

Aerial shot of the greenhouse purchased by the St. Francis Community Garden.

## Sainty community garden purchases greenhouse

sustainably healthy food being available for Cheyenne County and beyond from food grown right here in St. Francis. Imagine losing our United Department of Agriculture (USDA) status as a "food desert" and becoming instead a "food oasis."

Now imagine that it can happen! This is the vision of the St. Francis Community Garden and Farmer's Market that recently formed as a not-for-profit Kansas corporation for the purpose of providing the community with such food year round.

Their vision is to create a selfsufficient, not-for-profit community based, four-season Community Garden and Farmer's Market to grow produce locally and feed the community.

Imagine fresh, local, natural and coordinators, we were on track to purchase Goodell's. do just that with the construction of our first hoop house, when Shir- with the size of the property, it ley and Mike Marino approached contains four greenhouses, a cenus with an offer to purchase Goodell's Greenhouse.

> and used for the community in this fashion. The alternative is a teardown for the metal that can be recouped from the greenhouses. The action creating an info sheet to go a community farmer's market. out to the St.. Francis high school alumni in their annual mailing and arranging a small fundraising din- ed for start-up funds. ner.

At the dinner last Sunday held at Ruth Milliken's home, enough have already received from those funds were raised for the Community Garden to enter into a contract

For those who are unfamiliar tral large building, a house, two large sheds and six lots. In ad-The offer is exclusive to the dition to producing food for the Community Garden as the Marinos community, we will be preserving want to see the property preserved a local landmark, providing jobs, teaching our young about the importance of growing food, mentoring the community in learning to grow their own gardens, bringing leadership team quickly went into business into town and revitalizing

> Beyond the money needed to secure the property, more is need-

We are very grateful for the support and generous donations we attending the dinner, Mrs. Griffin said. Now it is your turn! Be a part of making our area a "food oasis".

Any size donation is welcome and all are tax deductible through the auspices of the Cheyenne County Development Corporation (CCDC) who is acting as a 501(c)3 umbrella for the Community Garden organization. Checks can be made out to "CCDC" with the notation "Community Garden" in the memo space and mailed to P. O. Box 984, St. Francis, KS 67756. Credit card donations can also be made at the website www. stfranciscommunitygarden.org.

This is a community project

# **Coffee shop expands by** offering catering service

Cuppa Joe Espresso is expanding by offering a catering Zweygardt, Tina Elliott and Me- your guests so you can relax and service

"We knew Teri Walters was in culinary school at The Art Instireturn to St. Francis," said Kim Zweygardt, co-owner with her husband, Kary. "We'd known Teri since our daughter started school here. We knew she was a talented girl and a hard worker."

"She had an interest in being here and we saw an opportunity to expand our business and answer the need for a full service on and off site catering business in St. Francis.

"It was a win-win!"

They sought out equipment here, we can do it. But we also and supplies and the business is growing by word of mouth. They've catered everything from banquets to weddings. Kim and Teri enjoy working together as the "home" cook and the professional chef bounce ideas off each other.

When Cuppa Joe Espresso opened October 2011, the Zweygardts wanted to create a community place that was welcoming and featured quality food and coffee. They sought out local and regional food and the 2009 coffee roaster of the year, PT's Coffee, based in Topeka. PT's vision matched their own – supporting small family farms by providing coffee farmers with a fair price.

'Business has been great,' Kim said. "We couldn't ask for better customers. The community has just been so supportive of what we are trying to do, but we kept getting calls asking if we would cater.'

They began by hosting small gatherings at Cuppa Joe such as the dinner during the Shakespeare presentation sponsored by the Cheyenne Center for Creativity. Sandwich trays for takeout became a popular item for business meetings. People called wanting off-site catering vice president, Mary Morrow; at 7 p.m. on the second Monday but the Zweygardts had to turn them down.

"We are busy people," Kary said. "We both have other jobs and there are only so many hours in the day."

Recently Vicki Killingsworth to the correctional facility in porter joined the team.

Vicki is a wonderful cook in her own right, Kim said. She has done catering as well. Everyone who works at Cuppa Joe loves good food and great coffee!

"The kitchen just buzzes with

gan Gilliland finish out the Cuppa Joe team.

tute of Colorado and wanted to employees," Kary said. "Everyone works well together and we sandwiches to a holiday dinner." work hard but we also have fun. It really is just an expansion of sandwich. They can be made what we do every day. We want up to 36-inches long to feed a to use fresh, quality ingredients, crowd. support out local food producers, present beautiful food that staff, the sky is the limit," Kim tastes great, to serve people and said. meet a need in our community. "We want to be 'full--service," Kim said. "If you want to order especially for you." For more hors d'oeurves, a tray of baked information about catering, call goods, or a full meal for pick up 785-332-3800.

met at the Church of Christ for

Allegiance led by president Mil-

Marvin Zimbelman leading the

won by Lion Marvin. The min-

utes were approved as printed

and distributed by Lion Dorothy

Kellner, secretary pro-tem. Lion

Elmer Kellner, treasurer, pre-

sented the monthly report.

group in prayer.

ing lunch.

vin Zimbelman.

Samantha Beeson, Jordan will come and set up and serve enjoy the party.'

'We have menus in all price "We couldn't do it without great ranges and to suit any appetite – from sea food to prime rib, from

New is a giant "submarine"

'With a professional chef on

The tag line on their business card sums it up: "Special events

## **Club** Clip

#### **St. Francis Lions**

The St. Francis Lions Club Norton sometime in the future.

Members voted to give \$100 their March meeting. The meet- to the St. Francis Recreation ing opened with the Pledge of Commission for the volleyball court project and \$50 to the ton Lampe and followed by Lion Hannah Zimbal family for travel expenses to Topeka to attend the state competition for 4-H Shoot-The attendance drawing was ing Sports.

> Guest Kary Meyer, co-chairman of the 125th Anniversary Celebration for St. Francis. shared information about all the activities being planned for the week of June 14-16.

The club received a thank you note and picture from Alice

Marian Ochsner, head start

The group sang "Happy Birtha birthday card for Carl Jenkins'

It was voted to begin meeting

taken from the unapproved min-



The AARP Defensive Driving Course presented by Don Kiehl of Goodland has been scheduled for Saturday, April 13, at the Senior Citizens Center. Lion Elmer January. reported that he is still recruiting more participants for the class. Lion Deb Patton and Lion Doro-

Isernhagen and family for the birthday balloon she received in director, has invited the club

members to read books to the thy will prepare a free-will offerstudents on Wednesday, May 1, from 10 – 10:45 a.m.

Elections for 2013-2014 were held and the following were day" to Jerry White and signed elected: President, Warren Cico; first vice president, Jerry White; 60th birthday. second vice president, \_\_\_; third

secretary, Joyce Russ; treasur- of each month beginning with er, Elmer Kellner; Tail Twister, the May 13 meeting. Dale Patton; Lion Tamer, Mar-Note: The above report was Lion White volunteered to de- utes of the monthly Lions Club liver the used bicycles and parts Meeting. Dorothy Kellner, re-

# You're Not "sneaky"

## And, said Sue Griffin, one of the with Shirley and Mike Marino to **Organic farmers are** urged to use program

To all organic farm producers break establishment, prescribed (certified and not certified), Ber- grazing, terraces, wells, seasonal nadette Luncsford, district conser- high tunnels and many more. vationist, at the Natural Resource Deadline for applications is April Conservation Service office wel- 19. comes you to take advantage of the Environmental Quality Incen- to announce the Environmentives Program (EQIP) Organic tal Quality Incentives Program Initiative to help address resource Seasonal High Tunnel Initiative concerns you may have on your for non-organic farmers wanting

farm

posting facility, residue and tillage 19. management, cover crop, wind-

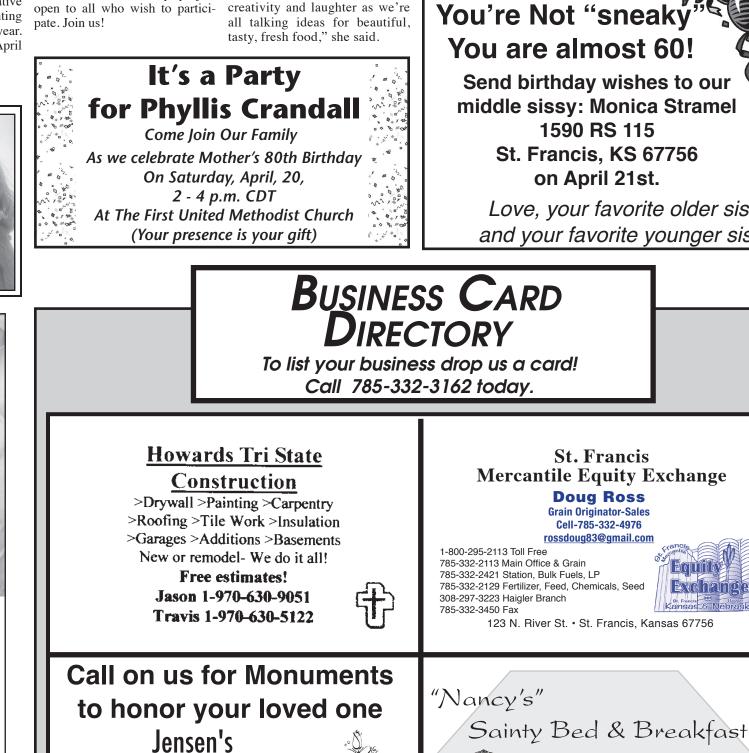
Susie Q

40 looks good

on You!

to install a high tunnel this year. Eligible practices include: com- Deadline for applications is April

The service would also like

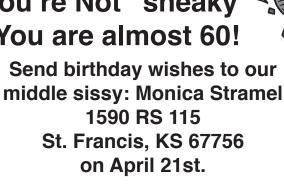


Kay Jensen - Owner 785-332-2317 Pete Jensen - Salesperson 785-322-8215 Kansas Granite Industries, Ellis, Ks

301 E. Spencer Str. St. Francis, KS 67756 PH: 785-332-3274

Equi

**Exchang** 



Love, your favorite older sister and your favorite younger sister!

St. Francis

**Doug Ross** 

Cell-785-332-4976



Love,

Your family

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