

Family

Tomatoes shine in home gardens

For most of us who play in the dirt out in the backyard, the tomato is the reason. Sure we love our cucumbers and sweet corn. We always plant a few peppers and some potatoes. What would a vegetable garden be without green beans and carrots? Some of us even raise a little zucchini and egg plant, proving once again that most people will eat just about anything that is grown in the garden.

But the tomato is king! We love our tomatoes; fresh, canned, in salsa or used in dozens of different dishes we prepare almost every day. And so, as our gardens begin to mature here in the High Plains, every gardener's eyes are solidly fixed on the tomato patch. We worry constantly about whether or not they are progressing properly. Are they getting enough water? Are the vines a nice green color or are they yellowing? Should I fertilize them, and if so, with what, and when? Why aren't they setting on? How long am I going to have to wait to pick one?

The answers to many of our questions depends on which variety we chose to plant. Some varieties will mature long before others. Some varieties have completely different growing habits, depending on whether they are determinate (smaller vines) or the larger indeterminate types.

To complicate their development even further is the date that our plants were transplanted into the garden and whether or not we caged or staked them, or just allowed them to sprawl. To assign a definite date of maturity is not possible. One thing is certain. The harvesting of the first tomato from our garden is a very special occasion.

Tomato plants are very shallow rooted. And so we must be



Kay Melia

• The Gardener

aware of their need for moisture. I've always understood that they shouldn't be watered too often, but when summer temperatures reach into the 90s, I don't hesitate to water them on a regular basis - every day if necessary.

I've also learned to avoid using a lawn sprinkler anywhere near the growing plants. I fertilize them at least twice with a water-soluble "pour on" type of material, readily available at the garden center. The first feeding comes when the first bloom appears, and the second about three weeks later. They get a third dose later if they have been weather damaged or just don't seem to be producing well.

I have 32 tomato plants in my garden, set out on Wednesday, May 12, or Thursday, May 13. All are caged and have black plastic on the bottom 18 inches of the cage. As of now, they are absolutely beautiful and all varieties but one are blooming nicely. I have Northern Exposure, Super Tasty, Shady Lady and Prime Beef Goliath varieties, with the latter two new to me.

I'm going to select two plants of each variety and keep records on them this year. I'll count the number I pick of each variety and also weigh them by variety to determine total production. I'll give you a report when the production hopefully begins in August.

I hope you're enjoying some early maturing stuff now. And remember it's much more enjoyable out there at 6 a.m. than at 2 p.m.

Deaths

Nina May Farmer

Nina May Farmer, 86, Colby homemaker and business owner, died Monday, July 5, 2010, at Prairie Senior Living Complex in Colby.

She was born June 11, 1924, in Colby, the daughter of Amos and Nina (Chadwick) Griffin, and was a lifelong area resident.

On Nov. 5, 1943, she married Keith Farmer in Colby. She owned and operated The Shoe Closet in downtown Colby from 1976 until it closed in 1991.

She was a member of the Morning Star Rebekah Lodge, Past Noble Grand; the Veterans of Foreign Wars Auxiliary; and the American Legion Auxiliary.

Her parents preceded her in death.

Survivors include her husband, of the home; a son, Richard (Judi) Farmer, Olathe; three daughters,

Patricia (David) McClendon, Spring, Texas; Linda (Randy) Smith, Colby; and Nancy (Rod) Moyer, Topeka; two brothers, Dewey Griffin, Colby; and Robert Griffin, Frankfort; two sisters, Opal Linville, Colby; and Beverly Hussemen, Longmont, Colo.; 11 grandchildren; and seven great-grandchildren.

Services will be at 10 a.m. Friday, July 9, 2010, at Harrison Chapel in Colby, with the Rev. Craig Crossman officiating and burial in Beulah Cemetery.

Visitation will be from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. Thursday at the funeral chapel.

The family suggests memorials to the Prairie Senior Living Complex, in care of any Colby bank or the funeral chapel, Box 634, Colby, Kan., 67701.

Betty J. Miller

Betty J. Miller, 83, a retired registered nurse from Colby, died Sunday, July 4, 2010, at Citizens Medical Center in Colby.

She was born Sept. 22, 1926, in Belt, Mont., the daughter of John and Effa (Schoonover) McCafferty. In 1944 she graduated from Belt Valley High School and attended college at Bozeman, Mont. In 1947, she graduated from the Deaconess Hospital School of Nursing in Great Falls, Mont.

She retired in 1997 after working for 28 years at the Decatur County Hospital and five years at the Selden Clinic.

On May 27, 1950, she married Wilfred J. Miller at St. Gerards Catholic Church in Great Falls, Mont. They lived and farmed in the Dresden/Leoville area before moving to Colby in 2002. She was a member of the Sacred Heart Catholic Church in Colby and the alter society. A Retired and Senior Volunteer Program volunteer, she enjoyed canasta and pitch card clubs.

Preceding her in death were her parents, her husband, in 2002, a

great-granddaughter, three sisters-in-law and three brothers-in-law.

Survivors include two sons, Greg (Marie) Miller and Larry (Mary) Miller, all of Dresden; two daughters, Kathy (Francis) Britton, Colby; and Pat Van Horn, Canon City, Colo.; two brothers, Bob (Jean) McCafferty and Cal McCafferty, both of Belt, Mont.; five sisters-in-law, JoAnn Miller, Hays; Geraldine (Don) Neff, Oberlin; Lorraine Lyells, Phoenix; Janice Bruggemeier, Chicago; and Darline Miller, Arapahoe, Neb.; a brother-in-law, Ed Miller, Colby; seven grandchildren; and one great-granddaughter.

Services were to be at 10 a.m. today, Wednesday, July 7, 2010, at Sacred Heart Catholic Church in Colby, with Father Dana Clark officiating. Graveside service was to be at 1 p.m. at Mt. Calvary Cemetery in Leoville.

The family suggests memorials to the Serenity Room at Citizens Medical Center, in care of Harrison Chapel, Box 634, Colby, Kan., 67701, or any Colby bank.

Balance is key between work, play

Aries (March 21 - April 20) Second chances depend on things you remember to bring some Eureka moments. Do what you can to find a balance between work and play.

Taurus (April 21 - May 21) You're the one that controls the balance in your life, holding on to the creative edge that makes life fun. You choose how simple or complicated things are, controlling your perceptions.

Gemini (May 22 - June 21) Get excited by your options and refuse to be limited by your financial situation. What you get from life is determined by what you expect to get. Boost your confidence and manifest your own destiny.

Cancer (June 22 - July 22) Take on the world, more confident of the future. Feel confident that regardless of what the future holds you can handle it. Give yourself permission to live life.

Leo (July 23 - Aug. 22) While you need to reflect, there's little time. You're looking ahead, feeling confident about the future. Income effects go beyond a confident approach, spilling out into everything you do.

Virgo (Aug. 23 - Sept. 23) Embrace both the urge to get a lot done and to slow down. Life is a succession of moments and if you're able to fully embrace where you are, it becomes happier and more fulfilling.

Libra (Sept. 24 - Oct. 23) Things fall into perspective. Put your home and professional agendas into context. If your mind is full of options relax, for things are going to fall into place. Define long-term professional goals, rather than single steps.

Scorpio (Oct. 24 - Nov. 22) You're gearing down on the work front. A slower pace lets you spot

Shannon O'Brien

• Weekly Horoscope



missed opportunities, opening the door to second chances. This leaves you time to explore options. Network and make connections.

Sagittarius (Nov. 23 - Dec. 21) Forces come together on the career front, while in romance and creativity time is running out. Manage diverse forces. Prioritizing leads to less stress and more opportunities.

Capricorn (Dec. 22 - Jan. 20) Confidence tells you what to take along and what to leave behind. Focus on relationships and finances. Decisions fall into place, based on what's right for your needs. Take the road less travelled, choosing authenticity over convenience.

Aquarius (Jan. 21 - Feb. 19) You're gaining confidence. You're the architect of your own future. Beyond your financial situation, things can be anything you want them to be. You've got the passion and tenacity to change things.

Pisces (Feb. 20 - March 20) In your work sector, there are some important days pointing things in the right direction. Different agendas are vying for attention. Avoid stress and gain as much as possible through balance and boundaries.

Corrections

The Colby Free Press wants to maintain an accurate record of our town. Please report any error or lack of clarity in a news story to us at 462-3963.

Fishing buddies reel in cars

NEW CASTLE, Del. (AP) — A couple of fishing buddies from Delaware have been catching more than just bass. They've been helping police reel in cars.

Larry Newirth and Dan Cathell spotted a white BMW 750 sedan on June 17. Then on Friday, they found a late-model Honda Accord.

Police say the cars were stolen and abandoned. No arrests have

been made. Newirth, a 63-year-old retired carpenter, jokes that he and Cathell better stop finding cars or the police will think they're the ones stealing them.

Cathell, a 44-year-old millwright, says he hopes the thieves stop dumping the cars from the boat ramp so police don't close the dock to the public.

Markets

Quotes as of close of previous business day

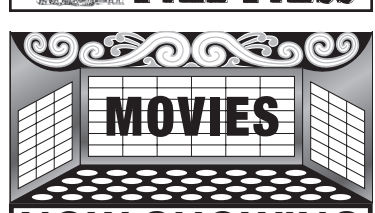
Hi-Plains Co-op	
Wheat (bushel)	\$3.71
Corn (bushel)	\$3.09
Milo (hundredweight)	\$5.05
Soybeans (bushel)	\$8.50

MOVIE PASSES

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Thank You!

A big thank you to all our family and friends for helping us celebrate our 50th anniversary, by attending our open house, and all the beautiful cards and wishes we received.

A special thank you to our children and grandchildren for their part in making it such a special time for us!

John and Margie Flanagin

Glenn Bennett Sekavec

Sekavec - On May 22, 2010, Glenn Bennett Sekavec passed from the loving arms of his wife Judith into those of our Lord and Savior. Glenn was born to Gordon and Lucile Sekavec on January 2, 1944 in El Paso, Texas. Both parents preceded him in death. He is survived by his wife Judith and was preceded in death by their cherished son Gordon Blane Sekavec. Glenn leaves one brother Jay Sekavec and wife Pam, mother-in-law Josephine Bricker, brother-in-law Marshall Reed and wife Linda, three nieces and two nephews. Glenn will be lovingly remembered by numerous friends, cousins, and their children. Glenn was united in marriage to Judith Reed on August 13, 1966. He was a graduate of Fort Hays State University and a member of Alpha Kappa Labda social fraternity. Glenn did graduate studies at North Carolina State University, The Institute of Marine Science, and Duke University. He published many articles and received numerous awards. Glenn worked for Glenn worked for several areas of the Department of the Interior before becoming Regional Environmental Officer for the Office of the Secretary. before his retirement in 2003, Glenn worked closely with the other agencies and bi-national groups on oil and hazardous material planning and emergency response. Glenn was a lifelong member of Oakley AF & Am and a member since 1973 of Scottish Rite Consistory and Sudan Shrine of New Bern, North Carolina. Memorial Services will be held on July 26 at 11 a.m. at the Koster Funeral Home in Oakley, Kansas. Memorials may be made to the Humane Society and Shrine Children's Hospitals. Those who wish to express condolences may do so at www.danielsfuneral.com. Glenn's care has been entrusted to: Daniels Family Funeral Services, 7601 Wyoming Blvd., NE, Albuquerque, NM 87109. 505-821-0010.

LOST FEMALE GREYHOUND

Blond, answers to Zipper. Is wearing a pink collar.

PLEASE CALL!

REWARD!! 443-3686

Have you seen Skunko?

Missing since 7/4/10. Call 460-3960.

In Memory of Terry Harenza

1/3/1996 - 7/7/2008

We still love and miss you Terry!

Dad, Tayber, Aunt V., Uncle Travis and Alyssa

Little we knew that day, God was going to call your name. In life we loved you dearly, In death we do the same.

It broke our hearts to lose you. You did not go alone. For part of us went with you, The day God called you home.

You left us beautiful memories. Your love is still our guide. And though we cannot see you, You are always by our side.

Our family chain is broken, And nothing seems the same. But as God calls us one by one, The chain will link again.

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