

It's time once again to celebrate Independence Day in Providence, but it will be more than the fireworks spectacular put on by Tom Needham of Needham's Nursery.

Starting at 4 p.m., there will be activities for all age ranges. For the younger kids, there will be Kids' Zone presented by Vanderbilt Children's Hospital, feature three inflatables, professional face painting by Nashville's Paintopia, a splash pad to keep cool in the summer heat, and balloon creations by local balloon artist Anthony the Balloon Kid.

For older children, there will be a 30-foot video game trailer for simultaneous, interactive gaming, complete with XBOX 360, Playstation 3, and Nintendo Wii gaming stations, five high-definition LCD televisions, a state-of-the-art sound system and lighting.

Additionally, caricature artist Tracy Latham will be on site to draw family and individual sketches in exchange for \$10 donations to the Mt. Juliet Animal Shelter.

Featured musical acts for the event include Jack & Diane, founders of the "Nashville Unleashed" TV series, and headliner The Tim McDonald Band featuring Johnny Hiland. McDonald is a seasoned performer who has recently toured with Hank Williams, Jr. and been seen on the ABC television series "Nashville," while featured performer Hiland is a world-renowned guitarist recognized for his versatility by the likes of Ricky Skaggs, Guitar Player Magazine and others.

The fireworks will start at 9 p.m. They will be shot from behind the Target.

There will be a couple of intersections closed after the event to exiting traffic. They are Adams Lane at South Mt. Juliet Road, Crossing Circle at South Mt. Juliet Road, Providence Marketplace exit adjacent to Chick-fil-A/Wendy's, Providence Marketplace exit adjacent to Wasabi. The Mt. Juliet Police Department is expecting large amounts of traffic, so they are

Providence set for July 4 fireworks

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encouraging people to find alternate places to watch the fireworks. The fireworks will be visible from the Paddocks shopping center and areas along Pleasant Grove Road.