SO I AM DRIVNG DOWN HENDERSON STREET THE OTHER DAY AND THE FIRST ONE POPS UP. CAN YOU GUESS WHAT I SAW POPP? HOW ABOUT THE FIRST OF MANY FIREWORKS STANDS. THSE STAND, NORMALLY RUN BY NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATIONS ARE SPREAD ROUND THE CITY OF EUREKA IN AN EFFORT TO PUT SOME BUCKS IN THEIR COFFERS. THE INDIVIDUALS AN FAMILIES THAT BUY THOSE FIREWORKS PRETTY MUCH DO THE SAME THING EVERY YEAR; CELEBRATE OUR COUNTRY'S FREEDOM WITH GOOD FOOD AND BERAGES AND GATHER OUND THEIR FRONT YARDS AND WATCH THEIR FIREWORKS GO OFF IN THE STREETS OF EUREKA.

ADDHERE, SAFETY FIRST. PRAY

YOU MIGHT SAY, I HELP DO SOMETHNG JUST LIKE THAT, BUT FOR A FEW MORE PEOPLE GATHERED ARUND HUMBOLDT BAY ON THE 4<sup>TH</sup> OF JULY...OF COURSE WITH THE HELP FROM A BUCKET LOAD OF GREAT LOCAL SPONSORS...SPECIFICALLY, LOCAL BUSINESSES.

I HAVE ALWAYS CONTENDED THAT THE AVERAGE

PERSON WATHCING THE FIREWORKS SHOW DOESN'T

HAVE A CLUE AS TO WHERE THE MONEY COMES FORM TO MAKE THE FIREWORKS HAPPEN...LET ALONE THE HISOTRY OF HOW WE GOT HERE...THAT IS A BIG WE, INCLUDING YOU LISTENING TO THIS COMMUNITY COMMENT.... AND STARTS WHEN THE CITY OF EUREKA, USED TO FUND THE ENTIRE EVENT... AFTER WHICH THE ENTIRE FIREWORKS SHOW WAS FUNDED BY ROB ARKLEY WHEN HE BAILED THE FHREWORKS....UP TILL ABOUT SIX EYARS AGO WHEN THE OWNERS OF THE BEST WESTERN BAYSHORE INN, JOHN AND HOLLY FRAME AND ERNIE AND RENA WESTON GAVE ME THE MARCHING ORDERS AND HALF THE MONEY NEEDED, TO GO OUT AND RAISE THE OTHER HALF FOR THE FIREWORKS...THAT SAID, THE OTHER HALF IS NOW THE BIGGEST PART.

SO, NOW FOR THE NOT SO GOOD NEWS... WE ARE SHORT OF OUR GOAL AND IT LOOKS LIKE WE ARE GOING TO HAVE A SHORTER SHOW THIS YEAR AND WITH NO WONDERUFL CHOREOGRAPHED MUSIC TO GO WITH THE FIREWORKS.

MOSTLY BECAUSE I, THAT IS PART OF THE WE, ARE IN

OUR FINAL YEAR OF ASKING THESE WONDERFUL BUSINESS TO CONTINUE TO GIVE AND GIVE AND GIVE.

MSers

SO IF THIS SOUNDS LIKE A SWAN SONG, I GUESS YOU

COULD SAY, WHAT A BETTER PLACE TO DO IT, ON COMMUNITY

PARIO

SO WHOSE NEXT? I'D LIKE TO TALK TO YOU ABOUT ANY IDEAS YOU HAVE...AND IF YOU DO, JUST ABOUT ANYBOYD KNOWS HOW TO GET AHOLD OF ME.

THIS HAS BEEN MIKE JONES...AKA UNCLE SAM, FOR COMMUNITY COMMENT...AKA #400