

Fireworks...from Page 1A



Ka-BOOM! Happy Independence Day! Photo/Shawn Jarrard

as Allegheny Lodge No. 114, The Sweet Spot Co. and Cook's Country Kitchen.

Of course, guests of the chamber's preferred parking area got some of the best seats in Meeks Park, right in front of the fieldhouse behind which the fireworks were lit.

Brad Sherman of SafeGuard Lock and Vault has been a preferred parking patron since the very first year of the show, and he always enjoys attending the fireworks with his family while simultaneously supporting the community endeavor.

Sherman, a retired firefighter out of Connecticut, was a first responder to the terrorist attacks visited upon the World Trade Center on 9/11, and he fully appreciates the tenacious underpinnings of the American spirit to triumph in the face of adversity.

"We went from a freed colony to a superpower in, basically, under 200 years," said Sherman, crediting

a mix of strong military, entrepreneurship and innovation. "That is a feat that's been unrivaled by anyone. Even the Romans didn't do that in that amount of time."

Countless other families joined in on the Fourth of July festivities:

The Bakers attended the fireworks with their 4-year-old and 6-day-old children; the combined Williams and Gunter families drove up from Florida to celebrate the occasion together; Marcie Culpepper of M-Design brought her Washtub Band to perform live patriotic music; and thousands of eyes turned up to the sky after dark.

"The fireworks tonight were the best we've ever had," said Union County Sole Commissioner Lamar Paris. "It was a lot of fun to be here and be a part of it, to see everybody having a good time."

Budget Blinds was a key partner in supplying food for preferred parking guests,

and the Union County Fire Department and Sheriff's Office helped to direct traffic and keep a watchful eye over the event.



Spectators lining Georgia 515 outside Meeks Park. Photo/Shawn Jarrard



Allegheny Lodge No. 114 selling concessions on North Georgia Technical College campus. Photo/Shawn Jarrard

Union County Recreation 2017 Senior Dancing Program



Ages: 55 and over

Did you know dance could be fun? Dancing is very beneficial to maintaining a healthy heart, and you do not need to have coordination to have fun! The Program Director of Union County Parks and Recreation will be leading ballroom and line dance two times a week for 5 weeks in session 1! This is a great time to socialize and dance with a fun group. We will meet at Union County Recreation Room and dance our hearts out for 60 minutes twice a week!

**Session One Registration begins on July 10, 2017 and ends July 28, 2017 at the Recreation Office (310 Wellborn St.)

Registration must be done in person due to cap on participants per session! If you have any questions, you can call (706) 439-6074.