

# KRESHA KRONICLE

Volume 12 No. 1 Route 2, Box 114, Osceola, Nebraska 68651 January-May, 1986

## Gloria Thomas graduates from Morningside

**SIOUX CITY** — Gloria Jean Thomas, daughter of Eugene Thomas, PO Box 89, Nevada, graduated from Morningside College in Sioux City at the conclusion of spring semester.

Thomas received a BA degree with a major in philosophy.

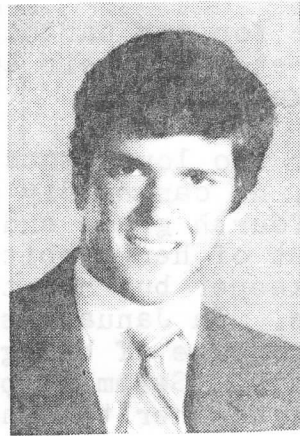
Commencement for 126 undergraduate students was held Sunday, May 4.

Founded in 1894, Morningside College is a coeducational four year liberal arts college with a total enrollment of 1400 students. Recognized as a leader in private higher education, Morningside is gaining a national reputation for its innovative programs designed to attract a diversity of students. The college is educating for the future with campus wide computer facilities, state of the art telecommunications, a futuristic library and innovative programs in international business, graphic arts, computer science, and graduate studies in education among others.

Thomas graduated magna cum laude.

Gloria Thomas--Daughter of Gene and the late Pat (Kresha) Thomas

Michael Hilger--Son of Dan and Mary Jane Hilger--Graduate of David City Aquinas High School

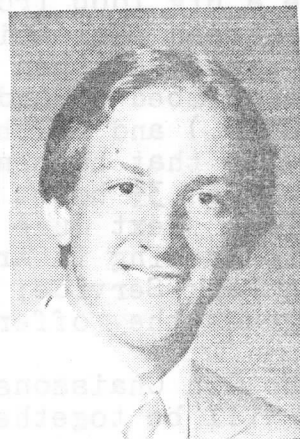


Marty Kobza

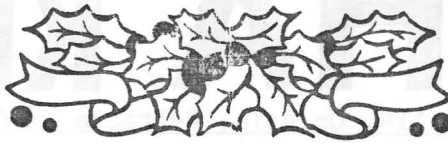
Marty Kobza--Son of Hank and Bonnie (Hilger) Kobza--Graduate of David City Aquinas High School



Lois Elaine Kresha-- Daughter of Martin and Elaine Kresha--Graduate of Osceola High School. Lois will attend Central Community College, Platte Campus, Columbus, Nebr.-- Majoring in Pre-Professional (Veterinary Medicine)



Mike Hilger



Christmas, 1985

Greetings from WINDY and WET Southern California:

1985 was a celebration year for our parents. Not only did Adam and Anna, George and Margaret mark their 40th wedding anniversaries, but they all enjoyed improved health.

Our Mark is a second grader who loves soccer so much that since fall soccer is almost over, he can hardly wait for spring soccer to begin. Marie's in the fourth grade and becoming a seamstress. For Halloween she sewed most of her rabbit costume. Marie has become a good soccer goal keeper but her team could not reach the skill of scoring points. In January she will start swimming again and will have the advantage of being the older (& bigger) part of her swimming category. Swimming put her in good physical condition but doesn't aggravate her tendency for leg pains like some running sports.

Don's played golf all over Southern California this past year, but last weekend he couldn't finish a tournament because of a strain in his left hand that's been bothering for the last month. Diane worked at her golf game this summer too since she had a chance to join Don on a resort course near San Diego.

Banner Gelatin, Don's employer, was sold this last June from the hands of the family that started the company to an Australian conglomerate. The vitamin business has continued in a severe depression, but their pharmaceutical business is saving them. Banner and the Australians (Fiedler, Gillespie & Davis) are still getting to know each other and Mr. Freshman (who is from the founding family) continues to run the company. They had employee layoffs starting last summer and belt tightening will continue into 1986.

Diane planned down to each hour our vacation in Northern California this last summer. We made a big loop from north of Sacramento over to Lake Tahoe, up to Lassen Volcanic National Park, west to the Shasta and Trinity Lakes and then down to visit family near San Jose. One day we climbed up and down the summit of Mt. Lassen (8,000 to 10,000 ft.) and on the summit took the ranger tour of the volcanic activity that happened there 70 years ago. The climb up took Diane and Don 3½ hours but the kids reached the top about 15 minutes earlier. Next June we plan doing some hiking in the Grand Canyon and sightseeing in Arizona. Diane just received maps from the Grand Canyon Park Service; the Park Service gets our vote for the terrific programs they offer to kids and adults.

For Christmas this year the Don Chaissons, George Kreshas, Uncle Jerome, and Adam Chaissons will be together in Sunnyvale.

We wish you good health and lots of energy for 1986.

THE CHAISSONS--

DON, DIANE, MARK AND MARIE

Christmas, 1985

A VERY MERRY AND BLESSED CHRISTMAS TO ALL THE KRESHA KLAN!

WE HAVE THOUGHT OF YOU AND ALL OUR FRIENDS OFTEN THIS YEAR. IN TEACHING OUR CHILDREN TO PRAY, YOU HAVE BEEN ON OUR "THANK-YOU JESUS" LITANY.

AS I'M SURE IT HAS BEEN FOR YOU, OUR YEAR HAS HAD ITS UPS AND DOWNS. EACH MONTH HAS HAD ITS BLESSINGS. THIS YEAR HAD ONE OF ITS HOTTEST SUMMERS WITH OVER 20 DAYS WITH TEMPERATURES OVER 110°. JUST THIS PAST WEEK THE PHOENIX AREA HAD ITS FIRST MEASURABLE SNOW FALL IN 46 YEARS. GENERALLY THOUGH THE SPRING AND FALL HAVE BEEN SUNNY AND VERY MILD.

VICKIE HAS HAD A BIT OF A CHANGE, WORKING IN SEVERAL DIFFERENT DOCTOR'S OFFICES THIS YEAR. THIS FALL SHE FOUND A POSITION IN AN ALLERGY OFFICE OF A CLINIC WITHIN THREE MINUTES OF WHERE WE LIVE IN TEMPE. SHE REALLY ENJOYS ALLERGY NURSING AND THE STAFF THERE.

MY JOB HAS BEEN BUSY, EVEN HECTIC AT TIMES AS THE OPERATIONS MANAGER WITH FBG. SINCE SUMMER, FBG HAS STARTED CLEANING AT LEAST ONE NEW, LARGE BUILDING EACH MONTH. A FEW EVENINGS EACH MONTH HAVE BEEN SPENT GETTING CREWS AND SUPERVISORS TRAINED. IT IS THE PRICE OF SUCCESS (WORKING EVENINGS): THE COMPANY HAS INCREASED ITS REVENUE 64% IN THE LAST YEAR.

FAMILY WISE, OUR CHILDREN ARE QUICKLY LEAVING THE BABY STAGE AND ENTERING ADOLESCENCE (AGES 3 and 5 now) VINCENT STARTED KINDERGARTEN THIS FALL AFTER A WONDERFUL SUMMER OF SWIMMING AND DIVING IN THE POOL. HE ENJOYS SCHOOL, IN FACT HE READS SOME WORDS BY SOUNDING THEM OUT. HE ENJOYS MATH AND IS SO PROUD THAT HE HAS A BACKPACK TO CARRY TO AND FROM SCHOOL. IT IS THE BEGINNING OF HIS INDEPENDENCE.

CARMEN IS STILL OUR DARLING, BUT QUITE SELF-WILLED AND NOT AT ALL HESITANT TO TELL ANYONE WHAT IS ON HER MIND OR LET THEM KNOW SHE IS IN CHARGE OF HER CABBAGE PATCH AND TEDDY BEAR WORLD. SHE RIDES A TRAINING WHEEL BIKE, LOVES TO COLOR AND CUT OUT SHAPES WITH SCISSORS AS WELL AS PLAY DOLL HOUSE AND BUILDING BLOCKS.

THIS FALL HAS BEEN A TIME TO TEACH CHILDREN RELIGION AT CHURCH ON SUNDAY MORNINGS. IT HAS BEEN A FUN AND GROWING TIME FOR BOTH ME AND THE 16 or SO 5th GRADERS.

THIS FALL MY MAJOR ACCOMPLISHMENT THAT CAN BE QUANTIFIED WAS THE REROOFING OF OUR HOUSE. WITH PLENTY OF ADVICE FROM NEIGHBORS, DOZENS OF ANSWERED QUESTIONS AT THE LOCAL BUILDERS SUPPLY, 2000 SHINGLES, 6,000 NAILS AND PLENTY OF DETERMINATION THE ROOF WENT ON SINGLE HANDEDLY.

MY NEXT PROJECT? PROBABLY BUILDING A DOG HOUSE. VICKIE HAS CONVINCED ME THAT A DOG, SPECIFICALLY A DACHSUND, WOULD BE IDEAL FOR OUR CHILDREN AND HER. SATURDAY DECEMBER 14, A TWO YEAR OLD DACHSUND NAMED PRINCESS CAME TO OUR HOUSE AS A "THIRD CHILD". ...NOW TO NEGOTIATE THE CARE, GROOMING, EXERCISE, ETC. OF THIS NEW FAMILY ADDITION. WHAT A BLESSING!!

SPEAKING OF BLESSINGS. YOU HAVE BEEN A BLESSING TO US--WE MISS YOU AND WOULD LIKE TO THINK WE WILL SEE YOU SOMETIME SOON. MAY GOD'S SON BE YOUR GREAT BLESSING THIS CHRISTMAS.

Love,  
Andy, Vickie, Vince & Carmen

THE KRESHAS - - - - -

Advent, 1985

Dear Family,

All is well at our house. We enjoy our work. I got a 20 year award from the hospital this year, and Karen is just finishing her education in Digital-computer Electronics. I have a chronic knee problem that restricts my physical activities, and I'm getting pudgy. That problem of excess pounds will have top priority in '86. We are both active in parish activities, and working with the poor and the sick. All in all, seeking to stay close to the Lord in all our ways.

We have added honey bees to our gardens (one hive), and were so pleased with the increase in fruit and vegetable production. Got five quarts of honey this fall. We have a new doggie . . . a small, elderly poodle that was added to the house after our Airedale went to meet her Creator.

I will be visiting in Nebraska in Springtime. . . either April or May. I'll be seeing many of you then. Warm regards to all; may the good news of our salvation gladden your hearts on these long winter days!

LOVE from Rita Kresha and Karen Zumwalt

December, 1985

Hello to all,

Hope you are all well and enjoying the bustle of the holidays. I never did get around to writing to the Kronicle so must do some last minute writing. Had a four day vacation the second week of December, so have been behind since. We have so much snow it's unbelievable! Had 34" so far this fall. Last week we had 40 mph winds, so the drifts are huge.

Marty has the first quarter behind him and enjoys school. Chris graduated at mid-term now and has her resume ready. She has two part time jobs now.

I hear from Mom about every other week. Her letters are short and unorganized. She needs visitors and someone to love her.

Love, MARY LUKASSEN AND FAMILY

December, 1985

Dear Kroniclers,

It just occurred to me that I had forgotten to send my subscription dues for the KRONICLE, so I am correcting that oversight right now.

I hope some year I will have a chance to come to a reunion and meet all the Kreshas. For the present I am still kept busy: chaplain at a large city hospital (in Portland, OR), assistant at the Cathedral Parish, and commuting here to the Abbey, 40 miles from Portland, for two classes a week. Keeping busy keeps us young. I will be 68 years old this summer.

Love to all,

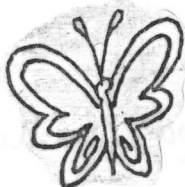
FATHER MATT BURGER

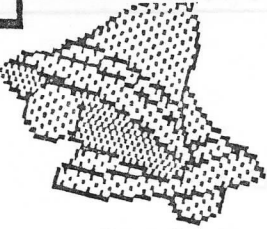
Dear Elaine,

Received the Kresha Kronicle. Marie and I will enjoy getting the news of relatives--some that we have never met, but still like to hear of them.

Love to all,

ANN SERIO (Karges)  
Milwaukee, Wisconsin





December 9, 1985

Greetings, Relatives & Friends,

We both want to wish you a Merry Christmas and a Happy & Prosperous New Year! We hope this letter finds everyone in good health and spirits. We've both had a good year. Tony is busy in his new business, Micro Data Technology, retailing and servicing computers and office equipment. Tony and his partner, Pat Schott, have been expanding right along, moving into a new building (Holland Medical Offices) in Columbus, and hiring an employee, Dave Lofgren, to market Xerox office equipment. Tony made his own business sign out of redwood. He is getting into woodworking in a big way, purchasing a wide variety of tools this past year. Someone saw his sign and asked him to make one for their new beauty shop-I guess his hobby is paying off. We spent most of our summer finishing the house. Tony made gingerbread trim for our house, to make it look Victorian. The biggest project was painting the house, and it turned out great! Please come over & see it before it needs painting again!

I am still at Wilke Landscape Center, selling trees, shrubs & flowers and bringing home as many as I can. This year I've planted tulips, strawberries, a Red Bud tree, a blue spruce, and a weeping willow, besides many annual flowers. We found out how big our yard really is this year-It seems bigger when your pushing the mower! I will be laid off from Wilke's soon, and Tony says that I may get to help him out at Micro Data

We also had fun this past year, and have enjoyed living on the lake-having people over to swim, fish, water ski, ice skate, play volleyball and horseshoes. In August, we had the Dittmer clan over. Mom helped the little ones make sandcastles & sack races and volleyball games were held. In June, we took a short vacation to the Amana Colonies, and rode a riverboat in Dubuque, Iowa. We stayed in a neat Victorian Inn. I loved it! Also, we went to Kansas City with our neighbors to see the World Champion Royals play. Tony loved it-I loved the Plaza shopping at Guccis and Tiffanys-window shopping that is! We also went to Worlds of Fun & had a few thrills on the Orient Express Rollercoaster.

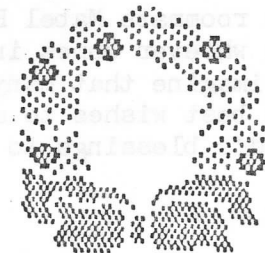
We are also planning a Colorado Skiing trip this winter-finally I will get to go skiing! We hope to see some relatives while we are there also, so expect a call if you live in Colorado. You've been forewarned.

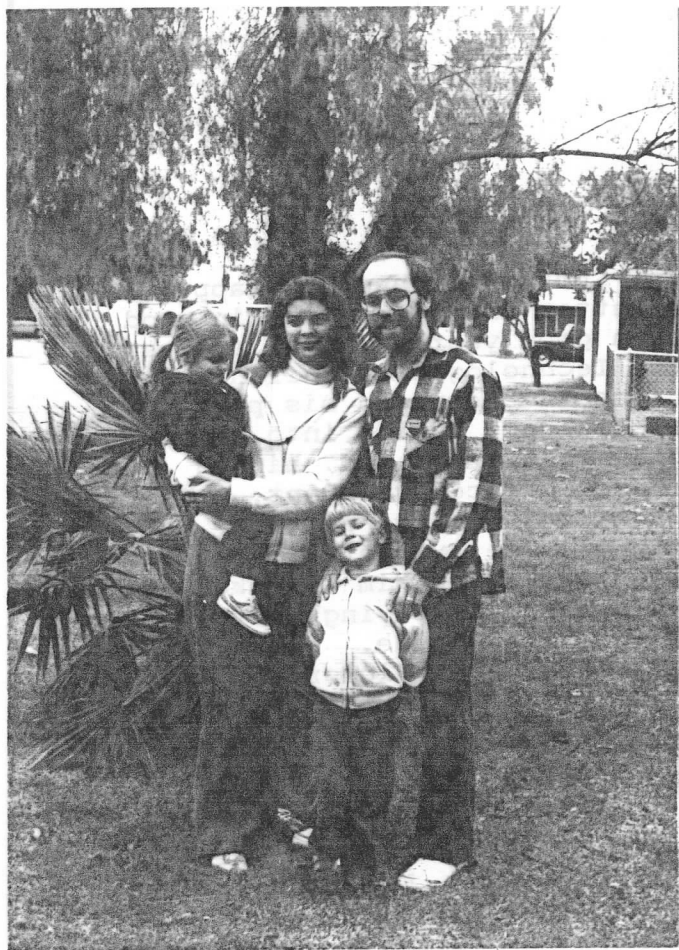
We hope to here from all of you & maybe see you in the upcoming year, and once again wish you a happy and joyous holiday season.

Love to all & may God Bless!!

*Kathie & Tony*

KRESHA





THE ANDY KRESHA FAMILY  
1985

Vickie holding Carmen. Vincent standing  
in front of Andy.

**REUNION-** - -June 8, 1986, East Shelter,  
Pawnee Park, Columbus, Nebr. 12 noon SHARP!!

Committee: Rose Hilger  
Debbie Kresha  
Florence Kresha Family

May, 1986

Dear Family,

I was very happy that Lillian, Lucy, Ursula, Elaine and her three girls came to visit and eat with me here at Mory's Haven for the Mother-Daughter tea on Mother's Day. I hope more of you take time to visit me. I do look forward to visitors and letters.

My roommate Mabel Ernst and I really enjoy our new view. We can see out our window and see whoever comes in and goes out the main door. The beautiful sun is a blessing to see. I imagine that many of you farmers have your crops in. Hope this season is a good one. My best wishes to all the graduates! Hope to see you all at the Kresha reunion. God's blessings to you all.

Love ya ver much,  
MOTHER KRESHA

To all the KRESHA KLAN--

Christmas Greetings  
and sincere wishes for a  
New Year filled with  
joy and peace.

Late as usual, but no less sincere  
and genuine greetings.

FR. MATT BURGER



**BERLIN:** An eight pound, 12  
ounce son, Joel Michael, was  
born Sunday, Jan. 19, to Mr. and  
Mrs. Mike Berlin of Papillion.  
Grandparents are Mr. and Mrs.  
Robert Berlin of Columbus and  
Mr. and Mrs. Glen Kresha.  
Great-grandmother is Pauline  
Kresha of Osceola.

**HILGER:** A 6 lb. 6 oz. daughter,  
Betheny Sue was born Dec. 14, 1985  
to Bob and Sue Hilger of David City.  
Paternal Grandmother is Rose (Kresha)  
Hilger. Great-Grandmother is Eva  
Kresha.

April 15, 1986

Dear Kresha Kronicle,

We had a nice vacation in Jan.-Febr. when we toured points of interest in Arkansas, Missouri, and Tennessee. Highlights were: broom factory, iron works, largest spring in Missouri and the Grand Ole Opry. We had tickets for Sat. night when Porter Wagner was the MC. Roy Acuff, Bill Anderson, Jeanie Pruitt, Justin Tubbs, the Osborne Brothers, Jeanie Sealey and many less-known country singers performed for 2 1/2 hours. We "drank up" at a winery and purchased strawberry wine at the Post Winery. They had 1500 acres of grape vineyards. Those clay hills are good to raise something anyway. The brewmaster is in college and majoring in Chemistry. He is the 5th generation of wine makers. We drove our van and camped at KOA campgrounds where we had good facilities. Our electric heater and blanket kept us cozy.

Harold overhauled and repaired all his farming equipment during the winter. He enjoys his wood-heated shop.

This past winter I took an oil-painting class at the College. I painted "Mount Rainer" from a snapshot I took in 1978 when visiting Leon and Sharon. It turned out good enough to exhibit in the Older Nebraskan's Art Contest in Lincoln in May. I don't care to work in oils because of the smell and the turpentine. I like acrylic or water color painting better. They dry faster.

It was nice to see Rita and Karen and all of you to help celebrate the March-April birthdays. It was nice that Mother was well enough to attend, too.

As I write this, I am grieving over the damage to my yard and garden from the hard freeze that we had on April 14. The tulips were frozen stiff, so I cut a bucketful and put warm water on them. Surprise! They revived completely. As I look out my window I see my snowball bush foliage turning black. I have not courage to go to the orchard. Hope all the grasshoppers froze.

Good-bye until we see you in June.

Love and prayers,  
HAROLD AND LILLIAN WITULSKI

## Vintage Clothing

For Men and Women

Over 250 pieces, 1900-1960's. Great for parties, costumes or just for fun! Priced less than retail.



Dresses, suits, hats, ties, shoes, furs, 50's bowling shirts, cashmere sweaters, 50's mid-calf pants, rhinestone and other jewelry, pleated trousers, skirts, jackets, lingerie, purses, coats, gloves, scarves, etc.

Call  
**382-3040**  
Evenings  
Until 11 P.M. or weekends

Karen Thomas' new business venture. Karen is the daughter of Gene and Pat (Kresha) Thomas.

## DEATHS

### REV. EDMUND PLACEK

A funeral for former Mitchell resident, Rev. Edmund Placek, 68, of Burwell, who died Thursday, May 1, 1986, in the Kearney Hospital, was at 11 a.m. Monday in the Sacred Heart Catholic Church at Burwell with Bishop Lawrence McNamara officiating. Burial was in Loup City Catholic Cemetery at 2 p.m. Monday.

A memorial has been established to the donor's choice.

Fleming Funeral Home at Burwell was in charge of arrangements.

He was born August 12, 1917, at Columbus to Joseph and Mary (Smolen) Placek. He was a pastor at Mitchell and Morrill from 1973-77.

Survivors include his brothers Dr. Louis of Omaha and Dennis of Columbus.

He was preceded in death by his parents and brothers Frank and Walter.

Father Placek was a cousin to Mrs. John (Caroline) Kresha

May 29, 1986

Dear Family,

Will try and catch you up on all that has happened to our family since you heard from us last December.

Martin fell and broke his left wrist on Dec. 28. It wasn't set properly and didn't heal, so on April 15, he went to Omaha for surgery. The Orthopedic Surgeon sawed the wrist and put two pins in it. Doctor also took bone from Martin's hip and put it in the wrist. Martin got his big cast off May 20. He now has a soft cast that goes from the base of his knuckles to mid-way between his wrist and elbow. It is healing real good, but is still sore.

Patrick lives in Grand Island yet. Kenneth is in St. Edward, working at Mahoney Implement. Bernard quit his job as a farm hand to help Dad at home. Jolene and Colleen are home for the summer. They did well their first year at college. They enjoyed dorm life. Lois graduated the day after her 18th birthday. School couldn't end soon enough for her. She had a bad case of Senioritis (typical of all seniors the last few weeks of school.)

Elaine ended her 3rd year at St. Isidore's School on May 22. The school year went fast, but Elaine was really happy to see the school year end. Today Elaine celebrates "NIFTY FIFTY". On June 4 Elaine will fly the friendly skies of United-- for a 2 week stay in Portland, Oregon. This will be her first time on a plane. Among other activities in Portland, a visit with Fr. Matt Burger will be #1 on the list.

Our best to you for a great summer!  
Love,

MARTIN AND ELAINE KRESHA AND FAMILY



MARY YRKOSKI  
JOHN GABEL

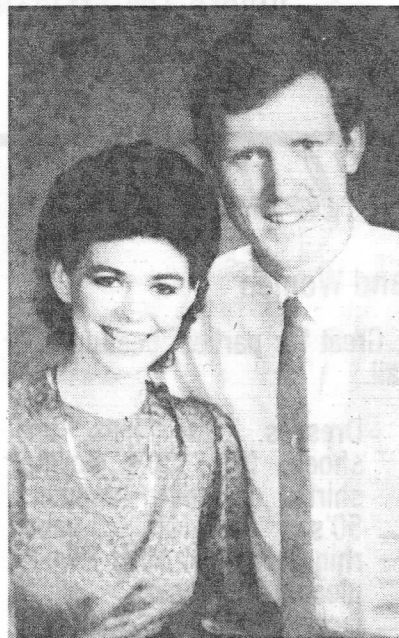
### Yrkoski-Gabel

June 7 wedding plans are being made by Mary Ann Yrkoski and John Gabel, both of Lincoln.

Their parents are Mr. and Mrs. Phil Yrkoski of Silver Creek and Mr. and Mrs. Max Gabel of Shelby.

The bride-to-be is a graduate of Silver Creek High School and the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. She is teacher at Louisville Public School, Louisville.

Her fiance is a graduate of Shelby High School and Kearney State College. He is employed at Nebraska Department of Revenue in Lincoln.



LAURA WIESE  
and  
ROBERT KOBZA

Mr. and Mrs. Ronald Wiese of Lindsay and Mr. and Mrs. Henry Kobza of Bellwood announce the approaching marriage of their children, Laura Marie and Robert Henry.

The bride-to-be is a 1982 graduate of Newman Grove High School and a 1984 graduate of Central Community College, Platte Campus, Columbus. She is employed at the Newman Grove Dental Office.

Robert graduated in 1982 from Aquinas High School and received a degree in diesel mechanics from Southeast Community College, Milford Campus, in 1983. He is presently employed at Mahoney Sales & Service in St. Edward.

An April 12 wedding is planned at Trinity Lutheran Church in Newman Grove.





For a while after that he dug ditches for the Loup Project. The electrification project was the next way to earn a few dollars with which to feed, and buy shoes for his growing family.

Arnold recalls that many farmers made digging the holes a side job. "We dug them by hand," he says, "and it was rough, tough work. The ground was dry and hard."

"We used one shovel called a banjo and another, "a spoon", that was at right angle to the handle.

"A truck used to come to town and pick up the men; there were about 36 of us scattered all over the area to work. Many is the day we were gone from home fourteen hours a day, including travel time which we didn't get paid for. We got 40 cents an hour, and often ate frozen sandwiches."

But, by 1939, Arnold "went full time" with Cornhusker Public Power District and became a meter expert - he hooked them up, changed them, checked them and cared for all the lines. When he retired in 1976, at age seventy, Arnold's title was Meter and Apparatus Superintendent...

**METER MAN MEETS DUNCAN ELECTRICIAN**  
 Milton Scholz' father owned the Duncan Hardware store, "so I grew up in it," Milton says.

But long before Milton took over the store in 1945, he began learning the electrical trade. "I never had any formal training," he recalls. "I picked up a piece here and a piece there and then began to put the pieces together."

One of the "pieces" was wiring REA houses under construction. He wired one large, two story home, complete, for the grand total of \$75. "For that price, I supplied all of the wire and the fuse box," he says. "Today, the fuse box alone would cost more than that."

"And, in those days, when the consumer used up the maximum electricity allotted, the transformers were shut off. The lights went out, the irons cooled off and the electricity was finished for the day."

During the war, Milton went down to Mead, NE, to work at the Bomb Loading Plant for 85 cents an hour. That was "big money then, and people did a lot of things for a buck", but afterwards he came back to take over the store.

"My wife ran the store," he says, "and I went back to electrical work." And he and Arnold met over an irrigation system. Milton would get the job of wiring the irrigation pump. He'd call Arnold in the morning at home and tell him when to be where. Arnold would connect to the transformer, energize it and install the meter; then the two of them would check the load and make sure everything was okay.

Milton says, "I started doing irrigation pumps in April of '55; my first job was for Ray Wilke up in Norfolk. It was among the first in the Country."

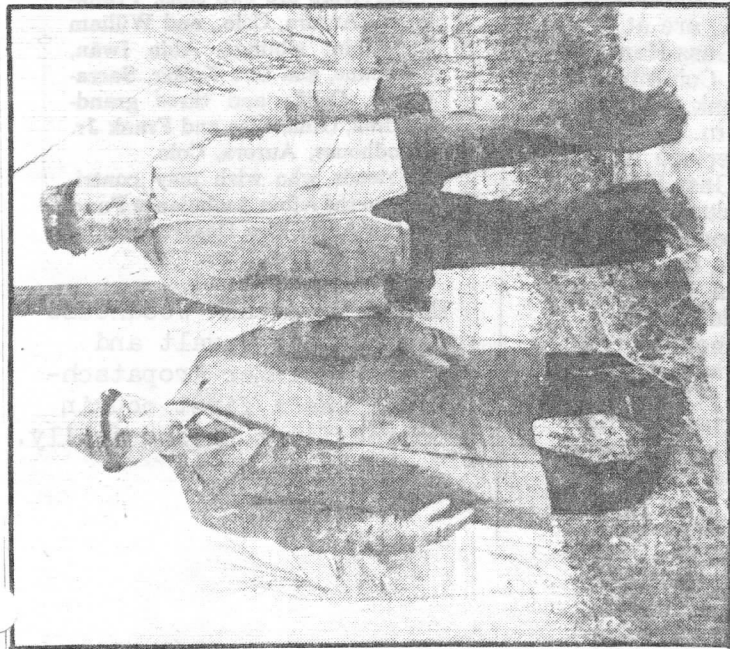
"Altogether I hooked up about 620 irrigation systems and through all those years neither Arnold nor myself had to wait for the other one to show up over five or ten minutes."

As their friendship, and respect, for one another grew, so did their circle of work related friendships. Others, mentioned by both men were, Wes Schutz who was general manager of Cornhusker Public Power District for 28 years, from 1945 until he stepped down in 1973; and Frank Held who was the company project engineer.

Milton retired fully, five years ago when Ed Klaus bought out the Duncan Hardware Store.

Milton and his wife have one son, five grandchildren and two great grandchildren. The Melcher's eight offspring have produced 29 grandchildren and 15 great grandchildren.

Both men agree that it is fun to reminisce about the "good old days", but neither one is of a mind to hook up another irrigation system, or to dig a hole for a pole.



(Fawnee Scout, Columbus, NE 12-11-85)

## Reminiscing About The "Good Old Days"

by Irene O'Brien

It's difficult to imagine that less than fifty years ago area rural, and farm folks were still getting by with lanterns and candles and gasoline motors, electricity - think where we would be today without it - was still a dream of a future.

The two men pictured above, Arnold Melcher, Columbus, to the left and Milton Scholz, Duncan, on the right, both going on eighty years old, met during the years of pole digging and line installation.

The first hole for the first pole was, incidentally, dug by Arnold. The other pole was dug north of the Loup Power House to take their picture by that time but it was gone, so we snapped the picture in close proximity.

Congress passed the Rural Electrification Act in 1935 and a year later REA proved a loan to build 350 miles of line to supply 800 plus customers in Colfax County, and a few in Colfax County.

In 1937, many depression-era men went to work digging holes for power lines and the electrification project was underway. Electricity flowed through the first rural line on April 28, 1938.

Arnold's career began on a February morning when he got up at five a.m. to wait for a supervisor down at a Burlington Railroad car. When the boss showed up around ten, Arnold escorted him to the employment office and then sat in the hall until he came out, so he could rush in and claim one of the "free" jobs that had just opened up to unload that railroad car.

# Obituaries

## Andrew R. Kropatsch

**SILVER CREEK** — Andrew R. Kropatsch, 16, of Silver Creek, died Thursday Jan. 2, in Clarkson Hospital in Omaha.

Services are Monday, Jan. 6, at 10 a.m. at St. Lawrence Catholic Church in Silver Creek with Rev. Stanley C. Mitera officiating.

Visitation is Sunday after 4 p.m. at the McKown Funeral Home in Silver Creek and a Rosary service at 7 p.m. at the funeral home. Burial is in the St. Lawrence Cemetery in Silver Creek.

Kropatsch was born Nov. 23, 1969 in St. Mary's Hospital in Columbus to Richard and Marcella (Prososki) Kropatsch. He attended Osceola and York schools and he lived in the Silver Creek area all of his life.

Kropatsch was his class president and played little league baseball in Osceola. He also belonged to the St. Lawrence Church in Silver Creek.

Survivors include his father

and stepmother, Richard and Trudy Kropatsch of Silver Creek and his mother, Marcella Kropatsch, of Bellwood; one sister Diane Kropatsch of Tucson, Ariz.; one brother, Matthew Kropatsch, Silver Creek; grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Conrad Kropatsch of Osceola and Mr. and Mrs. Charles Prososki of Silver Creek; as well as aunts, uncles and cousins.

Memorials may be directed to the Nebraska Kidney Foundation or the Easter Seals campaign.

Andy's Grandfather Conrad Kropatsch is the son of Hubert Kropatsch. Hubert was a brother of Sophia (Kropatsch) Kresha. (The first Mrs. Adolf Kresha)

## Martin C. Karges

Services for Martin C. Karges, 76, of 34 Southeast 84th, Portland, Ore., are at 11 a.m. Tuesday at Gass-Haney Funeral Chapel in Columbus, with Rev. Roland Jank.

Visitation is 4-9 p.m. Monday and 9 a.m. until service time Tuesday at the Gass-Haney Funeral Home in Columbus.

Mr. Karges was born May 27, 1909, at Silver Creek, the son of Martin and Cecelia Weilasek Karges. He attended Duncan and Gardner schools and married Laura Fickel Sept. 8, 1932, at Nebraska City. Mr. Karges was a carpenter. He was a member of Our Saviour Lutheran Church in Portland, Ore.

Mr. Karges died Thursday at his home in Portland, Ore.

Surviving are his wife, Laura of Portland, Ore.; three sisters, Celia Ziezler of Omaha, Martha Zipper of Los Angeles, Calif., and Mary Van-Velkinburgh of Richland.

He was preceded in death by two brothers and two sisters.



Martin C. Karges was a half-brother of Eva (Karges) Kresha.

Martin died March 27, 1986

# Obituary

## Effie V. Woodhouse

Effie Viola Woodhouse, 81, Albin, died Friday, January 3, 1986, at DePaul Hospital in Cheyenne.

Scripture and Rosary Services were held Monday night at the Schrader Chapel.

Mass of Christian Burial was Tuesday, 11:00 a.m., at St. Paul's Catholic Church in Pine Bluffs, with Father John Savio officiating. Interment was at Olivet Cemetery.

Pallbearers were Michael Kropatch, John Kotlar, Lonnie Johnson, Jack Woodhouse, Bob Anderson and Frank Woodhouse. Honorary pallbearers were Jack Holt, Bob Norman, Richard Person and Richard Ginaro.

Born in Polk County, Nebr., August 12, 1904, she had been a resident of Albin since 1951, with prior residence in Nebraska.

She was a housewife.

She married Francis Hadley Woodhouse in 1933 in Osceola, Polk County, Nebr. He preceded her in death in March, 1974.

She was a member of the Catholic Church.

Survivors are two sons, Franklin H., Aurora, Colo., and William F., Albin; siblings, Alda Iwan, Cheyenne, and Eva Kotlar, Sacramento, Calif.; and three grandchildren, Gina, Lisa and Frank Jr. Woodhouse, Aurora, Colo.

Friends who wish may contribute to the Albin Ambulance Fund or the Albin Fire Department.

Effie Kropatsch Woodhouse-- Daughter of Oswald and Anna Fillinger Kropatsch-- Effie was a first cousin to the first Kresha family.

I WILL PRAISE YOU, LORD, FOR YOU HAVE RESCUED ME.

St. Wenceslaus Catholic Church in Bee was the setting for the Saturday, Jan. 4, wedding of Kim Stara, daughter of Donald R. and Marlene Stara of Bee, and John Kobza, son of Henry R. and Bonnie Kobza of Bellwood.

Father James Cooper performed the 2:30 p.m. double ring ceremony in the presence of 250 guests. Carol Kobza, vocalist, was accompanied by Cindy Bader, organist. The altar was graced with two arrangements of white glads, large white mums and carnations. Frank Allen of Ponca City, Okla., brother-in-law of the bride, was commentator. Greeting guests was Tom Kobza, brother of the groom.

The bride, given in marriage by her parents, wore a full length white gown of sheer ganza and satin over bridal taffeta. A Chantilly lace flounce created a V-look in front and back as it fell over the shoulders. Venice lace edged the ruffle on the bodice, formed the high collar and was repeated on the sleeves and waistline. Satin bows were at the elbow beneath the leg-o-mutton sleeves and accented the lace on the skirt front. The flare skirt, bordered with Venice lace, was adorned with satin inserts that fell from the waist and highlighted the cathedral length train. Satin covered buttons formed the back closure. Her fingertip length veil of illusion finished with a curled edge was held by a Chantilly lace headpiece trimmed with pearls. She carried a cascade bouquet of Japet orchids, white mini carnations and stephanotis.

Mrs. Audrey Allen of Ponca City, Okla., was matron of honor for her sister. She was attired in a rich red satin gown with a fitted bodice and narrow straps. An asymmetrical trim of red satin brocade accented the top of the bodice. The jacket of red satin brocade was styled with a fitted waistline, short peplum and full pouf sleeves. Gowned identical to the matron of honor were the bridesmaids, Julie Kobza of Bellwood,

sister of the groom, Denise Siroky of Nashville, Tenn., cousin of the bride, and Carla Schneider of Omaha, friend of the couple.

The flowergirl, Cathy Kobza of Bellwood, sister of the groom, wore a gown similar to that of the bride. Tony Kobza of Bellwood, brother of the groom, was ringbearer.

Jim Meysenburg of Philadelphia, Pa., friend of the couple, was best man. Groomsmen were Tim Stara of Lincoln, twin brother of the bride, Marty Kobza of Bellwood and Bob Kobza of Newman Grove, brothers of the groom. Gary Stara of Bee, and Dale Stara of Hutchinson, Minn., brothers of the bride, Jerome Kudlacek of Brainard, cousin of the groom, and Ed Kobza of Milford, brother of the groom, were ushers.

A 5:30 p.m. dinner was served at States Ballroom in Bee following the ceremony. Host couple were Leonard and Linda Kobza, uncle and aunt of the groom. Angie Kudlacek attended the guest book. The bride's personal attendant was Jeanne Schmit, a friend of the couple. Jeanie Trouba and Mary Ann Kudlacek, aunts of the bride and groom respectively, cut the wedding cake. Carrying gifts were Lisa Pleskac and Jenny Kobza, cousins of the groom.

A wedding dance honored the newlyweds that evening at States Ballroom.

The bride received a bachelor of science degree in education from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. She is a school teacher at Dist. 24, Schuyler.

The groom, a graduate of Central Community College, Platte Campus, in Columbus with an associate degree in agri-business management, is engaged in farming.

The bride and groom will reside at Route 1, Bellwood.



MR. AND MRS. JOHN KOBZA

## Kim Stara and John Kobza wed in ceremony at Bee



MR. AND MRS.  
ROBERT KOBZA

### Wiese-Kobza

April 12 nuptial rites at  
Trinity Lutheran Church in

Newman Grove joined Laura Marie Wiese of Lindsay and Robert Henry Kobza of Newman Grove. Revs. Leo and Charis Combs-Lay and Rev. Gerald Vap officiated the 4 p.m. wedding.

Their parents are Ronald and Jackie Wiese of Lindsay and Henry and Bonnie Kobza of Bellwood.

The bride chose a gown of polyester silesta. Silk Venise lace accented the fitted bodice and Queen Anne neckline. The bishop sleeves were completed with a wide cuff highlighted with Venise motifs and an embroidered ruffle at the wrist. The sunburst pleated skirt was enhanced by a wide flounce of delicate embroidery at the hem of the skirt and chapel train. Her bridal hat was accented with a French veil as a blusher and a pouf and chapel length veil of illusion.

Maid of honor was Deb Gasper of Lindsay. Bridesmaids were Caroline Laska of Lindsay, Julie Kobza of Bellwood, and Ann Romshek

of Bellwood. They wore shimmering gowns of soft pink Satasheer.

Best man was Scott Romshek of Bellwood. Groomsmen were Don Gasper and Mark Wiese, both of Lindsay, and John Kobza of Bellwood.

Ushering the guests were Ed Kobza and Marty Kobza of Bellwood, Scott Tisthammer of Lincoln, and Steve Wiese of Lindsay.

Flower girl was Becky Tisthammer of Columbus. Ring bearer was Tony Kobza of Bellwood. Candlelighters were Craig and Brian Wiese of Lindsay and Cathy and Tom Kobza of Bellwood.

A reception was held at Trinity Lutheran Church parlor.

A honeymoon trip was taken to Colorado. The couple will reside in Newman Grove. The bride is employed as a dental assistant for Newman Grove Dental office. The groom is employed as a mechanic for Mahoney's Sales and Service in St. Edward.

#### EDITOR'S NOTE:

This edition of the KRESHA KRONICLE is primarily dedicated to our graduates. Congratulations to each of you. I am disappointed that I never received even one graduation picture to include this time. If I missed any graduates and you want your picture published, please send it. I clipped Mike's and Marty's picture from the paper.

This is really a conglomeration of letters and events. Some of the letters printed came in too late for the Christmas edition. Some articles were omitted last time for lack of space. Hope, finally, that I'm up to date with everything.

Sorry I won't be at the Kresha Reunion on June 8. I'll be thinking of you from Portland, Oregon.

*Edaine*

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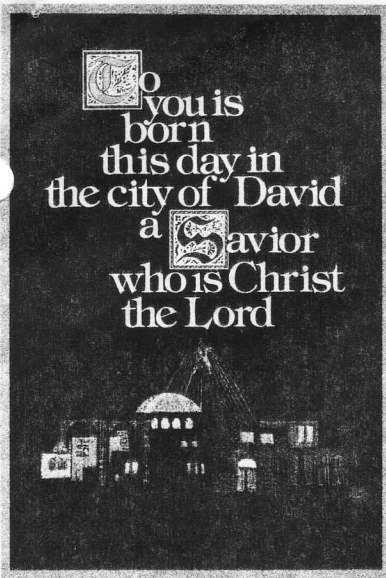


Dear

405 Main Street  
Friend, NE. 68359

Dec. 1985

*Kesha Koonole*



One night 2000 years ago, God came among us as a helpless human Infant. That one night changed the world. Since that night, each day when Holy Mass is offered we have Christmas again. In preparing the gifts for the sacrifice of the Mass, the priest says while pouring wine and a little water into the chalice: "By the mystery of this water and wine may we come to share in the divinity of Christ who humbled himself to share in our humanity."

That is what Christmas is all about... In God's love for us, Jesus took our human flesh from Mary so that we could be caught up into His Divinity.

With that thought in mind, I am offering my 9:30 a.m. Christmas Day Mass for your intentions. Make your intentions NOW in order to share in this Mass. May the Infant Christ Child grant you His graces to live as He did while on earth.

This is my 48<sup>th</sup> Christmas as a priest. For an old-timer nearing 78 years, I feel reasonably well. I notice a bit of arthritis creeping into my feet now after 4 years when both legs were completely broken 6 inches above the ankles in August 1981. If one discounts the flattery, I'm told I don't look my age. Recently a nurse took my blood pressure. A surprise look came over her face. She said: "Your pressure is like a high school teen-ager." But, honestly, the bounce of a teen-ager just isn't there! Healthy looks is only a veneer covering battle scars.

HIGHLIGHT IN 1985-- An 18 day trip to Luxembourg, leaving Chicago Sun., May 5<sup>th</sup> via Icelandair direct to Luxembourg City, and returning Thu., May 23<sup>rd</sup>. My 1st cousin, Edward P. Trausch, age 80, of Riverside, Ca., joined me at Chicago on the flight to Luxembourg. This was a sentimental and inspirational trip revisiting the homeland roots of our Trausch-Berres grandparents in Stolzemburg, Lux., and Binsfeld, Rhine province, Germany, besides drinking in the scenic beauty of the area within a 75 mile radius.

THROUGH PRE-ARRANGEMENTS made by Pierre and Catherine Trausch-Lentz, Ed and I were able to see and hear Pope John Paul II, Wed., May 15<sup>th</sup> in the beautiful Luxembourg Cathedral. Admission was by ticket only, passing through security measures. Ed and I were seated in the nave near the transept giving us a close full view of the sanctuary. I was seated with two other priests in the 5<sup>th</sup> row of chairs behind the TV cameras, which picked up both Ed and myself. Pierre and Catherine saw Ed on their TV during the broadcast; my picture taken on TV cameras was printed in the Luxembourg Wort.

AS THE POPE ENTERED THE CATHEDRAL from the street down the nave, he extended his hand to all standing on his right side-- and I touched the hand of the Pope. He addressed the crowd in beautiful German diction with a strong and firm voice. Since my German is limited, I couldn't follow the full sequence of his talk.

Ed and I rented an Opel car in Luxembourg to travel within a 75 mile radius in Luxembourg, into the edge of Belgium to Bastogne (the 1944 Battle of the Bulge area), and crossing over into Germany to Bitburg (where the U.S. Air Force leases a huge air base and where Pres. Reagan visited the week before). Since our rented Opel bore a Luxembourg license plate, we were waved through customs without inspection at the Belgium/Germany borders.

AFTER MY PRIVATE MASS in Hosingen, Lux, on Ascension Thursday, May 16, Ed and I drove our rented Opel into Germany past the Bitburg Air Base, on to the next town of Binsfeld, home town of my Berres-Heinz grandparents. The Bitburg Air Base area extends east 10-15 kilometers almost to the town of Binsfeld. I had visited Binsfeld before in Oct. 1950 to research the parish records on the Berres-Heinz families. This time, the pastor informed us that all the old parish records are now held in the Archdiocesan archives in Trier, Germany. That was frustrating, even though on Wed. May 22 when Pierre & Catherine Trausch drove me to Trier, and for lack of time, I spent only about 30 minutes in the archives. While in Binsfeld Ed and I visited with distant relatives, Anna Schifferns-Dohr and her husband Peter Dohr. I had visited with Anna in 1950. Her Schifferns family features much resembled my grandmother, Anna Marie Schifferns-Trausch and Sister Columba Schifferns, O.S.F. now stationed in Kearney, Nebraska.

A SURPRISE IN LUXEMBOURG-- On Sunday, May 12, the village of Consthum honored Colonel (now a 3-star U.S. General retired) Daniel B. Strickler for the valiant defense of the village with his small band of American soldiers, holding back the attack of the Nazis on Dec. 1944 until the villagers were able to escape. The Colonel and his small group then stealthily worked their way back through the Nazi lines to Wiltz to rejoin the American infantry. I was invited by the pastor to concelebrate Mass with him, at which General Strickler, the U.S. ambassador, John E. Dolibois and other Luxembourg dignitaries were present. The pastor insisted that I say a few words in English, since a number of Americans were present. Briefly I told the congregation that my cousin and I were visiting with Trausch relatives in Hosingen and Stolzburg, and that we were happy to join the villagers of Consthum in honoring the General. The Mass was in German, and the choir-congregation sang the common parts, even the Credo, in Gregorian Latin Chant. Their last hymn at the end of Mass was "God Bless America." Luxembourgers are grateful to Americans for freeing their country from Nazi domination at the close of World War II.

THE U.S. AGRICULTURAL ECONOMY is in depression, mainly due to low prices for grains, produce and livestock marketed. A large number of farms, family sized farms, are being foreclosed for debts owed. Our crops in general were bountiful this year, despite a hot and dry July and August. There is no over-all solution to the depressed farm economy that has an over-night remedy. It was years in the making. Farmers, who a few years ago borrowed money at 15-18% interest to buy high priced land and/or newer, larger machinery with the hope that high prices would remain --gambled and lost. All in all, the farm economy affects all farmers, and since our rural parishes are farm oriented, our parishes feel the pinch with our farmers.

THIS WEEK, Dec. 7 - 13<sup>th</sup> WE ARE HOLDING A PARISH MISSION/RENEWAL in both St. Joseph's, Friend, and St. Wenceslaus, Milligan. Fr. Leo P. Brady, a Passionist order priest is conducting the services. He has the Mass and sermon in Milligan at 9:00 a.m., and offer the Mass and Fr. Brady delivers the sermon at 7:00 p.m. in Friend. I provide the taxi service to Milligan, and in between keep the kettles boiling to satisfy appetites of pastor and missionary.

HERE IN FRIEND, we just finished redecorationg St. Joseph's church interior before the Mission. It was like tidying up the house for company. The church needed a face lifting because so much of the paint had peeled off in recent years.

In addition, I've been on the move to attend funerals, weddings, and a jubilee observance in past months since July. Three 1st cousins were called back to their Maker: Helen Berres died July 7th, with her Mass of Christian burial at the Cathedral in Lincoln and burial on the Berres family plot in Hastings. About 15 priests and Bishop Flavin attended her funeral Mass. Richard "Bones" Trausch died August 12; I concelebrated Mass with Fr. David Bourek at Sacred Heart Church in Roseland on Friday, Aug. 16th. And after the burial in the Roseland cemetery, and funeral luncheon, I drove 165 miles to Omaha to participate in Steve and Roma Seiker's wedding at St. John Vianney Church, Millard, 7:00 p.m. Steve's brother, Fr. Mark Seiker officiated at the exchange of vows. The last of July, I drove 500 miles to Colorado Springs, Colorado, to join in the 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary jubilee in religion of Sr. Columba Schifferns, O.S.F. With 3 other priests we concelebrated Mass with the Bishop of Colorado Springs. The second week in October, my sister Theresa Trausch-Seiker & I drove 625 miles to Medford, Wisconsin (a 12 hour drive) to attend the wedding of another nephew, Larry Matyka and Marilyn Themar on Saturday, Oct. 12. I officiated at Larry and Marilyn's wedding. My brother Wilfred and wife Sally, brother Albert and wife Louise, Maurice and wife Wilma also drove up from Roseland to Medford for Larry's wedding.

Then on Nov. 1st, another first cousin, Bert Berres, age 80, died of cancer; Bert's funeral was in Pampa, Texas, Monday, Nov. 4th, and burial in St. Mary's Cemetery, Groom, Texas. It is 465 miles from Friend to Pampa. My brother Ralph, Albert and I flew in Ralph's private plane on Sunday leaving Hastings for Pampa --a 2½ hour flight, and returning to Hastings on Monday after the funeral. ANOTHER WEDDING-- Nov. 30th. Laura Trausch, my brother Gerald and Mary Ellen Trausch's 2nd daughter married Jeffery Hammons at Wea, Kansas --below Kansas City, Ks. Fr. Mark Seiker, a 1st cousin of Laura, officiated at the exchange of vows, while I said the Nuptial Mass in LATIN (Novus Ordo), with Fr. Mark concelebrating. The Fatima Choir sang the Latin parts of the Mass (Kyrie, Gloria, Sanctus/Benedictus, Agnus Dei, Ave Maria). The Mass was video taped, and audio recorded. I didn't put on any make-up for the video taping! And my reading of Latin and singing of the priest's parts in Latin were up to pre-Vatican II standards. The Latin-English texts of the Mass were provided for those attending the Mass. Laura requested the Mass in Latin and the Fatima Choir made the recordings. Have a joyous Blessed Christmas.

*Theresa Trausch*



*Lillie Sallegos, Sister Dolores Smagacz, Sister Bernardie Smagacz, Carmen Flores*  
Staff photo by Don Armstrong

Staff members and parents get the crafts items ready for Cathedral Elementary School's 50s festival.

*I made 3 outfits for the nun dolls.*

# Cathedral gearing up for Fifties Festival

By Cathy L. Smith  
Staff writer

GALLUP — It'll be greased hair, pony tails and poodle skirts on Feb. 2 at Cathedral Elementary School.

Those who missed out on or who just miss the 50s can get their fill on that date when the schools' Parents' Club hosts its "Fifties Festival" to raise funds to purchase some computers and software. It will be held from 12 to 5 p.m. in the school's gymnasium.

Parent's Club president Dee Sanchez said the festival will be this year's only fundraiser. In past years, the group has held two festivals — at Halloween and, in the spring, Mardi Gras.

But Ms. Sanchez said the decision to have a "one-time, go-for-broke event was made because enthusiasm sometimes flagged when it came down to the second festival.

They're not wanting for enthusiasm this time, however.

"We've got a lot more enthusiasm this year. Teacher support is outstanding and the enthusiasm of the students is overflowing," she said.

Ms. Sanchez admitted that few of the parents were actually teenagers during the 50s, but that's not stop-

ping them from getting into the times.

"I wasn't a teenager then but my brothers and sisters were all teenagers in the 50s. As a young sprout, I was getting quite a bit of 50s influence," she said.

She added that quite a few of the parents on her committee were in their early teens during the 50s.

"It surprised us all but we've had a lot to draw on, plus people are so enthused that they're not ashamed to ask questions."

The public will have a lot to see and do when they show up at the school, which is located at Las Lunas Road and Park Avenue.

Ms. Sanchez said there will be a malt shop, a hamburger drive-in, a sweet shop (at which will be sold sweetheart cookies, since it's close to Valentine's Day, she said) and a regular bake shop.

There will also be an arts and crafts booth — decorated socks in honor of the sock hop will be sold there. And plants will be on sale.

Entertainment is expected to be provided by the Gallup Drill Team and the Gymnastics Club. The students will also perform skits.

Then, at 3 p.m., everyone will be

expected to chuck their shoes and participate in the sock hop.

The dance will feature hits from the 50s played on a jukebox. Ms. Sanchez said they found a lady who was willing to donate her machine for the event and she also had "boxes and boxes" of 45s from the times.

All of the work on the festival has been volunteer. And all of the proceeds go toward the equipment the school wishes to purchase.

Ms. Sanchez said the school had to rely on donations to purchase some of the more expensive items it needs. She said the school's computer program was one of those needing a little boost from the public.

While she said it would be nice if all the students had a computer of their own to work with, the group plans to be quite conservative and hopes to raise about \$2,000 for two computers and some software for them.

Cathedral already has six computers now and the one to be purchased would mean there will be one machine available to each grade taught at the school.

Sister Dolores Smagacz is the sister of Dolores (Smagacz) Nyffeler and the daughter of the late Jack and Cecelia (Kresha) Smagacz.

# KRESHA KRONICLE

Christmas

Volume 12 No. 2 2503-8-St., Columbus, Nebraska 68601 Christmas Issue, 1986

October 25, 1986

Dear Kresha Family and Friends,

Several of us decided to write a history of Moravia, Austria, and our father's homeland, so that future generations would know where their roots are. We'll list the members of our family, our off-spring, etc. . . We'll need wedding pictures of our father's children. It will truly be a treasure book! Best of all, each of us will write "Remembering Papa Adolf", so all he did and said, and happenings during his lifetime will be preserved. We have 1 1/2 years to organize and print this, so get busy! The arrival date was September 12, 1888. The ship records show that as the date of arrival in New York Harbor. All information is being researched for accuracy.

Joyce (Mrs. Vernon) Kuhnel is gathering data on Adolf Kuhnel and Amallia, so we are exchanging information. She is a good detective and knows where to research.

Our crops are bountiful this fall and it is taking a double effort to harvest the grain, due to excess rains. We've received 12" of rain during October. We thank God for a successful year of farming.

Leon Kosch will spend Thanksgiving with the Witulski's on his way to Chicago for 6 weeks of schooling for Burrough's Machines.

In our parish, I have organized a Parish Prayer Chain. There are 16 ladies praying for special needs and requests. How about someone establishing a Kresha Family Prayer Chain? All we need is one chairman, then an orderly list of family names so that each person needs to call only one person. In 12 hours, the entire family would be praying. Bad news travels fast and prayers are needed.

Our Christmas wish is for all of you to have a blessed holiday season and to embrace the newborn Christ Child in His saving grace. May you and yours have a happy, fruitful New Year in 1987.

Love and prayers to all,

HAROLD AND LILLIAN WITULSKI

November 11, 1986

Dear Kresha Relatives,

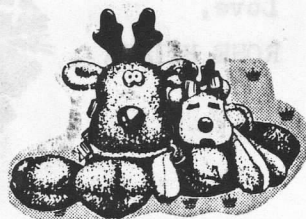
With snow and cold today, it makes one realize the year has rolled around to the Holiday Season and time to get our wishes off to all of you.

So much has happened this past year--weddings, Silver Anniversaries, Graduations, and births. Hope you all send Elaine the dates so we can up-date our books.

This has been a year of challenge for us--another year of struggling with wet fields both at planting time and at harvest time. One can still count their blessings as you look around and find farmers worse off. We feel for those of you that experienced the wind and hail storms.

May God's plan be for a Brighter Future, Good Health and Happiness for all of you. Our Best Wishes to all of you that you have a Happy Thanksgiving, Merry Christmas, and a Happy New Year.

Love,  
DOLORES AND DICK NYFFELER





Christmas 1986

Dear Family,

May the Lord bless you with His love. You are close to me in mind and heart at this Christmas time.

This Fall I was assigned to St. John Vianney Parish in Gallup, N.M.. I had been teaching last year at Sacred Heart Cathedral School in this same city. After 33 years of classroom teaching, I asked for a year in a different ministry. Sister Roseria and I coordinate and supervise the CCD program from Kindergarten through Grade 12 (130 students), and I visit the elderly at the Gallup Care Center, visit the homebound, visit and register new parishioners, and help the needy of the parish.

May the blessings of Christmas bring everyone at home much joy. You are always in my prayers and also please do remember me.

Lovingly,

SISTER DOLORES SMAGACZ

November 8, 1986

Hello to Everyone!

May the Infant Jesus bless you at Christmas and in the coming New Year.

Looking forward to the Kronicle and letters from many of you telling about your families and activities.

1986 was a good year for the farmers with abundant rains. It was probably our wettest year for many years. Just what the farmers needed, especially at irrigation time. Now harvest is almost complete in this area. Last week Bob was still putting up alfalfa, as the weather was quite warm.

During 1986, our family gained two new girls. John Kobza married Kim Stara on January 4, at Bee, NE and Bob Kobza married Laura Wiese on April 12 at Lindsay, NE. Marty Kobza and Mike Hilger graduated from Aquinas High School on May 18. Marty is attending college (St. Benedictine) at Atchinson, KS. Mike joined the Air National Guard in Lincoln. This summer he was stationed at Lackland Air Base near San Antonio, TX, then was transferred to Lowery Air Base near Denver. It will be good to see him on November 19 when he returns upon completion of his training.

On September 6, Dolores, Dick, Adolph and I went to Chris Lukassen and Josh Saunder's wedding at Kimball, NE. They make a nice couple. It was nice seeing and talking to the many relatives at the wedding.

The first of October some friends and I took a bus tour to Nebraska City to see Arbor Lodge and the Apple House where apples are processed into juice and sold in any quantity; because of a late frost the orchard had only 1/2 a crop. We all bought apples and sampled the juice. After that, we visited some 20 outlet stores where many good buys in clothing can be found.

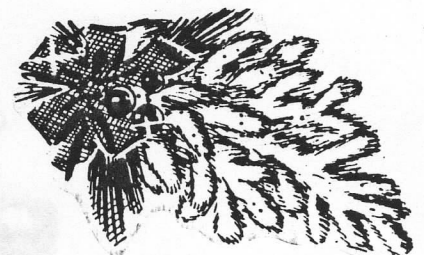
Bonnie and Hank Kobza celebrated their 25th wedding anniversary on October 26 with a family dinner at a local restaurant. Another happy 25th wedding anniversary was celebrated for Romona and Ronnie Smith at their farm home. May both couples live to celebrate their 50th anniversary.

While I enjoy and love all my 13 grandchildren and two granddaughters-in-law, a special joy comes with our newest granddaughter, Bethany, daughter of Sue and Bob Hilger. She is a darling child. She is walking and talking at 10 months. She amazes us with her ever-changing, growing up ways.

My very best wishes and prayers.

Love,

ROSE HILGER



November 9, 1986

Dear Family,

Farm work is winding down. Our corn is in and the cattle are out on the cornstalks. We do have some corn to harvest for hire that isn't finished; hopefully, it will be finished before the next snow storm.

The past 3 weeks I've been working at a local industry known as Carol's Nut List. This business purchases volume amounts of nuts, dried fruits, candies, and baking items such as spices, baking chips, coconut and cheese. I work in the packaging area. We package items in 1 and 2 pound bags. This company has sales representatives in about 30 cities in Nebraska, Colorado, South Dakota, Kansas, Iowa and Missouri. This week they will be delivering orders to Omaha, Columbus, Beatrice, and Fairbury. My job will probably be finished this week. The next order list will probably go out in February when we will start bagging again. This company employs about 20 women.

Marty is at his job of cooperative work experience with the State Road Dept. in Ainsworth this quarter. He will be there until Dec. 19th. Then he will return to Milford for his last quarter. He enjoys his job and is anxious for some snow so he can see the big snow blower truck operate.

Chris and Josh are settled in Oshkosh, Nebr. Chris is on the sub-teacher list for K-12. There are about a half dozen rural schools in Garden County. She said her luck that will be the first call she'll receive to sub. She and Josh go fishing often on weekends. They are also active in a Renew group in the church.

Happy Holidays to you all!



Love,

MARY LUKASSEN AND FAMILY

November 30, 1986

Dear Folks, all,

May this holy season bring you all many graces from above. May the Holy Infant give you Christmas blessings rich with love. My hope is that the coming New Year too, is happy everyday!

I am so sorry to hear you folks had an early winter this year. This year has passed so quickly.

I had eye surgery in May and June. I have 20/20 vision in both eyes now. I'm so grateful that the surgery is behind me.

It was so nice to have a short visit with Margie, Clarence, and Matt Kresha from Sacramento, CA this fall.

Best wishes to all.

Love,

ANN HENSEL

Christmas 1986

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to the Kresha Family,

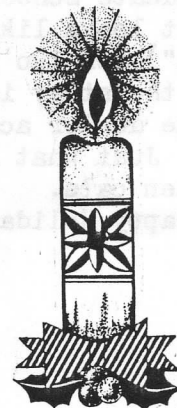
How does this find all of you? We are fine.

The weather is dry and cold. We sure need the rain.

We both send warm yuletide greetings.

Love,

JOHN AND INES KRESHA  
21071 Trefoil Lane  
Cottonwood, CA 96022



November 17, 1986

Dear Kresha Family,

I don't know where the year went as I have been very busy with yard work, garden, helping those who call me for help, like taking them to the doctor, to church, or the Senior Center for dinner, etc.

Just a few things I did this year: I attended the Passion Play at Spearfish, SD in June. It was something I wanted to see. Dr. Mahan's wife Betty and I made the trip. It was beautiful weather. We had no problems along the way. I also attended Joe Feeney and Son's concert at the Scottsbluff Villa--home for persons that can't make it alone. The concert was outside on the lawn. There was a free reception afterward. Joe gave everyone a big picture of himself. His son is a wonderful piano and accordian player. He played for his father while he sang. 500-600 people attended. Everything was free. After the concert Joe asked if there were any questions. I held up my hand and said, "Do you know George Grzywa?" "Oh, yes, he is my father-in-law." Joe Feeney used to play and sing on the Lawrence Welk Show. Joe has 10 children--all musicians--at home. I also talked to Mr. Feeney at the reception.

I attended Chris and Josh Saunders' wedding at Kimball, NE in September. It was a beautiful wedding. There were over 200 at the reception and dance in the evening. There were some who attended the wedding from Columbus, Osceola, and David City. It rained all the way to Kimball. Sunday morning the guests left for home. I went to 10 o'clock mass and after mass there was a dinner at the same place Chris and Josh had their reception. Over 100 attended the dinner, which honored Mrs. Fred Lukassen on her birthday. Then I came home again.

Bonnie and Hank Kobza celebrated their 25th Anniversary the 9th of November. Clarence and Marge Kresha will celebrate 25 years on November 20th. My, how fast the years are going.

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. May Jesus, Mary, and Joseph be with you and keep you safe from harm in 1987.

Love and Prayers,

SOPHIA KRESHA

Christmas 1986

Dear Family,

My biggest news this year is my vintage clothing shop. I took over the shop October 1. It was slow at first, but things are picking up now. Actually, the mail-order part is going better than walk-in customers. I knew when I bought the place that I didn't want to stay in Des Moines for good, but now I'm wondering if I'll even stay past next spring. I'm thinking of moving the shop either to New England or to Seattle.

Gloria is working for Dad now, in my old job. She goes to Sioux City on weekends to see her boyfriend and to apply for jobs. She's working there temporarily, because she wants to find work and stay in Sioux City. There just aren't too many options in the work force for someone with a philosophy degree, unless she went on to graduate school and earned a teaching certificate.

It looks like I may have two cats soon. I've had one ("Kiyoshi"--Japanese for "quiet") for two years, and now there is another one hanging around my front door. Since the stray is declawed, I will take her in if she stays around very long. An antique dealer across the street told me that people often dump animals in this area. Just what a soft touch like me needed to hear. I suppose by spring I'll have ten cats.

Happy Holidays!



Love,

KAREN THOMAS

Christmas 1986

Dear Family:

We wish you all the Joy and peace of Christmas. May God Bless each and everyone of you with good health and happiness during the new year.

We have a lot to be thankful for, our good health. George is looking and feeling well, he loves working outdoors as always. However we both just got over a virus type of flu- left our lungs so congested. We had to use the vaporiser.

Gayhart is feeling pretty well, he finds plenty to occupy his time.

Weatherwise, we had a fantastically cool summer and fall. Neither of us have ever experienced a summer like it here in Bakersfield. Lots of earthquakes around but fortunately not around here. There was a big one on ocean floor off coast of L.A. an 8 pointer. We are getting small amounts of moisture it all adds up to about 1" so far. The farmers had a pretty good cotton and vegetable crops but like you folks the prices are depressed. There was a cutback of oil production and its quite noticable in economy. Lots of unemployment.

Here at the Kreshas, nothing exciting, George is a homebody. Each year I think we might get some place. Wishful thinking!!

We had a new Kitchen vinyl floor put in, we liked it so much bought enough for our porch and George & I laid it. We are so happy with it- easy to keep up.

We are to have Christmas here this year. However Donald's father had a light heart attack and not feeling the best. We hope they can come. as well as D & D and children.

Don and Diane done some remodeling - extending their kitchen and family rooms. They also had more cupboards built and refinished their old ones. Now I'm envious of all her space. Children in school Marie 5th grade and Mark the 3rd. How they grow.

Jerome keeps himself busy, he recently built a greenhouse in NW corner of his nursery. He has close to 4,000 pistachio rootstock - planted about in August, by growing all winter in nursery they should be ready for sale in the spring along with what he grew out doors. Those become dormant and loose about 3 months of growth. He has a cooler and heater going on on thermostats. Good growing conditions. He also has commercial painting going on.

Hope these few lines find you well, with a promise to remember you all in our prayers, Best wishes,

George & Margaret



December, 1986

Another year soon to end and a new one will be upon us soon.

This has been a busy year. Mike graduated from high school, and joined the Air National Guard. He did his basic training at Lackland Air Force Base in San Antonio, Texas for six weeks and then went to cooking school at Fort Lowry, Colorado. If all goes as planned he'll be going to school in Milford.

Michelle had a busy year, she baby sat this summer for four children the oldest in the first grade and the youngest seven months. She also did sewing for 4-H and won the construction and modeling trophy in our county and then went to the State Fair for modeling. She still takes dancing which keeps her hopping with school and all.

Marcus is in the third grade and is learning to be a server for Mass. He joined Boys Scouts which he enjoys very much because he gets to meet new friends and learn new thing.

Dan planted some corn this year so we were back into the swing of harvest. We also raise alfalfa and do some custom work. Right know he's busy shipping hay every direction.

This has been an experiencing year for me. I graduated from Central Community College Platte Campus in Columbus with a Certificate and Diploma in Word Processing. I also work part/full time for Jan P. Schmeits, CPA. On my days off I run the hay bine, rake, and baler, and help Dan with other odd jobs. So as you can see this has been a busy year for all of us.

To those we love and see each day and other loved ones far away  
To all good friends whose friendship means so much and those with whom we're somehow out of touch. Here's wishing you every happiness for the holiday season and throughout the coming year.

Merry Christmas & Happy New Year

Dan, Mary Jane, Mike, Michelle, and Marcus Hilger



MICHAEL HILGER

### Michael Hilger

Air National Guard Airman Michael D. Hilger, son of Daniel and Mary Jane Hilger of rural Bellwood, has graduated from Air Force basic training at Lackland Air Force Base, Texas.

December 12, 1986

Dear Kreshas,

As usual, I'm late getting at my Christmas duties, but I don't want to miss out in sending my best greetings to you all. This year, the major event of the year was Elaine's (Kresha) visit to Portland this past summer. It was a real pleasant surprise to me, and a joy to show her the city. I hope we can do it again sometime.

My best wishes to all of you.



FATHER MATT BURGER

Dear Family,

Our Christmas wish to each of you this year is the following, which I think contains much food for thought.

*CHRISTMAS is not a day or a season, but a condition of heart and mind.  
If we love our neighbors as ourselves; if in our riches we are poor in spirit and in our poverty we are rich in grace;  
If our charity vaunteth not itself, but suffers patiently and is kind; if when our brother asks for a loaf, we give ourselves instead;  
If each day dawns in opportunity and sets in achievement, however, small, then every day is CHRIST'S day and CHRISTMAS is ALWAYS near!*

God love and bless you all this Christmas time and throughout 1987.

MARTIN AND ELAINE KRESHA AND FAMILY

The star, which they saw in the east, went before them . . . till it came and stood over where the young child was.

Matthew 2:9

May the Joy and Peace of Christmas be with you, now and through the coming year.

God love you ver' much,  
MOTHER KRESHA



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Business card of  
Karen Thomas.

Designed by Terri Thomas.