

Do you mind?

Devyn Day frowned at the camera after stirring from a brief nap at the Fike Park playground Wednesday. Devyn and her family were at the park to hear the music of Margie Schoenfeld, who performed as part of the Picnic in the Park concert series at noon on Wednesdays throughout the summer.

HEATHER ALWIN/Colby Free Press



For best-tasting 'wabbit' food, choose the right carrot variety

I suppose there are very few people out there who make a habit of just sitting around thinking about carrots. But, if for any reason you do, you probably think about the classically shaped, long, tapering, pointy, orange root that Bugs Bunny has been seen chomping on for decades. But guess what, Doc! Those long pointed type of carrots are not the really sweet ones. Don't settle for wabbit food, especially when it's easier to grow sweeter ones in your backyard garden.

So, you might say, "All right, bunny breath. Just what are the sweetest and tastiest kind of carrots?" Before I reveal the secret, you should know that there are actually two "types" of carrots.

Actually, the most popular carrot purchase at the store is the small pre-packaged bag of perfectly shaped, machine-formed carrots that are ready to eat. But you can't grow that kind in your garden. And you'll pay a high



Kay Melia
• The Gardener

price for them. The common kind of carrot you see tied in bunches with their tops still on are nearly always the cheapest to buy, and they are the "Chantenay" type.

The other type is the "Nantes" type, and more and more garden catalogs these days are featuring the Nantes type of seed. Nantes types are much shorter carrots and have blunt ends, not pointy ones.

In answer to the above question, those who deal closely with the development of good carrots generally agree that the Nantes blunt-end models are much sweeter, and have much better carrot flavor than the Chantenays. Not only that, but Nantes-type carrots are easier to grow in most soils because of their blunt ends, while

the Chantenay's force their roots deeper and are many times misshapen by rocks or other impediments.

All right, we have more or less established that the Nantes types are sweeter than the Chantenays, so let's dig a little deeper and suggest what variety of carrot, naturally a Nantes type, tops the list of backyard gardeners.

The general feeling among those who know carrots best is that one called Touchon is the best carrot for you to grow, and everyone should hurry down to the store and pick up a packet of Touchon seed this afternoon. Touchon carrots mature at 6 to 7 inches long in about 65 days, and are a French variety. Touchon is also an heirloom, and those who grow them are particularly passionate about their positively pronounced sweetness.

Another noticeably sweeter carrot is one called Sweetness III. It is extra crispy, crunchy, and juic-

ier than most. It is also the best-selling carrot seed packet on the market.

My favorite carrot is one called YaYa, which I believe to have more absolute true carrot flavor. It may not be quite as sweet as Touchon or Sweetness III, but I believe that if Bugs Bunny ever takes time and makes the effort to find the best, he, too will choose YaYa. I also like them because I just like to say their name.

Of one thing I am convinced; when choosing a carrot variety to plant in your garden, always choose a Nantes type instead of a Chantenay. In this case, smaller is better.

Deaths

Russell Duane Jarboe

Russell Duane Jarboe, 89, retired Quinter area farmer, died Friday, June 21, 2013, at the Gove County Medical Center Long Term Care in Quinter.

He was born May 23, 1924, on the family farm east of Quinter, to Ora Samuel and Kathryn Margaret (Wolf) Jarboe. He attended Pleasant View country school until 1937, when the family went to Modesto, Calif., to work, returning to Quinter the following year. In 1942 he graduated from Quinter High School.

On July 27, 1947, he married Velvyn Lahman, at the Church of the Brethren in Quinter, with his uncle, Earl Jarboe, officiating.

A farmer, raising sheep and growing wheat and milo, he was also dedicated to his service in taking care of the Baker Township Cemetery just outside of Quinter, always willing to help people look for ancestors.

He was an active member of the Church of the Brethren in Quinter, serving as a deacon and usher. He was a member of Kiwanis and was on the board of trustees for Baker Township.

He enjoyed helping with the young people's sporting events and was a 4-H leader for many years. Produce from the family's garden was always shared. He enjoyed playing town team basket-

ball and softball, bowling, scrap-books and photo albums, cartoons and jokes, playing cards and Monopoly.

He was preceded in death by his parents; a daughter, Suzanne Jarboe; a son-in-law, Douglas Bess; a brother and sister-in-law, Warren and Mary Jane Jarboe; a sister and brother-in-law, Eileen and Earl Barton; and a brother-in-law, Don Landis.

Survivors include his wife, of the home; three daughters, Marilyn Bess, Bone Gap, Ill.; Deb (Curtis) Simon, Quinter; and Lori (Alan) Moore, Hays; a brother, Wayne (Marcele) Jarboe, and a sister, Leola Landis, both of Modesto; seven grandchildren; six great-grandchildren; and one step-great-grandson.

Services will be at 10:30 a.m., Tuesday, June 25, 2013, at the church in Quinter with Pastor Keith Funk officiating and burial in the Baker Township Cemetery.

Visitation was to be from 5 to 7 p.m. today at the Schmitt Funeral Home of Quinter.

The family suggests memorials to the church or to the Quinter High School Athletic Department, in care of the funeral home, 901 South Main, Quinter, Kan., 67752.

Condolences for the family may be left at www.schmittfuneral.com.

Colby Comets 4-H Club

President Madison Zimmerman called the regular monthly meeting of the Colby Comets 4-H Club to order last Monday at the Thomas County 4-H Building. Melissa Zimmerman led the club in the Pledge of Allegiance. Members answered roll call with "What do you like, summer or winter?" There were 17 members present.

Acting Secretary Abigail Wetter read the minutes from May; minutes were approved as read. Treasurer Samantha Lindberg was not present. Reporter Wetter had nothing to report. Club leader Angela Zimmerman reminded members of the fair work day on Thursday and fair entry deadlines. She also

reminded members of the window decorating contest.

Song leaders Cassandra and Melissa Zimmerman and Malory Jackson led the club in the song "Little Green Frog." Project talks were given by Courtney Tinkham on her goats and Melissa Zimmerman on her dog project. Recreation leaders Miah Jackson and Jenna Reinert led the club in the game "Toilet Tag." Acting Vice President Karissa Singer announced the date of the next meeting. Club members recited the 4-H pledge and the meeting was adjourned.

- Abigail Wetter, reporter

Kansas State names semester honors

Several students from Thomas County at Kansas State University students have earned semester honors for their academic performance in the spring 2013 semester.

Students with a grade average for the semester of 3.75 or above on at least 12 credit hours receive semester honors with commendations from their deans.

Students earning semester honors include:
Colby: Megan Dougherty, Jeremy Harter, Joseph Heier, Jacob Hutfles, Rachel Juenemann, Matthew Oesterreich, Kylie Reitchcheck, Paul Schiferl, Robert Schroeder and Cody Wark.
Brewster: Brenna McKee.
Oakley: Will Clark.

Hot cars become deadly for children

As summer brings warmer temperatures, Safe Kids Kansas reminds parents and caregivers to always check for sleeping children before leaving a vehicle, with the goal of having no more children die from heat stroke when they are forgotten in cars.

Since 1998, at least 569 children have died from heat stroke because they were left unattended in vehicles that became too hot for them to survive.

"As these tragedies continue to occur, Safe Kids Kansas is intensifying our efforts to get the message out that the inside of a vehicle is an extremely dangerous place for a child alone in hot weather," said Cherie Sage, Safe Kids Kansas. "Even on a mild day, the inside of a car can quickly become very hot. This is a place no child should be alone, and because children's bodies heat up three to five times faster than adults, this makes them much more susceptible to heat stroke."

Although most would assume this would never happen to them, it has happened to caring and responsible families from all socio-economic, geographic and educational backgrounds. "Fatal Distraction," Gene Weingarten's Pulitzer Prize-winning article in *The Washington Post* at ow.ly/ldDwU, explains how these heartbreaking and preventable tragedies can happen to anyone.

"Reaching parents and caregivers with ways to prevent these tragedies will no doubt help keep kids safe. These heartbreaking incidents can happen to anyone, and public education is vital to combating these preventable occurrences," said Sage.

Nine out of 10 parents report that they never leave

their child alone in a car, but for the one parent that does, things can end tragically. Never leave your child alone in a car, even for a minute.

Together, we can cut down the number of deaths and near-misses by remembering to ACT.

Avoid heat stroke-related injury and death by:

- Never leaving your child alone in the car, even for a minute.
- Consistently locking unattended vehicle doors and trunks.

Create reminders and habits that give you and your child's caregiver a safety net:

- Establish a peace-of-mind plan. Have your child care provider call you if your child is not dropped off within 10 minutes of their expected time of care. Create a routine of texting or calling other caregivers when you drop your child off at child care so all of you know where your child is at all times.
- Place a purse, briefcase, gym bag, cell phone or an item that is needed at your next stop in the back seat near the child.
- Set the alarm on your cell phone or computer calendar as a reminder to drop your child off at child-care.

Take action if you see an unattended child in a vehicle:

- Dial 911 immediately and follow the instructions that emergency personnel provide - they are trained to determine if a child is in danger.

For information on preventing child heat stroke deaths, please visit www.ggweather.com/heat and www.safekids.org/heatstroke.

PICNIC IN THE PARK

Bring your lunch and lawn chair and enjoy the musical talent of...

Featuring:

Scott Cameron

Joined by: Brady Rose, Conner Schwanke, Nicolette Stapp

Wednesday, June 26th

12:00 noon @ Fike Park

SPONSORED BY COLBY/THOMAS COUNTY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE, COLBY CONVENTION & VISITORS BUREAU & YOUR COLBY FREE PRESS.

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.

Markets

Quotes as of close of previous business day

Hi-Plains Co-op

| | |
|----------------------|---------|
| Wheat (bushel) | \$7.11 |
| Corn (bushel) | \$7.07 |
| Milo (hundredweight) | \$12.02 |
| Soybeans (bushel) | \$14.43 |

FIREWORKS

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