

# Club gathers at cafe

The Homecircle Club gathered at the Bluebird Cafe on June 19 to celebrate its 80th birthday. The club was established in June of 1923 by homemaker Nattie Montgomery. Membership fees remain the same, just a quarter, and the only rule is that members can not gossip.

Meta Dankenbring made arrangements for the dinner of turkey breast and birthday cake and mints which followed. The table decoration was a beautiful home circle keepsake cake, made by president Carol Peters, which adorned the table as a centerpiece. The 80th birthday cake is now on display at the Bird City Public Library.

Lucille Wright made place cards with rainbow colored circles with a home sitting on front and on the inside a message of "Having some place to go is Home, having someone to Love is family and friends, having both is a Blessing, Happy 80th-2003."

Ada Connett, the other hostess, gave members a keepsake book marker and pencil stating "Homecircle Club 1923-2003."

The Pledge of Allegiance was repeated by the 12 members being present. There have been 145 members over the years and President Peters has made a commemorative quilt with all 145 names on it.

The birthday party dinner was blessed by members repeating the Lord's Prayer.

Club members enjoyed the delicious dinner and sang "Happy Birthday to us" before the birthday cake and mints were served. The club members discussed and voted to buy a special book for the Bird City Public Library as a memorial gift for the 80th birthday. Joy Anderegg and Hollis DaPron will serve on the committee to select the book placement.

Carol Marsh and Cossette Kimmel spearheaded a discussion on doing a donation of \$30 toward a community project. It was tabled until the next meeting. The August meeting will the annual potluck at the LeBow Manor with Hollis DaPron as the hostess. The program and roll call was



**JOY ANDEREGG shares an ancient oil lamp that was found in the Middle East. She used it to help explain a Biblical story to the Home Circle Club.**

*Times staff photo by Casey McCormick*

sharing a treasure or keepsake from your home or family circle. Joy Anderegg shared the Bible story of the 10 brides maids and their oil lamps. The members were able to see an actual lamp that she had which dates back to between 200 and 300 A.D. and was discovered in an archaeological dig in the Middle East.

Arlene Bruder shared her garden poem of "Plant a Garden of Love." Ada Connett shared her Calumet Recipe Book and a beautiful lavender flowered stone ware serving bowl. Meta Dankenbring displayed a beautiful black silk linen drape scarf or shawl and a pair of gold earrings that her father had given to her mother. Hollis DaPron displayed a beautiful carnival candy dish and two hand painted dishes that came

from England. Her great-grandmother, Emily Murray, brought these with her when she came to the United States.

Cossette Kimmel shared the treasured cuppie doll that was given to her mother by her best friend in 1947. Carol Marsh shared her treasured wall plaque from one of her daughters. President Peters displayed a lovely glass ware cream and sugar set that had been a wedding gift to her mother from her grandfather. Carol also brought a Trickett stone ware jar that was from her husband's (Ervin Peters) mother's kitchen.

Lucille Wright displayed a beautiful fine china celery dish and individual salt shakers that had a border trim of lovely, delicate pink flowers. Eva Murray

shared her poem on how "We Recycle As We Go Through Life." Carol Brubaker shared an individual butter mold that left a special leave pattern in the butter when it was placed on the Sunday dinner bread and butter plates. It was from her mother's kitchen and purchased through the Montgomery Ward catalog.

Ethel Dunn, the club's oldest member, shared her pictures taken of Homecircle over the years. The faces in the pictures were matched with the names on the quilt that Carol Peters had made.

"Happy Birthday" was sung to Cossette Kimmel since June is her birthday month. The Homecircle Club closed the meeting with the song "God Be With You Until We Meet Again."

# Monkeypox suspected in northeast Kansas

The Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE) is investigating a suspect case of monkeypox in northeast Kansas. The case involves an adult woman who was bitten around June 1 by a prairie dog while visiting a Missouri resident. The prairie dog that bit the woman is apparently still alive and not showing signs of illness; however, another prairie dog in the same household died. The woman fell ill June 10 and developed symptoms indicating monkeypox. She was hospitalized June 15 and remains hospitalized.

Monkeypox, a rare viral disease usually found in the rainforest countries of south and west Africa, is spread to humans primarily through contact with sick prairie dogs or Gambian giant rats.

"Persons can get monkeypox from an infected animal through a bite or direct contact with the infected animal's blood, body fluids, or lesions," said Dr. Gail Hansen, State Public Health Veterinarian. "While the disease can be spread from person to person, it is much less infectious than smallpox."

The symptoms of Monkeypox in humans are fever (99.3 F degree or higher), cough, shortness of breath, headache, backache, sore throat, rash or swollen lymph nodes. These appear within three weeks after contact with an infected animal. Anyone with these symptoms who has recently (on or after April 15) had contact with prairie dogs, Gambian giant rats or other exotic animals should see a doctor.

When the virus is transmitted from person to person, it is by large respiratory droplets during direct and prolonged face-to-face contact. In addition, monkeypox can be

spread by direct contact with body fluids of an infected person or with virus-contaminated objects, such as bedding or clothing.

Monkeypox is caused by Monkeypox virus, which belongs to the orthopoxvirus group of viruses. Other members of this group of viruses that cause infections in humans include variola (smallpox), vaccinia (used for smallpox vaccine), and cowpox viruses. Monkeypox and smallpox are two distinct and different diseases, although sometime they may resemble each other.

Kansas Department Health and Environment officials are urging Kansans to avoid contact with wildlife in general, and prairie dogs in particular, especially with animals that appear to be ill.

Anyone who is experiencing any signs of illness after contact with prairie dogs, Gambian giant rats, or other recently acquired exotic animals should seek medical attention if they develop symptoms such as fever, cough, rash and/or swollen lymph nodes. Physicians should promptly report any cases of illnesses consistent with these symptoms, and contact with the above animals, to their local health department. Persons with ill prairie dogs should consult their veterinarian.

For more information on monkeypox, go to [www.cdc.gov](http://www.cdc.gov).



## South of McDonald

*By Sandy Binning*

Josh Johnson was a Saturday and Sunday guest of Lucius White and his family at Enders Lake, Neb., for a campout.

Lavern Goltl returned home from

the hospital Friday.

George and Kathy Banister and family attended the McDonald Girls Softball Tournament Friday, Saturday and Sunday.



# Junior Miss 2003

## Saturday, June 28

7 p.m. at the  
**St. Francis High School Auditorium**  
 Theme: Jungle Fever  
**Watch the Parade on Main Street**  
**in St. Francis at 2:30 p.m.**

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**JUNIOR MISS 2003 CANDIDATES:** Back row - Andrea Carpenter, Hannah Sowers, Hayley Young, Meredith Knodel, Cristi Anholtz. Front row - Dana Raile, Christina Zwegardt, Toni Rice.