

# FEATURE



## The Bluff Heights 4th of July Block Party Returns!

**W**e all have memories of celebrating the 4th of July with friends and family. It's a day to celebrate our freedom from King George, when the 13 original colonies severed all political ties to Great Britain and formed a new nation. It's a day to reflect on our rule of law and the freedoms inherent in our Declaration of Independence, our Constitution, and our traditions.

Did you know that John Adams wrote to his wife, Abigail, that Independence Day "will be celebrated, by succeeding Generations, as the great anniversary Festival" and that the celebration should include "Pomp and Parade...Games, Sports, ... Bells, Bonfires and Illuminations from one End of this Continent to the other." Very prophetic!

This year, the Bluff Heights Neighborhood Association is celebrating the return of the 4th of July Block Party on Vista Street between Obispo and Orizaba. There will be the best of past 4th of July activities, including our famous cake walk, chili cook-off, water balloon toss, pet

parade, and bike parade. Did I forget to mention that Uncle Sam will appear in person? The BHNA board is also expanding our kid- and family-friendly craft activities this year. We are looking forward to celebrating with our neighbors, friends, family. This 4th of July promises to be our best and we hope you can join us.

It does take a village to create this fun-filled day. We would like to thank the many volunteers from years past, and we hope you will participate again this year. We are seeking volunteers to help plan, set up, take an hour shift in a booth, and clean up. This year, recycling will be a priority.

BHNA is honored to have received a grant from the Port of Long Beach to support our efforts. With profits from the cake walk, we plan to extend that support to the students of Horace Mann Elementary School.

Please email us at [info@bluffheights.org](mailto:info@bluffheights.org) and let us know you if are interested in helping us put together this awesome and long-awaited event. Many thanks!