

America, you're beautiful

by Jennaye Derge



The Salute to America fireworks wrapped up the day with a bang.

Two-hundred-and-forty years ago, the original "Brexit" took place as the 13 colonies declared independence from Great Britain – although it was a much bloodier and infinitely longer process than the current U.K. exit of the European Union. Today, in an era of never-ending celebration of freedom, we celebrate our independent United States with food, friends, family, dancing, drinking and fireworks. We've come a long way from bayonets, cannons and redcoats, but the one constant thread that still holds it all together is the stars and stripes. That, and a never-ending desire for pyrotechnic displays.



American pride that won't go unnoticed.



Spreading cheer the clown way.



Uncle Sam making his annual appearance.



Spectators line Main Avenue for a time-honored local pastime: a parade