

# HardisonInk.com

---

## Natural Fireworks Precedes The 4<sup>th</sup> of July Show In Bronson



This still shot shows one point where the lightning was flashing down in the background. It almost appears to be coming out of the palm tree, but it was in the distance. The bolts are seen better in the video on the [LIFE PAGE](#), where there are other photos and a story as well.

*Photo by Jeff M. Hardison © July 5, 2018 at 7:08 p.m.*

*All Rights Reserved On All Stories, Photos and Videos on this website.*

## Fireworks cap county seat's 4th; *Fuses out, earplugs in*

# HardisonInk.com

---



**Fireworks in Bronson on the Fourth of July are enjoyed by many people.**

## **Story, Photos and Video**

**By Jeff M. Hardison © July 5, 2018 at 7:08 p.m.**

It was another Fourth of July to remember in Bronson, with Williston, Cedar Key and other places providing memorable moments as well.

<https://youtu.be/JCIThbDAsC8>

**This video has a short introduction. Then there is a lightning bolt flashing down in the background – wait for it. Then there are clips of fireworks at Bronson. The whole clip lasts about two minutes.**

# HardisonInk.com

---



# HardisonInk.com

---



**Ed and Peggy Rowe accept cans to help in the Food4Kids Backpack Program.**

# HardisonInk.com



**Bronson Fire Rescue Firefighter Bobby Kramer places a mortar launching device on plywood as the process begins to set up the show.**



# HardisonInk.com

---



**Bronson Fire Chief Dennis Russell attaches a firing device to plywood.**

# HardisonInk.com

---



**Bronson Firefighter Jacob Arnold stands near the trailer used to carry \$5,000 worth of fireworks into James H. Cobb Park on the Fourth of July.**



**Capt. Clayton Drew of the Levy County Public Safety Department, which years ago was two separate group – the Levy County Volunteer Fire Department and Levy County EMS – looks over at the start of the pyrotechnics program by Bronson Fire Rescue.**

# HardisonInk.com

---

The fireworks show in the Levy County seat of government fell again on the heels of the July 3 events in the eastern metropolitan area of Levy County.

Bronson is in the heart of the county. The day before the Fourth of July, Williston conducted its Independence Day Parade and that was followed by food, fun, live entertainment – including renowned singer Reggie Stacy – and fireworks at Horseman Park.

The people of Williston hold their celebration a day earlier than some of their neighbors so as to not pull away from those other celebrations. In Williston, there was a torrential downpour, complete with lightning just before the parade.

People and parade units, though, participated in the event that was followed by fireworks and other fun at Horsemen's Park

Also putting on a fireworks show on the Fourth of July was Cedar Key, where the rockets' red glare was over the Gulf of Mexico off of Dock Street. The fireworks were launched from a barge. The best place to view the show is from the restaurants on Dock Street (like Steamer's Clam Bar and Grill), or the big concrete pier.

People in Yankeetown, though, have been known to go to the end of County Road 40 as they Follow That Dream and look over at Cedar Key's fireworks.

Meanwhile as has been the custom for the past several years, everyone gathered on Independence Day at James H. Cobb Memorial Park, which is also known as the Bronson Sports Complex.

Some things were a little different this year.

Bronson Town Councilwoman Katie Parks said that due to a shortage of town staff, there was no afternoon event, which in the past included vendors and other forms of fun.

This year, it was strictly fireworks.

As a result of rain making certain parts of the park too soggy, the launch area was altered from the past few years as well. This year, the fireworks went up from the area near the huge pole barn at the far end of the main parking lot.

Some things remained the same.

While some firefighters have gone elsewhere over the years, it was the Bronson Fire-Rescue Department putting on the show.

"Fuses out. Earplugs in," has been a call for action in years gone by.

The stars of the show this year were Fire Chief Dennis Russell, Capt. and Assistant Chief Gail Foote, Capt. Jerry Horton, Lt. Jacob Arnold, Safety Officer Jesse Baggett (a very longtime member of the BFR), and firefighters Mark Marrazo, Adam Macedward, Cliff Guido, Brandi Hibbard and Bobby Kramer. Chief Russell mentioned that this year the BFR added some 5-inch mortars, where there were only 3-inch mortars during the past several years.

There was an ambulance on standby to whisk injured people to the hospital in Williston or to a hospital in some other county. There were also members of the Levy County Sheriff's Office and volunteers from the LCSO COP group to help direct traffic.

With thousands of people gathering as the time drew near for fireworks, it was plain to see that everyone in Levy County knew Bronson was one of the places to be for fireworks on the Fourth of July.

The program wrapped up with an outstanding show of lights in the air.

The Bronson Town Council dedicated \$5,000 toward fireworks, Councilwoman Parks said, with \$2,500 coming from the BFR funds and \$2,500 coming from the General Fund.

Parks is the Town Council member responsible for events.

The Bronson Fire Rescue Department set up and ignited the pyrotechnics. Firefighters actually lit the fuses, because there is no electronic ignition method for this show.

# HardisonInk.com

---

The fireworks show on Wednesday night was phenomenal. The “ohhs,” “ewws” and “ahhs” of the crowd showed that the colorful, tantalizing displays of light and the resounding booms were launched with style by the local firefighters.

The Levy County Sheriff’s Office did a superb job of directing traffic after the show. Like the fun parade, festivities and the fireworks shows in Williston and Cedar Key, the show in Bronson was a great event.