. As another neighbor wrote, "These past 9 months have been hard for parents. Sports, school, and parks have been taken away from our kids. Parents are desperate to have OUTDOOR activities for our children."

In consideration of these needs for our children, we have started asking the Parks and Recreation Department for alternative venues in the park where this kind of play could take place. We have not had a meeting with them yet (as this is being written), but hope to do so shortly. If we make any progress in that effort, we will let you know. If you are interested in helping in this effort, please contact us at the email address at the bottom of the first page. It is likely to take some time to develop something workable if we are successful.

Given the precedence of having removed the ramps before and the City's potential liability, they will likely flatten them again. We suspect they are motivated by the potential for someone to be hurt. Unfortunately, this will leave the children with one less thing to do outside at the Park. We hope that riding bikes over the hilly ground there, exploring along Strap Ravine creek, and looking for wildlife will continue to be a part of their days.