

Family

Facts say 2010 a great tomato year

I must report to you today that I am extremely pleased to see the end of the tomato growing season. I would also report that I am already anxious for the arrival of the month of March, 2011, when I will be starting my new tomato transplants for next summer's garden!

But right now, I really don't want to look another tomato in the face for awhile. There are still a few lying around the house, trying to ripen, but I'm trying to ignore them. Of course, they'll taste good soon and I'll start ranting very soon about the total worthlessness of the replicas at the supermarket.

I hope you will agree that it has been a wonderful tomato season. I've never seen anything like it at my house. I planted 32 tomato plants last May 13 and 14, eight each of four different varieties, including Super Tasty, Shady Lady, Prime Beef Goliath and Northern Exposure. From the 32 plants, I harvested 422.8 pounds of fruit, averaging 13.2 pounds per plant. I picked a total of 1,780 tomatoes, which averaged approximately 3.75 ounces each. I canned 21 quarts of tomatoes and 106 pints of stewed tomatoes, which are regular canned tomatoes with a little chopped onion, celery and green pepper added. Also canned were 65 pints of tomato-based salsa. I ate 41 bacon, lettuce and tomato sandwiches and enjoyed fresh sliced tomatoes for dinner some 84 times. (The last two totals are conservative estimates.)

The best-producing tomato variety in my garden this year was one I have planted for the last 12 years, called Super Tasty. It produced slightly over 121 pounds of fruit on its eight vines. It also produced the largest tomato in my



Kay Melia

- The Gardener

garden, one weighing 18 ounces (1 pound, 2 ounces). Super Tasty tomatoes weighed an average 4.25 ounces per fruit. The home-grown plants were transplanted to the garden on Friday, May 14, and the first one was picked on Wednesday, July 28.

The second best producing variety was Shady Lady. While not a new variety, it was the first time I had planted it. It gave me almost 13 pounds of fruit from its eight plants. Shady Lady was aptly named. The extremely heavy canopy of leaves protected the fruit from the sun and it was sometimes difficult to find the tomatoes in the thick foliage.

The third place producer this year was my long time favorite, one you have heard me rave about for many years, the Northern Exposure. It gave me 96 pounds of fruit, borne on those small three-foot vines, not far behind the top two. And then came the new offering, called Prime Beef Goliath, the 14th of the Goliath family of tomato varieties. I picked a total of 93 pounds of fruit from its eight plants and it quit producing about two weeks before the others.

There you have more tomato information than you'll ever need. But remember this. Be sure you plant Super Tasty tomato transplants next spring.

For complete detailed listings of the above information, call me. Or email me at vkmelia@yahoo.com and I'll send you a copy.

Bear-proof garbage needed

MISSOULA, Mont. (AP)—Missoula's residential garbage service has ordered some extra-tough garbage containers in an effort to discourage trash-hunting bears on the city's outskirts.

The Missoulian reports Allied Waste will rent out the bear-proof garbage cans for \$10 a month.

Black bears have been prowling alleys since early September, when fruit started ripening.

City law prohibits storing garbage in any way that makes it accessible to bears.

Garbage must be in a bear-proof container or it can't be put out until after 5 a.m. on trash day.



Chelsey and Scottie Mishel

Outdoor ceremony joins couple in July rite

Chelsey Rose Juenemann and Scottie Gene Mishler were married at 6:30 p.m. on July 26, 2010, in an outdoor ceremony at the home of her parents Fred and Lesa Juenemann, a family farm north of Brewster. The Rev. George T. Rahn of Colby officiated.

The bride is the granddaughter of Eula Juenemann and the late Bernard Juenemann of Oberlin, and Buell Briney and the late Ruth Briney of Brewster. She graduated from Fort Hays State University in 2003 and teaches to fifth and sixth grade reading at the Lakin Middle School.

The groom is the son of Larry Mishler of Garden City and Joni Adams of Beloit, and the grandson of Harriet Mishler and the late

Lawrence Mishler of Commerce, Okla. and the late Frank and Sue Hart formerly of Treece. He farms northwest of Lakin.

The bride's attendants were Kaleigh Mishler, daughter of the groom, and Lexi Weaver, sister-in-law of the bride. The groom was attended by his son, Garrett Mishler, serving as best man, and his father.

Nieces of the bride Asha and Willow Juenemann were flower girls. They were escorted across the yard on a John Deere wagon by Kade Juenemann, nephew of the bride. Readers were Kiedra Riedel and the groom's sister, Tennile Williams.

The couple lives northwest of Lakin.

Pumpkins a healthy harvest

Pumpkins practically announce their healthful benefits.

"If you've ever carved a jack-o-lantern, you probably got a pretty good idea that pumpkin is a natural high-fiber food," said Ward Upham, horticulturist with Kansas State University Research and Extension.

Every cup of pumpkin has 49 calories and 3 grams of fiber.

"Its color is a sure sign that pumpkin also is a good source of beta carotene," Upham said. "Research now indicates beta carotene may be important in reducing the risk of cancer and heart disease, as well as protecting against diseases

of aging, such as cataracts and macular degeneration."

Markets

Quotes as of close of previous business day
Hi-Plains Co-op

Wheat (bushel)	\$5.79
Corn (bushel)	\$4.92
Milo (hundredweight)	\$8.26
Soybeans (bushel)	\$10.69

Bingo, Christmas top next weekend

At 7 p.m. on Saturday, the Royal Neighbors will hold a bingo party at the Red Barn. Any offering will be appreciated and the proceeds will be used for replacement or repair of windows in the Rexford Museum. Cake and ice cream will be served after the game. Also, bring with you used cell phones, which are being collected to distribute to our soldiers overseas.

Birthdays to celebrate this last week of October include, Rhelda Dible, Tuesday, Betty Nichols, Thursday, and Wes Bencken, Friday.

Operation Christmas Child boxes will be wrapped and packed on Sunday at the Rexford church. There will be a soup and sandwich potluck at noon. Everyone is invited to participate and asked to bring soup, sandwiches, salad, or dessert.

Verizon Wireless has activated a new cell site in Rexford, which improves their voice and data network around Rexford. Specifically, coverage is improved along U.S. 83 between Selden and Gem. The new cell site should let cell phone users have clearer reception and fewer dropped calls.

Lisa Stoll, Golden Plains school



Vicki Allison

- Rexford Correspondent

nurse, has the school participating in Red Ribbon Week. "Say No to Drugs." On Tuesday the theme for students will be "Peace Out To Drugs." Students are to come to school dressed as hippies. Wednesday's theme is "Encourage Hugs not Drugs," and students are able to wear PJs to school and bring a favorite stuffed animal. Thursday will be "Red Rally Day," with students wearing red.

Monday activities at Golden Plains: no school for students, parent teacher conferences, and at 5:30 p.m. a high school junior varsity football game with Northern Valley at Almena. (This was a rescheduled game.)

Tuesday, starting at 10 a.m., the middle school volleyball Freedom League tournament will be at Sharon Springs.

Thursday, the last league football game for Golden Plains will be at 7 p.m. with Logan. There will be no school Friday.

More land covered for habitat

The U.S. Department of Agriculture has approved the addition of 95,000 acres for conservation projects in Idaho, Kansas and Washington, through a portion of the Conservation Reserve Program called "State Acres for Wildlife Enhancement," or SAFE.

"Through cooperative efforts like the SAFE initiative, farmers and ranchers can play a key role in protecting wildlife that may be threatened or endangered," said Vilsack.

In Kansas, 30,000 acres will be allocated in areas within the range of the lesser prairie chicken, a candidate for federal listing as a

threatened or endangered species. The most serious habitat threats are due to the conversion of native rangelands to forages and cultivation and conversion of restored habitat to cropland.

For information about conservation programs, visit your Farm Service Agency office or go online at www.fsa.usda.gov/crp.

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.

MOVIE PASSES
Watch for your name in the Wednesday movie listings for 2 free passes.
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Darrell D. Leh

Darrell D. Leh passed away in the Hays Medical Center on October 7, 2010, at the age of 76.

He was born April 9, 1934, in Speed, Kan., to Winfield and Lulu Hemstrom, Leh, he spent his early years in Gem, Kan., going to school there, when his mother married Lon Ruth. They moved to Shelby, Kan., where he graduated. After graduation, he entered the United States Marine Corp for four years. When they couldn't teach him to swim, he entered the United States Air Force, where they taught him to fly, serving his country all over the world in 33 different countries. He retired after 20 years of working for Northrup Vance Air Force Base in Enid, Okla., where he married Marjorie M. Myers on Nov. 29, 1982.

He is survived by Marjorie of the home; daughter Sandra and Stanley Olsson of Amarillo, Texas; his step-children Rodney McNatt of Santa Fe, NM; Randy McNatt of Arlington, Tenn.; Yvonne and Patrick Thompson of Harrison, Ark.; 14 grandchildren; 14 great-grandchildren; and several cousins.

He is preceded in death by his grandparents, mother, stepfather, a brother, Emil, two step-sons and one step-grandchild. A memorial service will be held at a later date with full military honors at Gem, Kan. cemetery.

STUDENT OF THE MONTH

BRITTANY BANGE

Parents: Paul & Tawnia Bange

Brittany, a senior at Colby High School, is Colby Rotary Club's October 2010 Student of the Month.

School & community activities include Volleyball; Golf; Basketball; Cheer; Dance; Softball; Student Council; Cosmic Crayon; Young Humanitarians; Volunteer Tutor-Colby Grade School; Community Ambassador; Blood Drive Volunteer; National Honor Society; NHS blood drive organizer; Haiti Earthquake Concert planner; Special Olympics volunteer; Participant in CHS weekly recycling, 5K for Cheyene, & Trick or Treat So Others May Eat.

Special honors include Superintendent's Honor Roll every semester; Best of Show-2010 Colby Art Exhibit; 2010 Graduation Usher; MVP-Softball; President-National Honor Society; Liberty Bowl half-time dance performer; Best Attitude Award-Dance; Gold Key Art Award; CHS Graduation program cover artist; 2008 Homecoming Rep; 2yr state qualifier-softball; 1yr state qualifier-golf; 4th place-State Softball Team; O&B Classic T-shirt design contest winner, Admin Bldg Board Room Collage designer.

Brittany's academic emphasis has been Science, Health Science, and Art. She plans to major in Chemistry and pursue a degree in Optometry.

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