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# FRONT RANGE

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**B**

Eric Frankowski, City Editor 303-684-5216



Jill Watkins performs on the Main Stage at the 11th annual Rhythm on the River on Saturday at Roger's Grove. Left: Brittany Peck, 6, has some fun on a bungee trampoline during the Longmont festival.

## Strike up the band

### Army ensemble paying a visit to Longmont

By Carolyn Barry  
*The Daily Times-Call*

A love of playing the French horn has taken Master Sgt. Patrick Lipphardt to all 50 states and 25 countries, and allowed him to meet former President Bill Clinton, Princess Diana and the most important person of all — his wife.

Lipphardt, 49, a Colorado Springs native, is the only Coloradoan in the 65-member U.S. Army Field Band, which is touring the state this month.

"The opportunity to travel has been phenomenal," he said.

While a member of the 79th Army Band, Lipphardt lived in Panama, where two unexpected things happened: He met his wife, Fina, and he was called to active combat duty.

When the United States invaded Panama in 1989, the band had to exchange musical instruments for weapons to aid the military police.

"I was scared about the idea of going to war, but the Army trains us a lot, and I developed a confidence," he said.

Lipphardt said the experience was stressful because Panama defense forces fired on his unit

■ See BAND / B6

# Soggy, but smiling

Stories by Victoria A.F. Camron • Photos by Joshua Buck • *The Daily Times-Call*

### Rain can't keep Rhythm-goers, performers down

LONGMONT — Sunglasses and shorts weren't too popular Saturday at Rhythm on the River, where most people instead carried an umbrella or donned a rain poncho.

But the much-needed rainfall did little to dampen the spirits of those attending the 11th annual community festival at Roger's Grove.

"I think it affected turnout a little bit," said Erik Casynn, a member of the Longmont Youth Council and one of the event's organizers. Even as the rain came down in the mid-afternoon, more people were arriving to enjoy the event, he pointed out.

Throughout the day, the covered seating for the annex stage was filled with people, Casynn said. Dozens of others listened to different bands near the main stage. Organizers do not track attendance at the event, Casynn said.

Any shortage in attendance was not noticed by Danny Bacca. The 11-year-old Longmont boy waited about 30 minutes to jump on a trampoline while harnessed to two bungee cords.

"It was definitely worth the wait," he yelled to his mother as his turn wound down.

"It was a little bit scary when they first bounce you," Danny admitted, but once he got used to leaping dozens of feet into the air, he loved it.

Danny also got his feet off the ground at one of the two 50-foot climbing walls set up for children. "Every time, I made it to the top," he proudly declared.

Denise King, 7, did not quite make it to the top of the climbing wall. The first time she tried, she didn't make it

■ See RHYTHM / B6



Magician Connie Elstun is shocked as she picks up the wrong end of a rabbit during her show at Rhythm on the River on Saturday. Connie and Co.'s Magic for Children performed under the annex tent in the morning.



People brave a rain shower to check out booths at Roger's Grove. Left: Rebecca Penrod, 16, and Christian Gonzalez, 15, dance to the sounds of Face, an all-vocal band, at Rhythm on the River.

## Duck brings couple Caribbean trip

### Rotary hopes race will generate \$20K

LONGMONT — One rubber duck is taking a longtime Longmont couple to the Caribbean.

Gary and Sheryl Pellett, city residents since 1969, held the winning ticket, 1544, in Saturday's duck race sponsored by the St. Vrain Rotary Club.

The money raised from this year's race, the seventh annual event, will benefit A Woman's Work, Colorado Therapeutic Riding Center and Meals on Wheels.

"This is our biggest fundraiser of the year," said Jim Boggess, president of the St. Vrain Rotary. "This, hopefully, will generate

■ See DUCKS / B6



Lou Cavallo, left, and John Weibel sort through the corporate ducks after they made their voyage down the St. Vrain River during the annual St. Vrain Rotary duck race Saturday. Many businesses decorated their rubber ducks for the race.

### If you go

**What:** U.S. Army Field Band performance

**When:** 7 p.m. Tuesday

**Where:** Vance Brand Civic Auditorium at Skyline High School, 600 E. Mountain View Ave., Longmont

**Cost:** Free, but you must have a ticket to attend. You can pick up tickets at the Daily Times-Call, 350 Terry St., during business hours.

**Information:** For more information, call the Daily Times-Call at 303-776-2244 during business hours.

## Biotech keeps Erie attorney on her toes

By Victoria A.F. Camron  
*The Daily Times-Call*

ERIE — People get sick, visit a doctor, obtain a prescription and pick up the medication — all without a thought as to how that medicine came to be.

But Jennifer McCallum often finds herself on the ground floor of those medications' development, even though she's not a doctor or a researcher. She's an attorney who specializes in biotechnology patents.

"I didn't grow up wanting to be a biotech patent attorney. I didn't even know what that was," McCallum, 36, said last week in her Erie office. But she wanted to do something fascinating and believed biotechnology held that promise.

"I thought that's where health care was going," she said.

■ See BIOTECH / B6

### News in Brief

#### Correction

A story on Page B1 of Saturday's Daily Times-Call about a congressional hearing on methamphetamines misidentified the county commissioner participating in the hearing. The commissioner is from Mesa County.

Times-Call staff report

# BIOTECH: Erie patent attorney

Continued from B1

Even as she majored in biology and chemistry at California State University at Chico, McCallum never entertained thoughts of becoming a medical doctor, because she is easily bored.

"I think you would do the same thing all the time," said McCallum, who has a doctorate in physiology from Colorado State University and a law degree from the University of Colorado.

Instead, she prefers to help doctors get the tools they need to treat patients.

"When you go to the doctor, I want you to have more choices," McCallum said. "It's up to you; that's my belief."

For example, parents should decide if they want to store their children's umbilical cord blood, which could later play a part in treating disease. McCallum successfully argued that point in a California court in 2004.

More recently, she helped Cryobanks International Inc. license its cord-blood storage techniques to companies in India, Oman and the United Arab Emirates. Cord blood can be used for transplants within families or anonymously, as many organ transplants are conducted.

Because of the Cryobanks



Jennifer McCallum of Erie represented PR Pharmaceuticals Inc., a Fort Collins company, in its recent successful patent application for a medication that treats diabetes.

agreements, stem cell therapy involving cord blood will be available to every resident of those countries, McCallum said. Also, cord blood does not have to match the recipient as closely as bone marrow does, so it could be used when a matching bone marrow donor cannot be found, she explained.

"Stem cell technology is where the health-care choices will be for our generation," McCallum said.

The attorney also sees firsthand why medications cost so much, especially in the United States.

"This is an incredibly expensive business," McCallum said, noting that the research needed to obtain Food and Drug Administration approval costs between \$1.2 billion and \$1.4 billion. Even then, only one in eight medications is approved.

Although one may not expect to find a world-renowned attor-

ney in a small, historical home at Briggs and Cheesman streets, McCallum loves living in Erie, where she can easily get to Denver International Airport.

McCallum once practiced with a Denver firm that specialized in patent law. When her firm downsized, McCallum's clients urged her to continue with her own practice, she said.

"They didn't care where I was," she said. "My client base is not here in Erie."

McCallum's success — the firm's income increased 500 percent last year, she said — reflects the growth in health-care biotech revenues, which increased from \$8 billion in 1992 to \$39 billion in 2003, according to Biotechnology Industry Organization. The same organization reported 5,412 biotechnology patents were granted in 1997, but the number increased 44 percent, to 7,834, in 1998. In 2002, the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office issued 7,763 patents.

Such growth has given McCallum the opportunity to be choosy about her cases.

"If it doesn't sound like an interesting case, I don't take it," she said. "I don't really have a plain-vanilla case."

Victoria Camron can be reached at 303-684-5226, or by e-mail at vcamron@times-call.com.



Marty, left, and Elmo Parrish, center, dig to reach the frame of their van in Westcreek on Saturday morning. Doug Phillips waits with a tow line to pull the van out of some of the 2 feet of mud that was swept down by heavy rains.

# Owens declares flooding disaster

The Associated Press

DECKERS — Drenching rains washed out roads, left behind debris and flooded houses in areas of Douglas County still recovering from the largest wildfire in Colorado history, prompting Gov. Bill Owens to issue an order Saturday for a state disaster emergency.

The order allows state and federal assistance in the area where the Hayman fire burned 138,000 acres in 2002.

State officials reported that five homes in Douglas County had flooded and 40 more were threatened, Owens' spokesman Nate Strauch said.

Douglas County sheriff's spokeswoman Cocha Heyden said officials were surveying whether homes were primary homes or vacation cabins.

Heyden said it was difficult for county, state and public works crews to get around the area, with Highway 67 closed from Deckers to Westcreek Road because of the flooding.

"They had so many trees and debris down on the roadways," she said. "Our deputies aren't going anywhere, other than the roadblocks."

Heyden said officials expected to find water damage, mudslides and fallen debris in the area.

Janine Hall, a Westcreek resident, told KCNC-TV in Denver that she watched water pick up three cars in her neighbor's driveway, "like they were marshmallows, just lifted them up."

People in at least a dozen homes on Highway 67 between the Deckers and Westcreek could not leave Saturday, as rain continued to fall. Heyden said au-

thorities were monitoring them by phone and could get them out in an emergency. The homes had food, water and electricity, she added.

An automated system called 86 homes in the Westcreek area late Friday to tell residents to seek higher ground, and several campgrounds were evacuated.

Heyden said some residents chose to stay, but no one was trapped or stranded.

Melinda Epp, spokeswoman for the Mile High Chapter of the American Red Cross, said the agency was aiding two families near Deckers whose homes had been damaged by mud. Work to open a shelter Friday night was stopped when no one showed up, she said.

Epp said another attempt could be made should the situation worsen.

The flooding was occurring on the South Platte River basin, where the Hayman fire burned four years ago. Heyden blamed much of the flood and mud damage on the fire, which destroyed vegetation and ground cover.

Meanwhile, a boulder the size of a small car slid onto an unoccupied vehicle on U.S. Highway 6 in Clear Creek Canyon in Jefferson County, forcing the road's closure for about seven hours Saturday afternoon, Colorado Department of Transportation spokesman Paul Peterson said.

Crews were forced to blow the rock apart, then move the smaller pieces off the road, he said. No one was injured. The vehicle belonged to a rock climber who had parked it on the side of the road.

# RHYTHM:

Continued from B1

too far, her father said, but she almost reached the summit on her second attempt.

Still, it was her favorite activity at the festival, and she wants to try again someday, Denise said.

Because of the rain, a bike-safety demonstration was closed, Casynn said. But that

really was the only activity affected, he said.

On Friday night, attendance was so high that overflow parking lots had to be used, Casynn said.

"We were astonished with how many people we had," Casynn said.

Victoria Camron can be reached at 303-684-5226, or by e-mail at vcamron@times-call.com.

# BAND: Started in 1946

Continued from B1

and for several days he didn't know whether his family was safe.

The family came through the ordeal unscathed, and not long after, in 1990, Lipphardt secured a spot in the highly competitive U.S. Army Field Band. He, with his wife and three young children, moved to Fort Meade, Md., where the band is based.

Since then, he has toured an average of 100 days a year with the band — a heavy travel schedule that takes him away from his family.

"That's a major sacrifice I have to make to do this job," he said.

Lipphardt has been playing the French horn for more than 30 years. He played his first tune in high school, when popularity for the saxophone led him to choose a different, "neat-looking" instrument from a picture on the wall.

At Colorado State University, Lipphardt studied music with the dream of one day playing in an orchestra. Job stability and travel opportunities, though, lured him to the Army, which he said is the biggest employer of musicians in the country.

Although Lipphardt is trained in classical music, it's not his fa-

vorite to perform.

"I really enjoy the popular music," he said. "It's just a lot of fun that you wouldn't usually get playing the French horn."

The Field Band plays an amazing variety of music, Lipphardt said, ranging from classical to popular music and patriotic tunes.

"Almost every night, we get a standing ovation," said the tour director, Master Sgt. Darrin Blume. "We feel we can build some patriotism and dazzle (the audience) with our musical skills."

The U.S. Army Field Band was established in 1946 to bolster morale among post-World War II troops. In 1957, the band added a chorus, which now averages 35 members. As musical ambassadors, their mission is to "connect the Army with the people," Blume said.

Longmont is the last leg of the Colorado tour, which began with a 40,000-strong crowd for the July 4 celebration in Colorado Springs.

The band and chorus will perform Tuesday night in Vance Brand Civic Auditorium at Skyline High School.

Carolyn Barry can be reached at 303-684-5336, or by e-mail at tcnewsintern1@times-call.com.

# DUCKS: Fundraiser

Continued from B1

about \$20,000 for the community."

About 2,800 ducks raced down the river in this year's citizen race, Boggess said. The crowd gathered along the river and across the bridge started quacking as soon as the ducks were released and cheered until the winners finished.

Sheryl Pellett bought the winning ticket, as well as ticket 1545, from Boggess on July 2 at a meeting of their motorcycle club, she said. Each \$5 ticket represented one duck.

Boggess himself delivered the news. "He was excited, too, because he sold us the ticket," Pellett said. "That was a pretty neat surprise, she said."

For the third annual corporate race, business sponsor

and costume larger ducks, which Rotary members then judge.

Old Towne Animal Medical Center won "most unique" for a duck decorated as a cat, while Longmont United Hospital's radiology department took second place. Its duck was black with white "bones," as an X-ray would appear. In third place, Aspen Dental's duck sported braces.

The "best dressed" duck, in a PT 73 boat, complete with an American flag, was created by Longmont Signs. Snyder Jewelers took second place, while third place went to a dressy blond duck that Boggess referred to as "Dolly Parton" — the Rotary did not know what company sponsored that duck, Boggess said.

Ace Hardware's duck won the actual race.

Find it all in the Daily Times-Call

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Photos will be chosen via a public online vote and used on pages Dec. 2006-Dec. 2007 as well as the cover.

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