

MAIDU NEIGHBORS

A monthly publication of the
Maidu Neighborhood Association

December 2025



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Santa Visits from North Pole

On Tuesday evening, December 9th, Santa made a quick visit during his busiest time of the year as a special treat for local kids. The Maidu Neighborhood set up lights, hot chocolate drinks, cookies and a letters-for-Santa station in Willard Dietrich Park next to Sargeant School for people to enjoy while waiting for Santa.



Then in the distance we heard police sirens and a fire truck. First came the Roseville police officers on motor cycles, then a Roseville FD firetruck, and then came a Roseville Electric truck towing Santa in his sleigh.

Santa slowed down to wave to all the people who lined the sidewalks and spilled into the street at the corner of North Citby and Stoney Point Way.

About 140 people came to Willard Dietrich Park. Here they spill into the street as Santa approaches; below is Santa waving to the crowd as he passed in his sleigh.

Change to the Holiday Decorating Contest Categories

The Holiday Decorating Contest, sponsored by Realtor and board member Melinda Shrader, is over for 2025, but we had a change that we wanted you to be aware of.

The award categories for bragging rights were revised to (in alphabetical order)

- **Most Elegant**
- **Most Traditional**
- **Most Whimsical**



Do get out before decorations are taken down to see the efforts neighbors made!

There is no meeting this month. Our next Maidu meeting will be on **Tuesday, January 27th at 6:30 p.m.** During the school year, except December, we meet at the **Sargeant School Multi-purpose Room** which is to the **left side of the front of the school on the Ridgcrest side.** Join us for a police report and catch up on neighborhood goings-on.

*The Maidu Neighborhood Association (MNA) is a member of the Roseville Coalition of Neighborhood Associations (RCONA). 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).*



Swap Out CO and Smoke Detectors Sooner Than You Thought

By Connie Arkus

“Change your clocks, change your batteries” is the rule of thumb for replacing batteries in your carbon monoxide (CO) alarms and smoke detectors. But you also may need to change the units themselves sooner than you thought.

At the November Maidu Neighborhood Association Board meeting, representatives from the Roseville Fire Department (RFD) Station 4 recommended that residents buy new carbon monoxide (CO) alarms every **five** years, surprising those in attendance.

“We’ve been finding that sensors often degrade sooner than the typical five- to seven-year guidelines,” said RFD Engineer Joe Lapenna. “Erring on the side of safety is always our recommendation.”

Environmental factors such as humidity, temperature, and dust can shorten a detector's life. They should be replaced if they give an end-of-life signal, fail a test, or you don't know their age. Be sure to turn over the detector for the manufacturer’s instructions on testing and replacement.

CO alarms should be installed in a central location outside each sleeping area and on every level of the home,

Smoke detectors tend to have a slightly longer life, **seven to 10 years**, but again, they could fail early and switching them out at seven years is a good idea, according to Lapenna and firefighter/ paramedics Jon Winslow and Abe Neitlig, also present at the meeting.

Install smoke alarms inside each bedroom, outside each sleeping area and on every level of the home, including the basement. On levels without bedrooms, install alarms in the living room (or den or family room) or near the stairway to the upper level, or in both locations.

Ideas for Handling Difficult (Holiday) Conversations

By Connie Arkus

“I don’t like that man. I must get to know him better.” Abraham Lincoln

Ok, so you do know your uncle but to keep peace during holiday get-togethers, taking the time to listen first could provide surprising results or at least turn the heat down.

Braver Angels, in partnership with the League of Women Voters and the Schaumburg Township District Library, Schaumburg, Illinois, recently hosted a Zoom session on this topic, a shortened version of a longer program. Maryanne Colter from Braver Angels outlined the LAPP method to have civilized conversations:

Listen to the other person’s concerns, look for agreement where possible.

Acknowledge what the person said. Paraphrase and repeat to them to see if it’s accurate. Ask what experiences led them to that opinion.

Pivot: Ask if you can share your opinion. If not, go back to Listening and Acknowledging until you have their permission to share your viewpoint. You may need to go back to Listen and Acknowledge multiple times.

Perspective: Use “I” statements—I feel, I think, name your sources and share a life experience.

“Don’t think you can convince someone in one conversation,” Colter said. “It takes practice.”

Braver Angels says it “is leading the nation’s largest cross-partisan, volunteer-led movement to bridge the partisan divide and strengthen our democratic republic.” For online and in-person resources, visit braverangels.org. The League of Women Voters says it “is a political grassroots network and membership organization that believes the freedom to vote is a nonpartisan issue. (lww.org)”

What to Do if You Hit a Pet with Your Vehicle

By Lance Hibben

Edior's note: The following story of a local pet being killed by accident is upsetting. It comes to us from a family that has lived in our neighborhood for over 11 years, and was sent to us in mid-November.

“On Halloween our cat got out, and never came home. We searched all night. We've had fliers all over the neighborhood for the past two weeks, called emergency vets, contacted lost and found groups, shelters, searched the park, you name it. Just this last Wednesday, a woman called (based on one of the fliers) and told us our cat had been hit by a car and killed on Halloween. The reason we knew her story had accuracy is that we found his collar on one of the green electrical boxes lining the park. She told me she was consoling a woman who after hitting the cat, removed his collar and placed it on the box. And another man drove by, stopped and put our cat in a trash bag and left. Three witnesses to this accident. He was obviously someone's pet. His collar had his name, my number and an airtag - and he was hit right in front of a house. The lady who I spoke to confirmed that nobody had bothered to make contact with me - or knock on the door of the adjacent house.”

As we all know, dogs and cats can get themselves outside the control of their owners. Pets on the loose can be prone to entering into streets putting themselves (and possibly others) at the risks of moving vehicles.

Here's something else you may not know. Laws treat pets as property of their owners. California Vehicle Code (CVC) Section 20002 addresses misdemeanor hit and run violations regarding property damages. Do you see where this is going? The CVC 20002 requires vehicle drivers involved in an accident-causing property damage to immediately stop and provide their identifying information to the owner of the property. If the owner is not present, the code requires leaving a written notice for the owner and to notify police. The CVC 20002 applies to pets.

Drivers are required to immediately stop at the nearest safe location and should render assistance to the pet (moving it out of the street) being extremely cautious of traffic and avoiding getting bitten by an injured animal. Drivers are required to take reasonable steps to notify the owner, police, and/or animal control. Oftentimes, pets have collars with the owner's contact information or may have an internal chip in which a professional (like a veterinarian) can identify the owner.

Failure to comply with the CVC 20002 can result in a misdemeanor charge of hit and run (property damage). When an accident occurs, it's understandable drivers can be surprised and very emotional not knowing what to do. Hopefully, you will not experience an event like this, but if you do, it is the intent of this article to help you (and the pet's owner) in such stressful situations.

Our neighbor, who owned the cat, continues:

“If you are involved in an accident that causes property damage (and this includes pets), you must try to locate and notify the owner or someone nearby. We wish this courtesy had extended to us - it would have saved us the search, the hope he would come home, and the wondering of where he ended up.

“We just want answers. We just wish we had closure sooner. We are hoping that maybe this information can help someone else in the future make the right decision if they injure someone's pet in the neighborhood.”

Our Events—Our Association has developed a tradition of having the following events. We set the dates for each one as the time approaches to match the availability of the people who will help put them on, but they usually don't vary by more than a few weeks from year to year.

- April or May—*Neighborhood Garage Sale*
- August—*National Night Out*
- October—*Park Clean-up*
- December—*Santa in the Neighborhood*

For More Information

Go to mna.rcona.com. Or scan this QR code with a suitable app. There are links there to more story info and to our related sites including our Facebook page. Sometimes there are story updates as well as corrections as needed.

