

Neighborhood fun on the Fourth

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Photos John T. Miller

With no cars on the street, the children enjoy the freedom of roaming up and down the lane all afternoon on their many wheeled devices.

After dinner, the same sycamore tree has served as host for the piñata for the last 40 years. This is one of the kids' favorite activities. They line up from shortest to tallest, and each set of whacks gets more and more forceful until the piñata spills its guts on the lawn and a loud, collective squeal comes from the onrushing children.

One of the more recent homeowners on the block, Beth Kring, said, "We're so happy we found this neighborhood. It's like a throwback to another era, where neighbors know each other and children can play in the street."

Some families and friends retire to their front yards and continue to visit, while others drive to watch the fireworks in Moraga, Diablo Valley College, Martinez, or elsewhere.

The next morning, the dedicated residents clean up the street and count another Independence Day party a rousing success.



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