Fire Prevention

There's Absolutely No Safe Wa For Amateurs To Use Firework

By THOMAS FLYNN Syndicated Columnist

I meant to make this the shortest column ever written. There was going to be a statement: "Here are all the safe ways to use fireworks this Fourth of July." Then there was going to be a lot of blank space. Because there's no safe way for the average American to use fireworks -- on the Fourth of July or any other day. But editors dislike white space. It's right up there with cancer and thermonuclear devastation in their books.

So I'm going to write about fireworks on the Fourth of July again. And just hope to God somebody reads it. Because Independence Day means a lot more than "the right to pop off." And it's a really sorry reason to condemn another human being to a lifetime of dependence due to blindness or serious burns.

But they'll stream into emergency rooms and burn centers, as they do every Fourth, the foolish, the impulsive, the reckless, the ignorant. And more often than not, they are the innocent bystanders more than those whose fault it is.

There's just no way the average person can use fireworks safely. The deck is stacked against you, if only because so many "home" fireworks are manufactured clandestinely, without standards or testing. How can you defend against the firecracker with a fuse that goes off the instant you light it -- or the bottle rocket that develops a tube fault and shoots off sideways into somebody's

If you insist on "popping off" this Fourth at least follow these helpful tips:

 Stick to low-power fireworks such as sparklers. Use them outdoors with adult supervision on a driveway, sidewalk or other fire-resistant surface. Do not use sparklers in a strong wind. Avoid any rocket or explosive firework like the plague. Toys like that are strictly for the professionals.

Speaking of professionals, why not enjoy the professionally-run fireworks displays given by your city government, Chamber of Commerce or other community organization? By and large, these affairs are run by trained, licensed personnel using known and approved fireworks. And nobody can afford to put anything that beautiful up in the sky by themselves, anyway.

A note of caution is needed even at a "professional" display. Smaller public displays given by stores and corporations sometimes leave a lot to be desired in the safety department. Often small sponsors will hire local people who aren't highly skilled with fireworks in order to save

If you see people uncrating and setting out laundhing devices after the show is in progress, or observe any misfires (charges that fail to fire or fire too low), pack up the family and leave -- before a thousand-foot burst rocket detonates 500 feet up.

Fireworks are beautiful and they're part of our culture. Please see page A3

Crime Prevention

Teller Machine Customer **Falls Prey To Robber**

The following "Crime Avenue Box Score' is designed to The complainant returnkeep you abreast of ed in time to see three black son Avenue criminal activity in your males walking away from community and to help pro- his home, one of them car- •1400 block, East 14th tect your family and pro-rying his television set. As Street perty from crime. Armed Robbery

Blvd.

The victim was making a Autobreaking teller machine when the Street suspect came up behind her with a gun and robbed her. taken. •3500 block, Patterson

A black male approached the complainant while she sat in her car, asked her Street what time it was, and pulled complainant of her pocket- were taken. book.

Storebreaking

•2800 block, Ivy Avenue A set of drums, guitar and cymbals were taken.

• 800 block, Price Street A window air conditioner was taken.

• 500 block, Waughtown Street

A paint spray gun was ring was taken. taken.

Housebreaking

•1600 block, Jackson A Sharp calculator was

the complainant gave chase. one suspect dropped the • 770 block, North Point television. All three Street suspects escaped.

transaction at an automatic •2700 block, North Cherry

Circle

Two tires were taken.

Larceny

A Money was taken.

•1600 block, East Third

Street

•3500 block, North Patter-

Clothes were taken.

Cash was taken. •1100 block, East 19th

An AM/FM cassette player was taken.

Preventing Burglaries

Some facts on burglaries: A lady's pocketbook was •Homeowners lose more than one billion dollars •2700 block, Piedmont every year to burglary and

 Nationally, a burglary is • 700 block, East 18th committed every 10 seconds.

A C.B. radio, two There are more than out a gun and robbed the speakers and assorted tools 1,500 fires reported every

> If you don't want to be •4200 block, Brownsboro vulnerable to theft and fire, feel insecure about current A 10-speed bike was locking devices, live in an isolated area, are away • 700 block, Ferrel Court from home often, or return home late at night often, • 100 block, East Seventh you should have the Crime Prevention Unit conduct a A 1983 Parkland class "Residential Risk Assessment" at your home.

For further information, contact the Crime Preven-





WSSU Upward Bound Funded

Education has awarded County School System will receive college credit for Winston-Salem State be participating in the 1983 taking courses in general University \$126,627 to con- summer residential compo- biology and world civilizatinue Project Upward nent of Upward Bound. Bound for 1983-84. The Orientation sesions began

Sixty students from the reading, mathematics and July 22.

The U.S. Department of Winston-Salem/Forsyth biology. The graduates will grant becomes effective Ju- June 12, and students moved on campus June 19.

Project Upward Bound is Program participants inan academic and cultural clude 49 rising 10th-12th interest in music, drama enrichment program grade students and 11 high and art. Visits to cultural designed to prepare 10th- school graduates who will events or sites will also be 12th graders and recent experience a taste of college part of their summer exgraduates for post- life. The high schoolers will perience. The Summer

All students will participate in workshops designed to increase their take courses in English, Residential Program ends

RJR Funds Media Scholarships

\$10,350 of a \$200,000 United States. scholarship program to or careers in journalism.

Reynolds Industries Inc. gram is an effort to support the biack community." recently contributed the black news media in the The R.J. Reynolds

"The black news media train black college students continue to play a critical role in the United States," In a speech delivered here Bass said. Their ability to at the annual convention of communicate to this the National Newspaper nation's largest minority Publishers Association, group is an important Marshall B. Bass, Reynolds public service toward scholarship foundation.

GARY. Ind. - R.J. vice president, said the pro- preserving and enriching

Scholarship Program in-Journalism supports the education of 60 black college students enrolled in journalism curricula. Students in the program are selected by the NNPA

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