

A Fourth of July extravaganza

TODAY: Before fireworks light up the city on the Fourth of July, a variety of local groups will celebrate the holiday with medleys, marches and patriotic tunes as part of the annual Stars & Stripes music extravaganza.

Lafayette Citizens Band director Bill Kisinger said families should expect lively renditions of classics like "God Bless the USA" and "The Impossible Dream."

The Lafayette Citizens Band, which takes the Riehle Plaza stage at 8 p.m. Friday, will offer a program of "toe-tappers," patriotic music and "mind music" — more cerebral pieces like Tchaikovsky's "1812 Overture," Kisinger said.

"I try to get together music that I think is interesting that comes from a wide variety. Audiences will have feet music, heart music and mind music," he

said.

The band also will present a medley, "Space and Beyond," that showcases music from "2001: A Space Odyssey," "Star Trek" and "Star Wars."

The Big Swing Band performs first at 7 p.m. The Tippecanoe Ancient Fife and Drum Corps, the Greater Lafayette Freedom Singers and the Indiana All Star Show Choir also perform.

Kisinger is particularly excited for the "three tenors of the night" performing a "Jersey Boys" medley as well as Independence Day songs. The singers include Dustin Hopkins, Joel Benson and John Satterfield.

"If people don't like the tune we're playing right now, they'll like the next one," Kisinger said.

When: 7 to 10 p.m. today

Where: Riehle Plaza, 200 N. Second St.

How much: Free



The Freedom Singers perform with the Lafayette Citizens Band during the Stars & Stripes Celebration July 4, 2012. The celebration featured the band, choir and a fife and drum corps at Riehle Plaza. FILE PHOTO/JOURNAL & COURIER

Family fun

WEDNESDAY: "Everybody's got growing pains," sings Denny Snyder, the frontman of the funky family trio the Snyders in the band's 2014 song "Growing Pains." But judging by the band's seasoned sounds, the Snyders are well past developing their musical chops.

That's an achievement, considering the group's bassist is Snyder's 18-year-old daughter, Lorrie, and the drummer is 14-year-old Philip. But the funk-roots inspired Snyders sound nothing like teenagers. In fact, their kicked-back beats and precise vocals blend right in on a classic rock mixtape you'd use for a countryside road trip.

The Snyders originate from South Bend but now call Montreal home. They produce liner notes and website descriptions in both English and French.

The group's musical inspira-



Roots band The Snyders are the first performers in this year's Purdue Memorial Union Summer Concert Series. PHOTO PROVIDED

tions vary widely with each member. Snyder draws from the blues greats — "Luther Allison, Muddy Waters, Buddy Guy, Johnny Winter, and of course Indiana's own Lonnie Mack," he said. "I could go on for days

about musical influences."

Yet Lorrie loves Ella Fitzgerald — that's evident in her flute-like voice — and Philip equally loves Stevie Ray Vaughn, Bob Marley and Avenged Sevenfold.

PURDUE MEMORIAL UNION SUMMER CONCERT SERIES

All concerts start at 6 p.m. at the Purdue Memorial Union front lawn. Food is available from 5 to 7:30 p.m.

July 16 — Briaghá McTavish

July 23 — Green Room Rockers and The Vallures (5:30 p.m. show)

July 30 — Michael Kelsey

"There's a lot of joy in our music when we play together," Denny Snyder said. "We hope that people pick up on that and that it brings a little joy to their day."

The concert is the first of four in the Purdue Memorial Union Summer Concert Series, taking place 6 p.m. Wednesdays through July, with a double-bill on July 23 beginning at 5:30 p.m.

When: 6 p.m. Wednesday

Where: Purdue Memorial Union Front Lawn, 101 N. Grant St., West Lafayette

How much: Free