

How are your tomatoes doing this year?

The constantly asked question in August and September every year is “How are your tomatoes doing?” Nobody cares how your carrots are doing. No one gives a hoot about whether or not your potatoes are thriving. And when was the last time anyone inquired about your parsnips?

America’s love affair with the tomato continues, as 96 percent of all backyard gardeners planted at least a couple of tomato plants again this year. Nothing in the garden is so wantonly craved as a ripe tomato, and those who don’t grow them will pay just about anything for a few



kay melia
• the gardener

pounds of them.

Several weeks ago in this space, I outlined a plan to you that would help me determine the most productive variety of tomato in my own garden. I wanted to find out how at least four of the varieties performed. And so I planted eight plants each of Northern Exposure, Shady Lady, Prime Beef Goliath and Super

Tasty. I had never tried Shady Lady or Prime Beef Goliath before, while Super Tasty and Northern Exposure have been favorites of mine for years.

I set out my home grown plants into the garden on Thursday and Friday, May 13 and 14, in soil that was planted to sweet corn and cucumbers last year. The days I set out the plants I placed the cages around them. They are five feet high and constructed from concrete reinforcing wire and the bottom 18 inches are covered in

black plastic to protect them from the wind and also to capture a bit of the daytime heat that young plants enjoy in mid May. The plants thrived and were fertilized just once on Monday, June 21, with a liquid “pour on” type of plant food especially designed for tomatoes.

I picked the first tomato, a Northern Exposure on Sunday, July 25. The first Super Tasty changed color on Wednesday, July 28; the first Shady Lady was ready to pick on Friday, July 30; and the initial Prime Beef Goliath began to turn color Sunday, Aug. 1. At random, I selected two plants from each vari-

ety and tagged them as the plants I would use in the contest. Since the first fruit was picked, I have counted and weighed every tomato from each of the eight selected plants. As of Friday, Aug. 13, here are the numbers. From Super Tasty, 14 tomatoes weighing 6 pounds, 4 ounces, a remarkable average of slightly over seven ounces per fruit. From the two Northern Exposure plants, a total of 17 tomatoes weighing 5 pounds, 9 ounces, averaging five ounces per tomato. From Shady Lady, a total of 15 fruit totaling 4 pounds, 12 ounces, with an average weight of just over four ounces per

fruit. And from Prime Beef Goliath, 10 tomatoes weighing a total of 4 pounds, an average of about four ounces per fruit.

In just two weeks of the experiment, the numbers are very close as you can see. Overall my tomato patch is about as productive as a year ago, with very large fruit and loaded with more to come.

Correction: Last week’s column should have read...”Marty Melia won top honors with a gorgeous exhibit of beets (not carrots). Jean Cech was runnerup with her display of nearly perfect carrots...”

Ground beetles nuisance, not health threat

Reports are filtering in of black beetles that are attracted to lighted areas, especially around malls, convenience stores and downtown business areas. The beetles in question are “ground beetles,” a generic term applied to about 3,100 different species found in the United States and Canada.

The two current most commonly recognized species have no common name. Harpalus pensylvanica is the smaller of the two. It measures 1/2 to 2/3 inch in length with a reddish-brown underbody and legs. H. pensylvanica is a predator and, therefore, considered a beneficial insect. Harpalus caliginosus



dana belshe
• ag notebook

is totally black, measures 3/4 to 1 inch in length, and feeds on seeds, calling into question its value. Both are regarded as nuisance pests when they congregate near buildings and dwellings. Many people find them annoying. Others accept their presence outdoors but object when the beetles move inside.

Beetles gain access to build-

matters of record

District Traffic

The following fines have been paid in the Sherman County District Court.

March 24: Colin M. Winters, speeding, \$170.50.

May 4: Scott R. Schliefert, speeding, \$243.50.

Traevor Stephens, speeding, \$186.50.

May 7: Ryan E. Scott, vehicle emerging from alley, private roadway, building or driveway, \$153.50.

May 11: Amanda J. Scott, speeding, \$216.50.

May 22: Joshua J. Wiggins, speeding, \$153.50.

May 26: Alan L. Scott, speeding, \$168.50.

May 28: Roger H. Sauer, speeding, \$123.50; no seat belt, \$60; no liability insurance, \$300.00.

Thomas R. Vargas, unlawful parking, \$153.501.

May 29: Jeanne M. Wilson, speeding, \$171.50.

May 31: Manuel D. Salguero, driving with suspended license, \$393.50; speeding, \$46.50.

Preston J. Snook, speeding, \$243.50.

Christopher Vizcaino, unlawful parking, \$153.50.

Christian J. Vila, speeding, \$159.50.

Dustin Vance, no seat belt, \$5.00.

June 4: Daniel R. Weinman, improper driving on laned road, \$153.50.

June 5: Victor Zalozh, speeding, \$153.50.

June 6: Keith A. Yarbrough, speeding, \$171.50.

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Likes skiing, swimming, dancing and art. Anna hopes to join a drama club while in the USA.

Jean from France, 17 yrs.
Loves camping and playing soccer. Jean's dream has been to spend a school year in the USA.

Make this year the most exciting, enriching year ever for you and your family. Share your world with a young foreign visitor from abroad. Welcome a high school student, 15-18 years old, from France, Spain, Germany, Thailand, Denmark, China, Japan, Russia or Italy as part of your family for a school year and make an overseas friend for life.
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WORLD HERITAGE

www.world-heritage.org
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Worship warms the heart

Calvary Gospel Church
Pastor: Randy Payne
Fourth & College • 890-3605
Saturday night: 6 p.m.
Sunday: Kid's Church: 10 am
Morning Service: 10 am
Prayer and Praise: 6:00 p.m.
Wednesday: Royal Rangers Missionettes 6:30 p.m.
Adult mid-week service: 7:00 p.m.
Youth @ the Rock House: 6:30 p.m.
Small Group Ministries meets through out the week.
www.calvarygospel.net

Our Lady of Perpetual Help
Pastor: Father Norbert Dlabal
307 W. 13th • 890-7205
Sacrament of Reconciliation:
5-5:45 p.m. Saturday or by appointment
Mass Schedule:
Saturday: 6 pm, **Sunday:** 10:30 am
Spanish Mass:
Sunday: 12:30 pm

Word of Life
10th & Clark • 899-5250
Pastor: John Coumerilh
Sunday: 9:30 a.m. - Morning Star Cafe Opens
10 a.m. - Worship Celebration and Kids' Church
Life Groups - call for times and locations
www.wordoflifegoodland.org
A Foursquare Gospel Church

Pleasant Home Church
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Rt. 1, Box 180 • 694-2807 • 3190 Road 70
Pastor: Perry Baird
890-3375
Sunday: Worship Service: 9 a.m.
Sunday School: 10 a.m.

Bible Baptist Church
Pastor: Clifford Middlebrooks
Fifth & Broadway
890-7368
Sunday: Sunday School: 9 a.m.
Morning Service: 10 a.m.
Evening Service: 6:30 p.m.
Wednesday: Evening Bible Study: 7 p.m.

Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints
1200 15th Street • Burlington, CO
(719) 346-7984
Sacrament Meeting: 10 a.m.
Sunday School: 11:15 a.m.
Priesthood/Relief Society: 12 a.m.

Iglesia Del Dios Vivo
La Luz Del Mundo
Spanish Speaking Church
Minister: Esteban Ortiz B.
1601 Texas • 899-5275
Daily Prayer: Sunday thru Saturday: 5a.m. & 6 p.m.
Sunday: Sunday School: 10 a.m.

United Methodist Church Brewster:
Pastor: Dorine Chambers
Worship Service: 10:45 a.m. CST
Sunday School: 9:45 a.m. CST
Winona:
Minister: Sheryl Johnson
Worship Service: 9 a.m. CST
Sunday School: 10:15 am CST

First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)
Pastor: Rev. Carol Edling Jolly
Eighth & Arcade • 890-5233
Sunday: Worship Service: 10:30 a.m.
Sunday School: 9:15 a.m.
Activities: Junior High & High School Youth Groups, Adult Bible Study, Choir, Men's and Women's Groups, Devotions Study, Monthly Fellowship
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Kanorado United Methodist Church
Pastor: Leonard Cox
399-2468
Sunday: Sunday School: 9 a.m.
Worship Service: 10:15 a.m.

Church of the Nazarene
Pastor: Bob Willis
Third & Caldwell
899-2080 or 899-3797
Sunday: Sunday School: 9:45 a.m.
Worship Service: 10:50 a.m.
Evening Service: 6 p.m.
Wednesday: Evening Service: 7 p.m.

Goodland United Methodist Church
1116 Sherman 899-3631
Pastors: Dustin and Shelly Petz
Saturday: Worship: 5:30 p.m.
Sunday: Adult Classes: 9:15 a.m.
Worship: 10:30 a.m.
Wednesday: Wednesday Nite Live 5:45 - 6:45 p.m. Simple Supper "Free will Offering 6:30 - 7:30 p.m. Classes for all ages

Goodland Bible Church
109 Willow Road • 899-6400
Pastor: Chad DeJong
Sunday: Sunday School: 9:30 a.m.
Morning Worship: 10:45 a.m.
Evening Worship: 6 p.m.
Wednesday: AWANA (Winter) and prayer: 7 p.m.

First Baptist Church
Pastor: Travis Blake
1121 Main
890-3450
Sunday:
Coffee fellowship: 9:30 a.m.
Morning Worship: 10 a.m.
Sunday School: 11:15 a.m.
Thursday: Bible study 9:30 a.m.
Wheatridge Center

St. Paul's Episcopal Church
13th & Center
Church 890-2115 or Rectory 890-6969
Priest: Father Hal Lycett
Holy Eucharist: 10:00 a.m. Sunday
10:00 a.m. Thursday
Daily Morning Prayer
For emergencies 890-6969

Harvest Evangelical Free Church
521 E. Hwy. 24 • 890-6423
Pastor: Brian Fugleberg
Sunday: Worship: 9:30 a.m.
No Sunday School this summer.
Wednesday:
Senior high 6:30 p.m. at Chuck and Janet Redlin's
www.goodlandefree.com

Seventh Day Adventist Church
1160 Cattletrail
Pastor: Jerry Nowack
Saturday: Sabbath School: 9:30 a.m.
Worship Service: 11 a.m.

Emmanuel Lutheran Church
13th & Sherman • 890-6161
Sunday: Christian eduction/fellowship: 10:15 a.m.
Worship Service: 9 a.m.

Church of Christ
401 Caldwell
890-6185
Sunday: Bible Study: 9:45 a.m.
Worship Service: 10:45 a.m.
Wednesday: Bible Study: 7 p.m.

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