

Kresha Kronicle

Volume 4 No. 1 - June 2000
1236 4th Street, David City NE 68632

Here it is a few hours before the Kresha Picnic and I'm crunching out the Kronicle. Can't believe I can procrastinate so long.

Its been another busy year. I have less time on my hands than when I was working. Bob can "ALWAYS" find something for me to do.

Just finished our first cutting of alfalfa, we are doing something different this year, we are bagging the hay for haylage for the new dairy in Shelby. Some hay got to dry to bag so we baled that and the fields that are more than 5 miles from home we are baling. Bob's hoping that a few more dairies will locate close to home, especially with the fuel prices go up all the time.

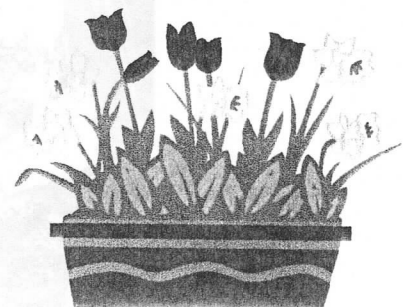
Matt is keeping busy helping with the bagging as well as hauling haylage to the Shelby dairy. He is very active in the volunteer fire department and is taking classes now to be an EMT. Matt also is a big hockey fan and is really wrapped up in the Stanley Cup finals, he was afraid he would be baling, I think he missed watching one or two of the games, but has been done baling in time to was the final playoff games.

Nissa is working for Investment One Insurance and is looking into other options for the future.

Bethany will be a freshman this coming fall. She just finished the drivers training classes and passed. She does have a school permit and got to drive to school the last 3 days of the school year. She will be going out for volleyball so they have to lift weights this summer. She also will be participating in the school dance squad, so that involves more summer practices. Bethany is also a big help in the field, she is getting pretty good at backing the haylage truck up to the bagging machine.

Best finish this up and get to printing. Hope you all have a very happy & safe summer.

Sue



*Note:
Anyone wanting
to do the Kresha
Kronicle give me
a call!!*

Dear Kresha Family,

Summer is here again and we send our greetings to all.

Our family continues to grow each year. We have 6 of our 8 children married and have 15 grandchildren with the oldest three being 9 years old. We have a great time and seems like there's always a ball game going on when we get together.

Our Auction & Real Estate business keeps us busy. John got his brokers license in Aug. 1999 and plays a much bigger part in our family business.

We are saddened at the passing of Aunt Ann. I already miss our chats and reminiscing.

MAY YOU ALL HAVE A FUN AND SAFE SUMMER!!!

Hank & Bonnie (Hilger) Kobza & Family

New additions to the Kobza family:

Jenna Rose - adopted daughter of John & Kim Kobza - Jenna was born 2-5-2000, John & Kim brought her home on 2-7-2000 (John's Birthday). Jenna has a big brother James.

Teghn Nicol - daughter of Marty & Nicke Kobza - Teghn was bone 4-23-99. She has a big sister Rayah & a big brother Jaxn.

Bonnie & Hank's daughter Cathy was married August 28,1999 to Jamie Yindrick.

(Bonnie is the daughter of the late Rose (Kresha) Hilger.



*Celebrating Our
40th
Anniversary*



*Max and Rosalie Gabel
November 7, 1959
St. Andrew's Church
Osceola, Nebraska*

*Our Children
and
Grandchildren*



*Maxine and August
Clinton, Christopher and Scott
John and Mary Ann
Abigail, Cassandra,
Madeline and Valerie
Steven and La Donna
Amanda, Jessica, and Stephanie*



*We want to thank you for coming to help us
celebrate our 40th Wedding Anniversary.
Your presence is greatly appreciated. A special
thank you to our children and grand children for
making it a day we will always remember.*

*Max and Rosalie
November 7, 1999*

*Dear Kreska families
Hope this finds everyone well.
We finally got such 20 of brown rope
we get more soon as it is the first
it been for years.
We were sorry to hear of the death
of aunt ann.
We want to thank all of our
relatives for coming to make our 40th
wedding anniversary very special.
Love to everyone
Max + Rosalie Gabel*

Hello from Colorado, everybody!

Hope all the Kreshas are doing fine, and maybe we'll even make it out to the reunion this year. I hope so, anyway.

I'm staying with my dad, Gene Thomas, in Colorado for a while. I threw up my hands when my rent in the San Francisco Bay Area went from \$875 to \$1,650 in just a year and a half (and that was just for a plain two-bedroom, two-bath apartment in a 35-year-old building). Also, I broke up with Mike, my boyfriend of 10 years, about a year and a half ago. So I'm out here in Fruita now. It's nice to be back in the town where I was born, and especially nice to spend some time with my dad, my sister Karen, and my nieces, Donegal, 11, and Connemara, almost 10 now. I still do freelance editing and proofreading projects (via email and Fed Ex), and I also help Dad on the paper some.

One exciting thing happening here in Fruita is the Mike the Headless Chicken Days festival, May 19-20. I just finished writing *The Official Mike the Headless Chicken Book*, and my dad and I published it, with 5,000 copies printed. We'll get the books from the printer just in time for the festival. I'm also selling T-shirts, which, along with the books, are available on my website (www.miketheheadlesschickenbook.com).

The story of Mike the Headless Chicken has gotten national publicity, and Fruita is expecting more than 5,000 people to come this year. Last year was the first time they'd had the festival. Life magazine was here covering it, and they even misquoted Karen! They asked her, "So, does everybody in town think this is a really cool thing?" And Karen said something like, "Yeah, a lot of people think it's great, but I guess some people are horrified." They quoted her as saying, "A lot of people are horrified."

Mike was a rooster that was beheaded in Fruita back in 1945 but lived for 18 months after that because part of his brain stem was still intact. His owners toured the country with him as a sideshow act and made a small fortune. Then last year Fruita was looking for a historical item on which to base a festival, and they found the story of Mike. For some reason, the idea of a headless chicken that walked around acting like nothing was wrong just really grabs people. They can't believe it's true, but it is!

Anyway, hope to see you all at the reunion!

Teri

Teri Thomas (daughter of Gene and the late Pat [Kresha] Thomas)

Dear Kreshas:

Not a great deal new with the Thomases since Christmas. Teri is still here in Colorado although she wants to go back to California sometime in the future. Joe is planning to move here from Redding CA in a month or so. He may help Cousin Clarence Kresha with a roof in Sacramento before coming out. Teri has published a book about Fruita's famous headless chicken from 1945 (and the second annual celebration about that was held recently). Karen is having a struggle maintaining her house and yard and I'm thinking about having a house built big enough to accommodate all of us, and selling the one Karen is in now. Gloria, Brett and kids are still at Troy OH and doing all right. I don't think any of us will be able to attend the reunion this year. The accompanying picture was taken when we were all together at Christmas '99. In back are Joe, Gene and Brett; middle, Teri, Karen and Gloria; and front, Donegal, Spencer, Connemara and Sophie. The big girls are Karen's and the little kids are Gloria and Brett's. I hope the reunion goes well and there is a good turnout.

Love, Gene Thomas

A STRANGE BUT TRUE STORY!

On Sept. 10, 1945, a rooster was beheaded on a farm near Fruita, Colo. However, rather than flopping around like a chicken with its head cut off for a few moments and then promptly succumbing, this plucky fowl decided to thumb his proverbial beak at the executioner and kick around the barnyard for a while longer instead of kicking the bucket.

Yes, he apparently did have enough brain matter left to make this decision. You see, the farmer's aim had been high, lopping off the head but missing the jugular vein and leaving one ear and part of the rooster's brain stem intact. That little bit of reptilian brain was apparently all that was needed for the bird to keep on doing most of the things a normal chicken does, including walking, flapping his wings, attempting to crow and preen, and digesting his food and putting on weight.

But that was just the beginning of the story. His owner, L.A. Olsen of Fruita, quickly realized he was sitting on a gold mine after people started coming from all over to see the miracle chicken. After hooking up with a sharp promoter named H.B. Wade, Olsen had his chicken examined by scientists in Salt Lake City and photographed by Life and Time magazines before leaving for Hollywood. The rooster, now called Miracle Mike, the Headless Rooster, had begun his meteoric rise to stardom. Living high on the hog, posing for photographers, eating the finest grain and staying in the poshest hotels, Mike was the envy of chickens everywhere.

More than half a century later, Mike's hometown of Fruita was looking for an interesting historical tidbit upon which to base a festival. Mike's story was perfect.

This book tells the story in its entirety, including many little-known facts and interesting anecdotes, as well as scans of never-before-seen photographs from the Waters family, heirs to the extensive collection of materials compiled by L.A. Olsen's wife, Clara, who saved everything from Mike's first sideshow ticket to the contract hiring his exclusive publicity agent, plus most every article printed about him and letter sent to the Olsens—some praising the cockerel's pluck, others condemning his owners as cruel and barbaric. Who was right? You decide.

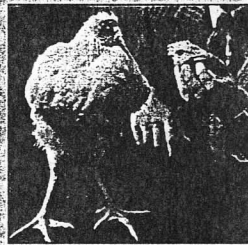
Published by Fruita Times
Fruita, Colorado

<http://www.miketheheadlesschickenbook.com>

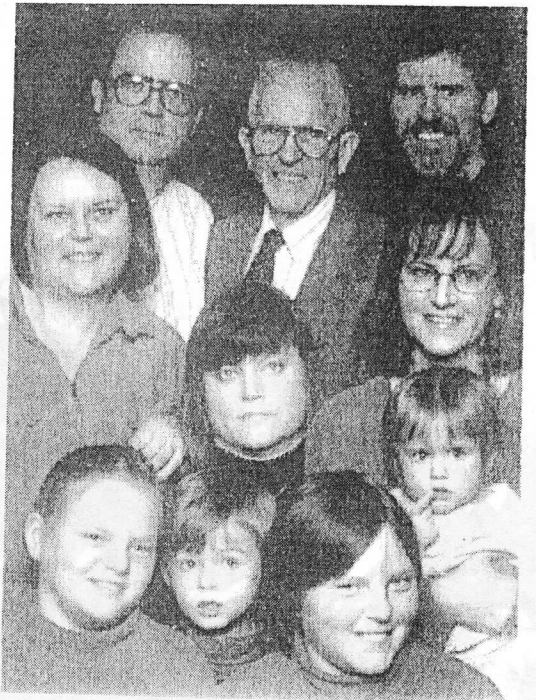
\$12.95

The Official MIKE THE HEADLESS CHICKEN Book

A 1940s tale of two men and a chicken:
The meteoric rise and eventual demise of
a headless fowl from Fruita, Colorado



Jeri Thomas



Greetings to the Kresha family from Arizona!

This has been a year of change and growth. We sold our house on the outskirts of the forest near Prescott and moved to a house at an elevation of 6800 feet on the side of a mountain on an old mining claim about 12 miles South of Prescott. It is among the deer and other wildlife and is filled with spruce, fir, and oak trees. Our friends think we are a bit crazy but it is quiet and we have a gorgeous view for 40 - 50 miles. We have 4.5 acres and border the National Forest. Our new address is: **Andy and Vickie Kresha, HC 32 - 8300 St. Theresa's Mine, Prescott, Arizona, 86303. Phone 520-776-1490.**

Andy has begun a formation program to become a permanent deacon for the Roman Catholic Church in the Phoenix Diocese. It is a four year program and he is excited about the process to grow in service to others. He continues into his ninth year at the local hospital in his Human Resources Director role.

Vickie is busy being the glue to hold the whole family together, coordinating our move, and now managing the process to keep everyone organized as we build a garage to keep the heavy snow off our truck and "new" 1974 John Deere bulldozer, which is needed to plow the snow 2 and ½ miles down to the county road. Vickie has been active as a Eucharistic Adorer through our parish.

Vincent is 19 and a sophomore at Northern Arizona University. He was on the Dean's list with a 4.0 for his freshman year. As a chemistry major, he continues to work through his pre-med courses and reach for placement into medical school, possibly in Tucson at the University of Arizona. He worked this summer and a few weekends as a phlebotomist to gain clinical skill and pay for his school and snowboarding habit.

Carmen is 17 and our other bright star. She is a senior in high school and excelled at cross-country this fall. She finished 6th at regionals and helped her team to a first place finish at regionals. She finished 40th in the State Cross Country meet out of 200 entrants. She is a National Honor Society member, treasurer for the Key Club, church Sacristan, volunteering at the Red Cross, and looking forward to college at the University of Arizona next fall where her boyfriend Jacob is planning to attend school also.

A blessed Christmas to all of you, Andy, Vickie, Vincent, and Carmen Kresha

We are pleased to announce Carmen Joy Kresha's graduation from Prescott High School, Prescott, Arizona on June 2, 2000. She was featured that day in the PRESCOTT COURIER that same day. The previous evening she had been recognized for her academic, community, and athletic accomplishments. She received nine scholarships including the Knights of Columbus scholarship, Kiwanis scholarship, and the University of Arizona Alumni scholarship. She plans to attend the University of Arizona in the fall to pursue an undergraduate degree in biology and proceed on to medical school to become a naturopathic physician.

Vincent Kresha, who recently completed his second year at Northern Arizona University in Flagstaff, made the Dean's List with a 4.0 average for the semester and a cumulative grade point average of 3.95. Vincent is pursuing a degree in chemistry and a long term goal of becoming a medical doctor. Vincent and Carmen are the children of Andy and Vickie Kresha.

Andy recently completed his first year of formation and study for the permanent deaconate for the Roman Catholic Church in the Diocese of Phoenix, Arizona. The program involves intensive pastoral, academic, and spiritual formation for four years. Andy is the son of Glenn Kresha.

May 25, 2000

Dear Kronicles,

We are saddened to learn of our sister Ann Kresha Hensell's death on May 23, 2000. She passed away after having a heart attack and stroke a few days earlier. She was spared the agony of long suffering and its complications. May God grant her eternal rest and peace in heaven. She did so much for us as a family and in a very caring way.

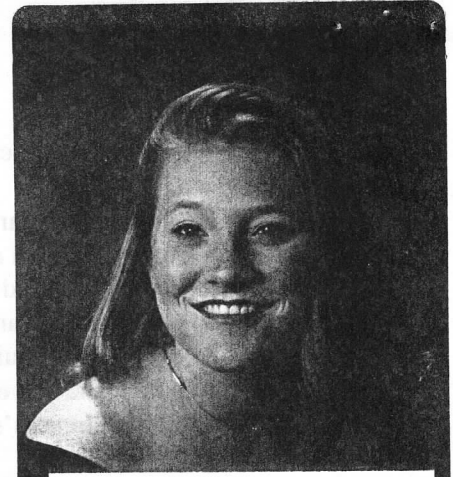
(THANKA KREESH MAUSBACH)

Lucy and I attended our granddaughter's wedding in Phoenix, AZ on April 29th. It was a beautiful occasion with our grandson Cory Preister (Said as ring bearer, with TUXEDO; wow! He performed like a trooper. It was his second marriage and her first. (MRS. MIKE BROWN). The reception was at the fashionable Shindoor Hotel and a good time was had by all.

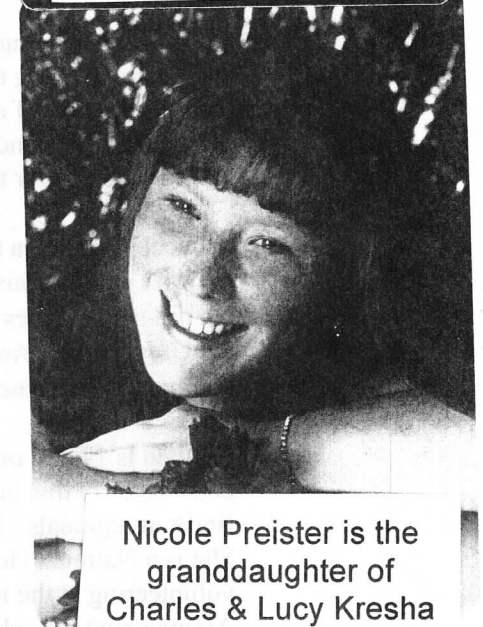
Enclosed are pictures of two of our grand children Class of '2000' HS graduates. Nicole Preister, daughter of Andrea Kresha Preister of Madison, NE & Angela Mausbach, daughter of Kathi Kresha Roberts of Avondale, AZ (PHOENIX METRO). They are two nice young ladies who qualified for scholarships. We are so glad for them.

We are getting along quite well and are enjoying our retirement (about 85% Ha Ha). Had some light rain a week ago - more is forecast for tomorrow & weekend. It is dry here and the crops are holding on.

Hope to see you at the Kresha reunion as always,
Charles & Lucille



Angela Mausbach is the granddaughter of Charles & Lucy Kresha



Nicole Preister is the granddaughter of Charles & Lucy Kresha

STUDENT LION

Cañon City Noon Lion Student of the Month is Jessica Palmer. Jessica, 17, is the daughter of John and Conney Palmer of Cañon City and has three siblings: Kristina, Kori and Jennifer.

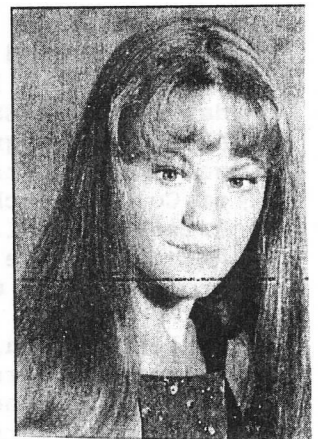
She is a senior at Cañon City High School and is treasurer of the Key Club, a member of the National Honor Society, cross country (4 years), basketball (4 years, 2 years as captain), and soccer (3 years).

She carries a 3.91 grade point average.

Jessica is on the Gold Honor Roll, was named to the second team All-Conference in soccer as a junior; honorable mention in basketball as a senior; Academic State Champion in basketball and Academic All-State first team for all three sports.

Outside of school she enjoys are spending time with her family and friends, reading, camping, fishing and playing sports.

Jessica plans to continue her



Jessica Palmer is the granddaughter of the late Amelia (Kresha) Lukassen

Jessica Palmer

education at the University of Northern Colorado majoring in recreation/ sports medicine.

Dear Family,

We are busy as always. The hay is growing very well. Today it was 92, pretty warm for May.

Jessica will graduate Saturday. Krista, Kori & Jennifer will be home for the big event.

Love,

The Palmers

(Conney is the daughter of the late Amelia (Kresha) Lukassen)



NEW JOB — Cyndi Jarecke of Columbus, the fourth generation of Anderson Floral owners, is closing her downtown store to take over as manager of the Hy-Vee Floral Shoppe. The time constraints of running her own business, not finances, were deciding factors, Jarecke said. *Telegram photo by Kelli Kellogg*

Jarecke closing Anderson Floral for post at Hy-Vee

By JEAN WILSON
Telegram Staff Writer

COLUMBUS — After 110 years of saying it with flowers, Anderson Floral Co. of Columbus will soon be saying good-bye to its customers.

But owner/manager Cyndi Jarecke of Columbus said her new position as Hy-Vee Floral Shoppe manager beginning April 3 will offer her patrons the

chance to continue to purchase the quality floral arrangements that Anderson Floral has become associated with.

"It won't be Anderson Floral, but it's still going to be me," she said. "How do you separate the two?"

Jarecke, 38, grew up in the store that began with a greenhouse in Leigh run by her great-grandfather Anders C. Anderson at least as far back as 1884.

In 1899, Anderson relocated the enterprise to Columbus with a greenhouse near Eighth Street and 13th Avenue. In 1926 he took up what was a radical idea at the time, opening a flower shop. At that time, only stores on the two coasts were dedicated to selling flowers.

The store remained at the same location, 1257 26th Ave., until now.

•See FLORAL, Page 7A

Jarecke named partner in firm

LINCOLN — Columbus native David Jarecke has been named a partner in the law firm of Crosby, Guenzel, Davis, Kessner and Kuester in Lincoln as of Jan. 1.

Jarecke, the son of Jerome and Florence Jarecke, is a 1982 graduate of Scotus Central Catholic High School.



Jarecke

Jarecke has been associated with the firm for three years. Jarecke's practice at the Crosby Guenzel firm is primarily in the areas of corporate and agribusiness law, environmental law and commercial litigation in the state and federal courts.

He received his juris doctor degree with honors from Creighton University School of Law in 1993.

At Creighton, Jarecke served as lead article editor for the Creighton Law Review and as president of the Environmental Law Society.

He also served as a law clerk in the U.S. Justice Department, Environmental and Natural Resources Division, Environmental Enforcement Section.

Jarecke is currently serving as chairman of the Natural Resources and Environmental Law Section of the Nebraska State Bar Association.

Jarecke and his wife, Kate, live in Lincoln with their son.

Continued from Page 1A

Jarecke said Anderson Floral is the oldest flower shop in Nebraska. The building that houses the enterprise was sold to Tom Anderson of Columbus several years ago. Tom Anderson, who is not related to Jarecke, said this morning that he does not have any plans yet for the building but assumes he will find someone to rent it.

Hy-Vee Store Manager Craig Clasen of Columbus said his store will honor Anderson Floral's commitments to anyone who has already booked flowers for a special occasion.

Jarecke said some of her inventory will go with her to Hy-Vee, with some being offered for sale at clearance prices beginning next week. She will be ordering and selling fresh flowers for Anderson Floral through March.

In the future, there will be an auction to sell some of the Anderson Floral fixtures, although a few of the items will be donated to the Platte County Historical Society Museum in Columbus.

Approached by Clasen about the new job earlier this year, Jarecke said she officially applied for the position about two weeks ago.

"It happened real fast. ...

"When you come into the same place you've been coming into since you're a baby, (quitting business) is tough," Jarecke said. "But I think it's the right decision."

She emphasized that Anderson Floral is not going out of business because of financial woes.

"Since (husband Jerry and I) have taken over, we've made a profit every year and sales have increased," Jarecke said. "It's getting to the point where you only can do so much by yourself and you can only work so many hours in a day."

Because her sister and brother live in Lincoln, Jarecke is the only family member available and with the desire to manage the shop on a full-time basis. About three years ago, Jarecke and her husband took over the store's operation from her par-

ents, Jim and Bobbie Uhlmann of Columbus, although the Uhlmanns are still involved on a part-time basis with the day-to-day responsibilities of the shop.

The Uhlmanns had purchased the flower shop in the early 1960s from Jarecke's great-uncle and aunt, Oscar and Blanche Anderson, and great-aunt Freida Anderson, and in 1970 bought the greenhouse from Jarecke's grandfather, Alfred Anderson. When a hailstorm later wiped out the greenhouse, it was not rebuilt.

As Jarecke talked Wednesday about the shop that has become her second home, she is surrounded by the building's original coolers, display cases, counters and floor. Blossoms and greenery, as well as an array of gift items, fill in the empty spaces.

The multitude of flowers and plants she works with every day have become to Jarecke a means of expressing the emotions of her customers.

She said she'll miss everything about the store, but especially her customers who have become like family to her.

She will also miss people stopping in to pick up an order who tell her how their parents or grandparents purchased wedding flowers at Anderson Floral. And she will miss "Charlie the Ghost," who is said to reside in the store's basement and is blamed for any misplaced items in the establishment.

As she looks to her future, starting a new job at Hy-Vee holds only one small concern for Jarecke — that she will answer the phone "Anderson Floral."

Jarecke said there's a lot of memories she will be taking with her to Hy-Vee, but most importantly she will also be taking her talent for arranging floral bouquets.

"I get to do what I love to do and that's arrange flowers," she said.

Amelia Jarecke

LINCOLN — Dave and Kate (Kulesher) Jarecke of Lincoln are the parents of a daughter, Amelia Jane, born March 27, 2000.

She weighed 7 pounds, 3 ounces.

She has one brother, Cole.

Grandparents are Jerome and Florence Jarecke of Columbus and Sure Kulesher of Arlington, Va. Her great-grandmother is Frances Jarecke of Columbus.

Dave & Jerry Jarecke
are the sons of
Florence & Jerome Jarecke
(Florence if the daughter of
the late John & Caroline Kresha)

Christmas, 1999

Dear Family, our wish to you this Christmas Season, is Peace, Love, Hope and Good Health. I do not have time to get any more off for this issue of the Kronicle. I hope to do better in the Spring. Our lives are almost always the same. Who knows what "news" we will share in the Spring. The KRESHAS--MARTIN AND ELAINE

MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A HAPPY 2000!

May 30, 2000

Dear Family,

I sure hope that I'm not too late for this issue of the Kronicle. I'm not sure where the time goes. It is unreal that this school year is finished. I had a small, good, group of kids. None of them wanted to pass, but I told them that they couldn't be in the third grade until they were 16. Then they had the perfect solution--Mrs. Kresha, then you will have to pass to the fourth grade. At least it made me feel good. Yes, they all passed, and no, I am not going to teach fourth grade next year.

We are all about the same health-wise. I have been having trouble with a pain in my hip. I went in for x-rays today. Nothing showed up. We'll see what medication will do and hopefully in a couple of weeks, I'll be pain-free.

Patrick was home for 8 days. We really enjoyed his visit. He hadn't been back to Nebraska for 8 years. A friend of his came with him. Mark had never been to Nebraska, but his mother had been here some time ago and really liked it. Mark had surgery on his foot several months ago and has not gone back to work yet, so he thought this was the perfect opportunity to visit the Cornhusker State. He loved it here, and said that this would probably not be the last time that he would be here. He is Patrick's age and seems like such a nice fellow. While they were here, they went to Partick's 20th Class Reunion. (Yes, Lillian, they really were at the banquet.)

The grandkids are growing. Kristi is 11 already and will be in the 6th grade next year. Her sister Kendra will be 3 on August 5. They are children of Kenneth and Star Kresha.

Karsen is 6 and just finished Kindergarten. She went to St. Isidore's School. Her brother Trey will be 3 on July 31. Trey is just getting over chicken pox. His body was just covered with pox. I have never, ever, seen so many sores on one little body before. Karsen and Trey are children of Bill and Lois Rombach.

Patrick has a little girl, Martina Elaine. She was 2 on March 5.

Samantha, Bernard's daughter, is 15 months old. When all the little cousins get together, it sure is lively!

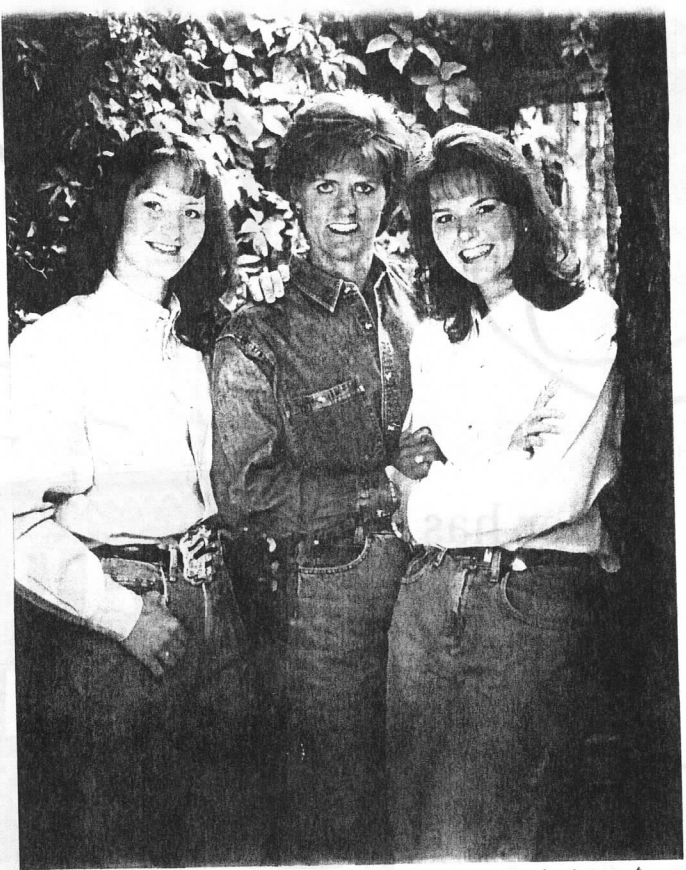
Colleen and Jolene have moved into their new house. I think they are enjoying their own place where they can have friends over and have a life. Their address is 3004-28th St. Columbus, NE 68601.

We are looking forward to seeing you all at the Reunion in a few weeks.

PEACE AND ALL GOOD THINGS
Martin and Elaine



Lindsey Toombs is the daughter of Wanda (Lukassen) Toombs & the late Dr. R.E. Toombs. Lindsey earned a 4 yr. scholarship to the Uni. of Wy at Laramie, her major is Ag Communications Graduated Wheatland , WY H.S.



Wanda Toombs with daughters Lindsey, and Kelly from Wheatland Wyo.



Haley Timmons is the daughter of Nadine(Lukassen) and Tom Timmons. Haley will attend the Uni. of Dallas where she was awarded a \$10,000.00 scholarship. Her major will be theology. Graduated Byers, CO H.S.

Wanda Toombs & Nadine Timmons are the daughters of Mary(Kresha) Lukassen

*Dear Family,
Kresha Pinner is just around the corner - plan to see you there - Arden god wether!
Mary*

JOYOUS CHRISTMAS GREETINGS FROM COLORADO

The TIMMONS house is busy this time of the year!! We want to give you a peak into our lives.

Haley is our senior this year and busy with school and college classes, a part-time job at a living-assisted center, and filling out scholarships and college app lication forms.

Laureen is a sophomore and wishing her 5'9" height will help her hold her postion on varsity BB this year. She has made us proud with her straight A grades this last semester.

Whitney is experiencing 7th grade and competitive sports this year. She loves being in the hallways with the H.S. students (a pro/con of a small school). We are proud of her top notch grades also.

Tom is still commuting into Denver to give of his time to AT&T. He has also designed and built on a 3-car garage, and converted the old garage into a big family room. We are still awaiting the total finshed project.

I (Nadine) am kept busy with substituting at 2 different school districts, and keeping everyone on track and in clean clothes.

We hope this is a joyful time of year in your homes and keeping GOD close to you in this new millinium.

GOD BLESS and MERRY CHRISTMAS
TOM, NADINE, HALEY, LAUREEN AND WHITNEY
TIMMONS

Sisterhood

Order has roots deep in county's history

Their numbers have been steadily decreasing during the years, but their mission remains as strong as their

faith.

The Sisters of St. Francis of Perpetual Adoration-Colorado Springs, who will soon begin celebrating their 125th anniversary of being in North America, have a long history of service in the area.

At one time, the Roman Catholic sisters numbered more than 1,000 members in the United States and ministered primarily in health care and education. Currently, of the 105 living members of the Western Province of the community, 27 of the women grew up in Platte County. The province includes Nebraska, Colorado, Kansas and New Mexico.

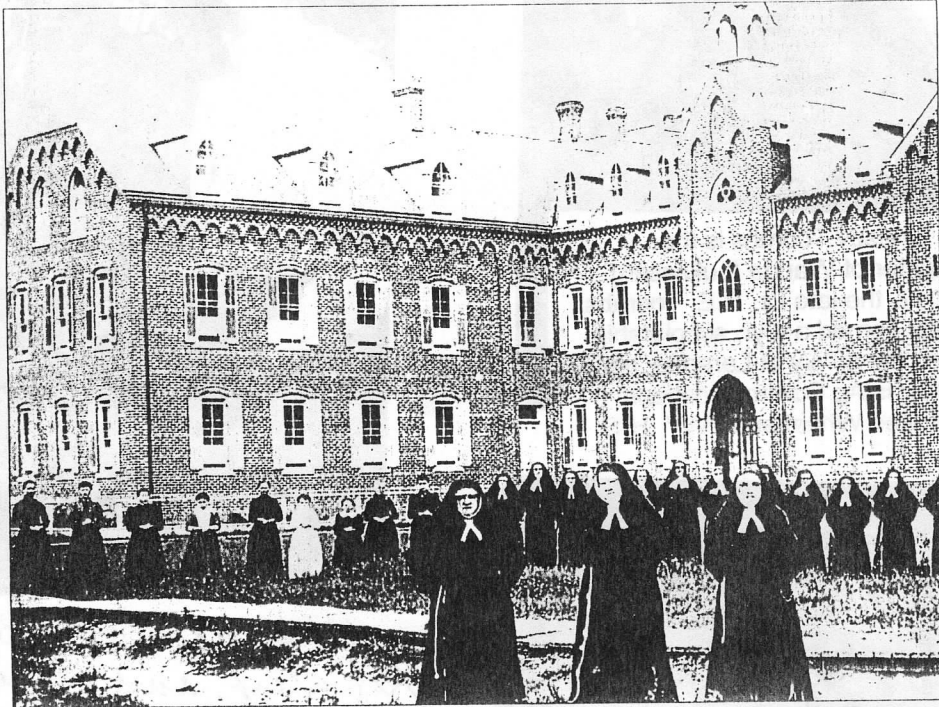
"Once upon a time, we staffed the entire (St. Bonaventure) high school and grade school. Our numbers have gone down a lot," Sister Roseria Slusarski of Columbus said. "But even though the numbers have dwindled, I think the quality of (other people's) lives is what's stressed today."

Sister Roseria is a resource teacher at St. Bonaventure

SCHOOL DAYS

In addition to St. Mary's Hospital in Columbus, which was staffed by the Sisters of Saint Francis of Perpetual Adoration-Colorado Springs from 1879-1972, the following schools in Platte County were also run by the sisters.

- St. Mary's School, St. Mary, 1881-1960.
- St. Francis Academy (St. Bonaventure grade and high school and Scotus Central Catholic High School), 1882-present.
- St. Bernard School, St. Bernard, 1882-1960.
- St. Francis School, Humphrey, 1883-about 1996.
- St. Joseph School, Platte Center, 1885-1968.
- St. Stanislaus School, Duncan, 1890-1968.
- St. Michael School, Tamov, 1891-1960.
- Sts. Peter and Paul School, Krakow, 1905-1908.
- Sacred Heart School, Cornlea, 1912-1960.
- St. Anthony School, Columbus, 1914-1993.



THE WAY IT WAS — This is how St. Francis Academy in Columbus appeared in 1886. People in the photo include faculty boarders and visiting Mother Foundress of the sisters. *Courtesy photo*



Sister Roseria



Sister Dolores



Elementary School. She, along with Sister Dolores Smajacz, a third-grade teacher at the school, are the only sisters remaining at the institution.

In the past, as many as 22 sisters lived at the St. Bonaventure Convent in Columbus. Now, the two remaining women reside in a house a few blocks from the school. The former convent is used as a preschool and for the Simon House.

One other sister with the Sisters of Saint Francis of Perpetual Adoration lives in Platte County. Sister Bernice Priester, a retired schoolteacher, now ministers to parish members in Humphrey.

Platte County's relationship with the community of sisters began about four years after a small group of sisters arrived in Lafayette, Ind., from Olpe, Germany, in 1875 to serve the sick and assist the poor. The organization was founded by Sister Maria Theresia Bonzel. She moved some of the sisters away from Germany because of political oppression.

Of the group of women who came to the United States, a few soon set up quarters in Columbus and staffed St. Mary's Hospital beginning in 1879. In 1882, they took over the administration of St. Bonaventure School in Columbus.

In 1884, the school became Saint Francis Academy and continued to be run by the sisters. By 1900, the academy had 64 children who were boarders and a total of 250 students.

The school was purchased by the parish in 1925, and the name was changed to St. Bonaventure's School, but the sisters continued to be the primary instructors.

Teaching and working in hospitals once was the main focus of community service by the Sisters of Saint Francis of Perpetual Adoration. They were instrumental in establishing 20 hospitals in the United States as well as staffing 53 schools, two colleges and four orphanages.

The sisters served in 11 states including Nebraska.

Story by Telegram Staff Writer Jean Wilson

Sister Dolores is the daughter of the late Cecelia (Kresha) Smagacz. Sister Dolores received the habit of the sisters of Saint Francis of Perpetual Adoration in 1952.

SISTERS

Sisters still living who grew up in Platte County and who entered the Sisters of St. Francis of Perpetual Adoration-Colorado Springs:

■ St. Mary's Parish, St. Mary — Sister Martinia Zach

■ St. Bonaventure Parish, Columbus — Sisters Christine Hayes, Dolores Smagacz, Jeannette Kniefel, Joseida Smolen and Winifred Moersen

■ St. Bernard Parish, St. Bernard — Sisters Genevieve Pfeifer and Gorgonia Biermann

■ St. Francis Parish, Humphrey — Sisters Alberta Wieser, Ann Wernhoff, Eileen Van Ackeren, Elizabeth Fuchs, Bernadis Lohaus, Helen Ann Pfeifer, Mary Rega Haschke and Phyllis Ann Wernhoff.

■ St. Joseph's Parish, Platte Center — Sisters Charlotte Zingg and Leola Zingg

■ St. Stanislaus Parish, Duncan — Sisters Roseria Slusarski and Michelle Micek.

■ St. Michael's Parish, Tamov — Sisters Florita Savage, Margaret Chochon and Karen Kuta.

■ Sacred Heart Parish, Cornlea — Sisters Eleanor Hemmer, Ethel Widhalm and Bernice Preister.

■ Holy Family Parish, Lindsay — Sister Carole Jarecki.

Because of its rapid growth, the organization divided into two areas in 1931. Mount St. Francis in Colorado Springs heads up the Western Province.

In the Western Province, only 20 teachers, including the two in Columbus, remain. During their height of membership, there were 10 schools in Platte County staffed by the sisters.

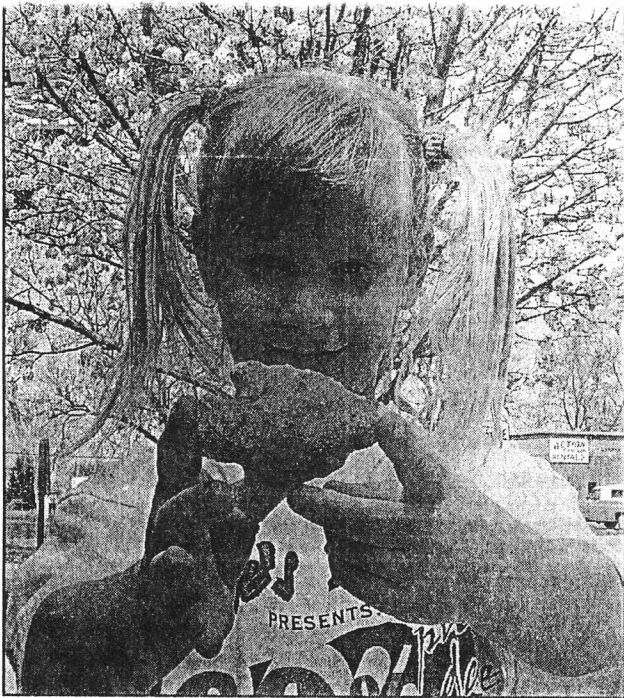
Nebraska hospitals still in existence which were originally staffed by the community of sisters include St. Joseph's Hospital in Omaha, St. Francis Hospital in Grand Island and St. Elizabeth's Hospital in Lincoln.

Even though their roles have changed as the years have gone by, their ministry of spreading their church's teachings continues. Sister Roseria said the community is headed by an "excellent administration."

"They have looked into the future. They have a vision. They're finding different ways we can attract vocations," she said. "Our ministry is broadening. It's a different type of work."

Citing an emphasis on working toward international peace and justice, Sister Roseria said the group also strives to aid battered women and children. Sister Dolores said all of the sisters take part in letter-writing campaigns and prayer to alleviate suffering in the world.

"These people are active and doing so many other things according to the needs of the church," Sister Roseria said.



Banner-Press Photo/Jan Daniel

ON AN ARCHEOLOGICAL DIG -- Brooke Kresha, 5, proudly displays her recent find - an Indian spearhead dated possibly as far back as 4000 B.C. She found it in the driveway of her rural David City home after it had recently been graded.

Kresha, 5, discovers Indian spearhead

By Jan Daniel
Banner-Press Staff Writer

Five-year old Brooke Kresha, of rural David City, was playing in the graveled driveway of her family home recently when she said, "Look, Daddy! I found a pretty rock!"

What she actually found was truly an archeological treasure - an Indian spearhead that, according to local collector Delmar Lange, could be as old as five thousand years, dating to 3000 B.C.

Brooke's dad, Dan Kresha, had recently graded the driveway and it was in the upturned earth that Brooke made her discovery.

Kresha noted that he hadn't had gravel hauled in for several years and that the spearhead was found in packed earth.

Lange said that the spearhead was fashioned from a basalt volcanic material, not the usual flint rock associated with this area.

He theorized it could have gotten here a number of ways:

- That it was brought in by a tribe of Indians not native to this area.
- That it was traded to a tribe from this area.
- It may have been brought in by glacial movement.

Lange, though not an expert, identified it through his experience and a book that referred to arrowheads and spearheads.

He believes, as closely as he can determine, that it is a Marshall point spearhead.

A description of this point ranges in length from two to four

and a half inches. Possible dating ranges from 4000 B. C. to 1000 A. D. The culture affiliation is commonly associated with the Archaic manifestations.

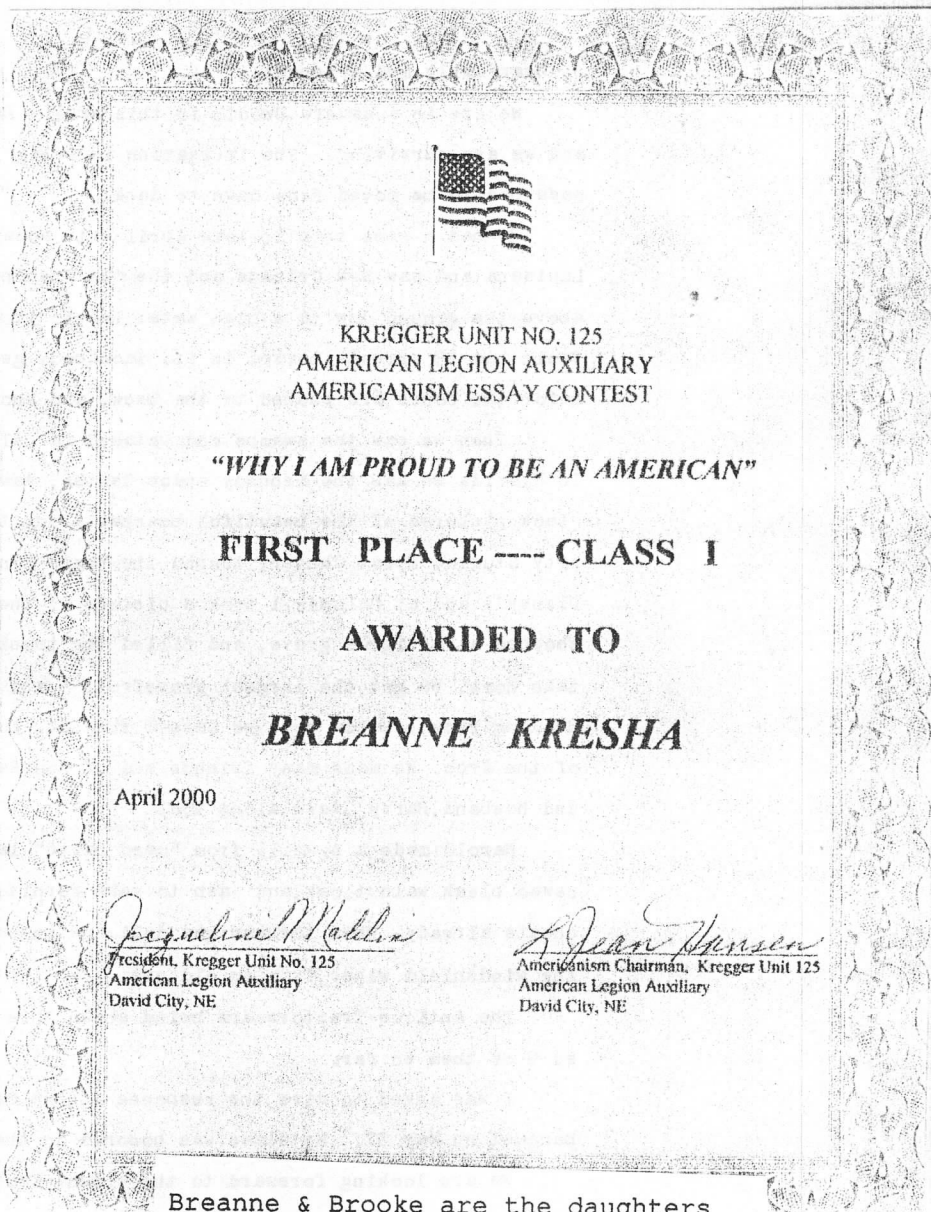
Throughout Texas the Marshall point is chiefly associated with the Edwards Plateau Aspect in central Texas.

Lange suggested it might have come from the Wyoming area.

No value for the spearhead has been determined as of yet.

In the meantime, Brooke's mom, Becky, believes they will have the arrowhead mounted and frame it in a shadow box so she'll have a permanent keepsake.

Apr. 2000



April 2000

Jacqueline M. Mallin
President, Kregger Unit No. 125
American Legion Auxiliary
David City, NE

Jean Benson
Americanism Chairman, Kregger Unit 125
American Legion Auxiliary
David City, NE

Breanne & Brooke are the daughters of Dan & Becky Kresha. The granddaughters of Larry & Carol Kresha. The great-granddaughters of the late Adolph & Rose Kresha.

Why I'm Proud to be an American

I am proud to be an American. We have a great government. They make laws to keep us safe, and provide services such as schools, pools, parks, and a lot more!

Our country fights for peace to be throughout the world. I hope someday peace will be throughout the world.

The farmers and other people get to choose what they want to own! We choose our animals and crops!

The country I live in, America, has freedom also! Some countries don't have freedom.

Most people have homes and money. For people that don't have money, we give money, and give taxes, also!

We don't run out of food! We get food from other countries and from farms.

We have a great population of people. Each person is nice, in a way.

I believe America is the best place on Earth to be. More people come to America than leave America. That makes me proud.

Our country is rich. Most things we can afford.

Our flag stands for us.

I am proud because of all the great wide-open spaces.

I am also proud to be an American because greatness fills our country.

Those are some of the things that make me proud to be an American. There are a lot more, but these are my main ideas.



3rd grader
Apr. 2000

Dear Family and Friends:

We are in a severe Drouth in this area. Rains come in .08 inches and we are surviving. The irrigation is a big blessing, but the garden hose has to be moved from dawn to dark.

We had a nice trip in late April with Moostash Joe bus tour to Louisiana and saw New Orleans and the Old French Quarter. The cemetery above the ground due to a high water level, is really different. One Vault had 25 priests buried in it. Each body gets 1 year plus 1 day, before the bones are pushed to the back, and another body is added.

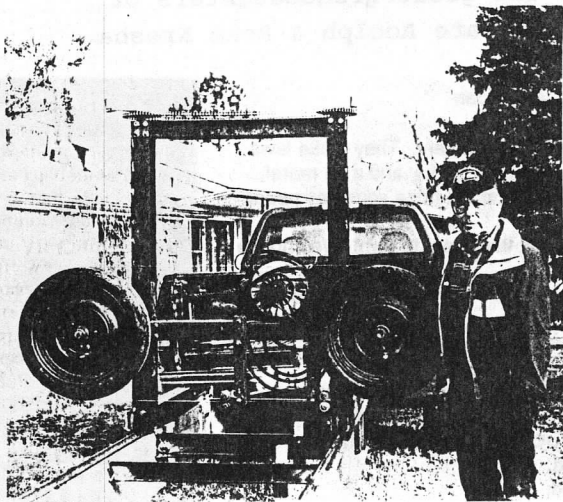
Then we saw the swamps and watched for alligators along the canals. In Florida we saw the Kennedy space Center, saw the beautiful Tampa Bay, took pictures of the beautiful beaches along the Atlantic Ocean, University Studios Epcot Center, toured the Magic Kingdom, spent 3 days at Disney's and at Orlando, I took a picture of the gorgeous sunset. We shopped at a Citrus grove, and filled the trunk storage with fruit to take home. We got the largest grapefruit-- and they were tree ripened, too. Heading back towards home, we passed thru St. Louis to get some pictures of the Arch. We made many friends and of course Harold's sister Alice, and husband, Harry, were along too!

Harold made a sawmill from "used parts" laying around here. He sawed blaek walnut, oak, and ash to make furniture. He made me 2 cedar chests already. When the saw got dull, he invented a saw sharpner, using the windshield wiper from an old car.

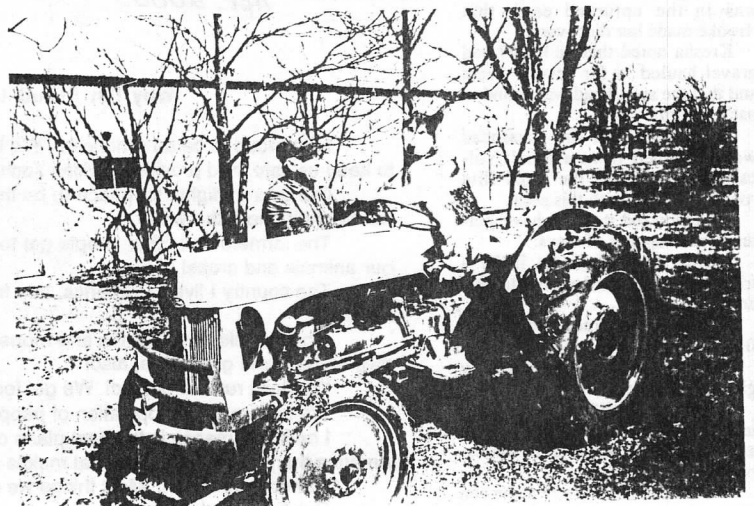
The Antique Tractors are being shown this summer and he has restored 9 of them so far.

I was asked to give the response at the Osceola High School Alumni banquet on May 27. My class was honored on their 60 Th anniversary.

We are looking forward to the Kresha Family reunion and all the good food that those Kresha cooks fix. Love and Prayers, *Harold Lillian*



Band saw mill made by Harold Witulski. Jan. 2000



"Duke" + Harold January 2000
Antique Ford 8N

This is a Millennium Poem written by Lillian Witulski, she wanted to share it with her relatives.

Advice For Salvation

by: Lillian Witulski 12-31-99

Begin the Millennium full of grace,
So our salvation can take place.
Meditate and listen to God's true voice,
As He gives us a holy choice.

Evangelize up to the sky
And teach the Children, "Thou shalt not lie."
The Bible is God's Holy Word
Which He gives to us to be heard.

Let the antiphons begin to sing
For Jesus is our Lord and King.
He brings "Lost Sheep" back to the fold.
So, clothe the poor and respect the old.



Chad & Chrissy Kosch are the children of
Leon & Sharon Kosch.
Leon is the son of Lillian (Kresha) Witulski.



Paige - Age 6 & Aubriana - Age 3 are the
daughters of Kate Dunkle, Kate is the
daughter of Mary Lou (Kosch) & Tom O'Brien.
Mary Lou is the daughter of Lillian (Kresha) Witulski.

Hello Kresha Kin !

We won't be at the famous Kresha Picnic this year, so I will just send greetings and our love to all. We had planned our vacation early this summer for the benefit of our son's baseball and work. But he decided not to be in baseball, so we must still keep our reservations. We try to make it to the picnic every other year. Zach will be a senior next year and he works at a Safeway store. Jennie (30) is an administrative assistant at a hospital in Seattle, WA.

We are planning a trip to Jackson Hole area of Wyo and to Yellowstone Park. With all the geological activity there, the fire, etc., I'm sure it will be a new experience even if we have been there before. I remember the old days when black bears came up to our cars & we could feed them !

We are so relieved that there were not any serious Y2K computer problems. (Thank God) However, I am not ready to use up any of our emergency supplies yet, as anything can happen, as we see in the news. As all the political situations unfold, we have more and more terrorism, growing immorality and increasing U.N. power around the world. Christians are being killed in many countries, our dear Pope JP II is not well, we are helping our Chinese enemies, and who knows what will happen with national elections this Nov. I look forward to the coming moment of "warning " or "enlightenment" prophesized, as it will be a great blessing in reviving all our faith.

We have been having some helpful afternoon rains, and I have been praying for all of you out there who depend on growing crops and plants for more rain. I even have been buying "Critter Corn" (I think, from Columbus?) for our neighborhood wildlife. I also pray for the soul of our late great-aunt Ann, and for all the graduates, new babes, and newlyweds. You might say they are all beginning "a new life". Take care all !!

With love and prayers, Marcie , Murl, and Zach Etter
Lafayette, Colorado



Murl Etter, his mother, Zach Etter & grandparents Lillian & Harold Witulski

Dear Family,

I continue to enjoy retirement, wrestling gladly with the challenge of looking to which of many interests and activities to pursue. A career as an anesthetist was wonderful, but retirement is TERRIFIC!

My life-partner, Susan Vanderburgh, and I celebrate our tenth anniversary this December by a long-awaited trip to Kauai, Hawaii. We'll return before the seasonal price hike, and celebrate the Holidays at home with friends and Susan's family.

This Christmas season, as always, we remain grateful for the essential promise of Christmas: God is with us in it all! Best wishes and Love,
Rita Kresha

Spring 2000

Dear folks,

I am beginning my third year of retirement, and really getting the hang of it. The first couple of years were spent rushing around, getting "caught-up", and remodeling our home and gardens; now it is easy street with time to learn all kinds of things that I never had the time for before this. Retirement is as terrific as it is rumored!

Susan and I celebrated our tenth anniversary in Hawaii last December. We have become active in advocacy for equal rights for Lesbian & Gay people, volunteering at our neighborhood school, and serving on our church's committees and Board of Deacons. Susan does pro bono work for the Women's breast cancer Center as well as the University of California (Berkeley) student health counseling Center. She also has a private psychotherapy practice. Susan's mother has her own apartment in our home, and feels secure and content. Her health is a lot more stable in our caring environment.

Best wishes to all for health and serenity. Love, Rita Kresha



Susan & Rita

A little something from Kathie Kresha for the Kronicle, she sent it at Christmas time but I did not get it in the Christmas letter.

Why Jesus is Better Than Santa

Santa lives at the North Pole..
JESUS is everywhere.

Santa rides in a sleigh..
JESUS rides on the wind and walks on the water.

Santa comes but once a year..
JESUS is an ever present help.

Santa fills your stockings with goodies..
JESUS supplies all your needs.

Santa comes down your chimney uninvited..
JESUS stands at your door and knocks, and then enters your heart when invited.

You have to wait in line to see Santa..
JESUS is as close as the mention of His name.

Santa lets you sit on his lap..
JESUS lets you rest in His arms.

Santa doesn't know your name, all he can say is "Hi little boy or girl, what is your name?"

JESUS knew our name before we did. Not only does He know our name. He knows our address too. He knows our history and future and He even knows how many hairs are on our heads.

Santa has a belly like a bowl full of jelly..
JESUS has a heart full of love.

All Santa can offer is HO HO HO..
JESUS offers health, help and hope.

Santa says "You better not cry"..
JESUS says "Cast all your cares on me for I care for you."

Santa's little helpers make toys..
JESUS makes new life, mends wounded hearts, repairs broken homes and builds mansions.

Santa may make your chuckle but..
JESUS gives you joy that is your strength

While Santa puts gifts under your tree..
JESUS became our gift and died on a tree.

It's obvious that there is really no comparison. We need to remember WHO Christmas is all about. We need to put Christ back in CHRISTmas, Jesus is still the reason for the season.

Yes, Jesus is better, he is ever better than Santa Claus.

Try to keep a little Peace in this busy season and remember the Real Gifts. Love from the Kresha's — Kathie, Tony, Autumn, Megan and Summer

Butler Co. eyes dairy facilities

DAVID CITY — Following Polk County's lead could help Butler County extend its agricultural economic base, Bob Hilger of David City told the Butler County Board of Supervisors Tuesday.

Hilger said some California dairy owners have shown interest in relocating to the area because West Coast zoning laws and water restrictions are forcing them to look for greener pastures out of state.

MAJOR DAIRY farms, with herds of approximately 4,000 animals, are a possibility in Butler County if proper groundwork is laid, said Hilger, who is a member of the newly created Butler County Development Alliance.

"I would hope that Butler County is heads up on this ... to attract these facilities," he said. "There's a lot of spin-offs of benefits."

After the meeting, Hilger said he wanted to encourage the supervisors to get started on an application for a Community Development Block Grant from the Nebraska Department of Economic Development. No action was taken on the CDBG proposal.

THE POLK County Board of Commissioners voted Tuesday to request a \$406,000 CDBG, of which \$400,000 will be loaned to Double Dutch Dairy of Liberal, Kan., for dairy-related equipment for a proposed dairy farm in rural Shelby.

The project would result in the creation of 22 full-time positions, of which at least 12 will be held by low- to moderate-family income persons.

Double Dutch Dairy has already applied for a state permit to construct and operate a livestock waste control facility. Written comments from the public on the subject are being accepted through Sept. 3 by the Nebraska Department of Environmental Quality Water Quality Division in Lincoln.

Hilger said if any of the large dairy farms, which he has been actively recruiting along with Cornhusker Public Power District, would relocate in Butler County, there would be financial benefits in many ag-related sectors.

Those benefits could include the hiring of local workers, some of which might be displaced farmers, providing a local outlet for grain, hay and alfalfa, hauling jobs for local truck firms and increasing the customer base of area veterinarians.

"Butler County, as a county, doesn't have anything set up if something like this comes up," Hilger said. "There could be another (dairy farm owner such as the one who plans to build in Polk County) looking at the western side of our county right now. They don't like to advertise it too much."

Out-of-state dairy farmers are showing interest in the area because of Butler County's easy access to grain, plentiful water, good roads, inexpensive electricity, good schools and family-oriented communities, Hilger said.

He would like to hear from any area landowners who are interested in talking about available acres that could be used for dairy farm operations. Hilger said it would be easier to recruit if out-of-state dairy farm owners had a ready site to inspect, instead of having to sift through real estate advertisements.

The Butler County Development Alliance is a group of 11 members that began informally meeting in October, member Ryan Comte of David City said.

Since then, bylaws and articles of incorporation have been completed. The group is now in the process of applying for 501(c)3 status, so that once everything is in place, the alliance will be able to apply for government funding.

Bob Hilger is the son of the late Rose (Kresha) Hilger

2000 attend fire school

HOLDREDGE — About 200 people attended the 2000 Mid-Winter Fire School Feb. 6 at Holdrege High School.

The school was sponsored by the Central Nebraska Volunteer Firefighters Association and Central Community College-Holdrege Center. Participants attended sessions on emergency operations management, fire investigation and evidence preservation, grain bin extrication, hazardous materials, pediatric trauma, terrorism, wildland aircraft tactics and pilot rescues.

Area participants were:

■ Columbus: Robert Heckman.

■ David City: Lisa Hamling, Blaine Hayes, Shawn Hiatt, Matt Hilger, Scott Hlavac, Kevin Hotovy, Kevin Navrkal and Jeremy Novak.

Matt Hilger is the son of Bob & Sue Hilger and grandson of the late Rose (Kresha) Hilger

Joel Berlin graduated 8th grade, he is the son of Michelle (Kresha) & Mike Berlin. Michelle is the daughter of Glenn & the late Delphine Kresha and the granddaughter of Leo & Pauline Kresha

Bethany Hilger graduated 8th grade, she is the daughter of Bob & Sue Hilger, Bob is the son of the late Rose (Kresha) & Bud Hilger

Kathie Kresha, the wife of Tony Kresha was Confirmed at Easter Vigil this year with the RCIA at St. Bon's Church. Tony is the son of Glenn & the late Delphine Kresha and the grandson of the late Leo & Pauline Kresha.

Spelling bee winners listed

The 24th annual Metropolitan Catholic Schools Spelling Bee hosted 54 students from 28 area Catholic schools. The event was held at St. Bernard School on Feb. 12.

Abby Reid took third place in the competition. Reid is a seventh-grader at St. Wenceslaus School in Omaha, and the daughter of Doug and Mary Reid.

The top three winners received trophies and all participants received certificates of participation.

Abby Reid is the daughter of Doug & Mary (Kresha) Reid. Mary is the daughter of Allan & the late Loretta Kresha. Allan is the son of the late Leo & Pauline Kresha

Y2Kids

When you can have 3?!?



God's Precious Gift

Designed by Mom and Dad

107 Moffat Road • Washingtonville, New York 10992
(914) 496-0391



*See! I will not forget you. I have carved you
on the palm of My hand. Isaiah 49:15*



*We Joyfully Announce the Birth of
God's Precious Gift*

Thomas Arthur Tighe

January 8th, 2000 at 6:03 p.m.

8 lbs. 4 oz.

20½ inches

The Tighe Family

Brian, Christine, Mary and Catherine

**Christine Tighe is the daughter of
Clarence & Marge Kresha and the
Granddaughter of the late
John & Caroline Kresha**

OBITUARY

To: Kresha Kronicle
From: Diane Chaisson, 408.257.3221

Ann Kresha Hensel

Born: July 12, 1908 Died: May 23, 2000

Aunt Ann arrived in California in 1939. In Bakersfield her brothers, George and Mike, greeted the dusty car driven by their Kropatsch cousin, only to be surprised by Aunt Ann popping up from her hiding space in the back seat.

After retiring from practical nursing, Aunt Ann built many friendships around her home in Los Angeles's San Fernando Valley. She had friends from baby sitting, dog sitting, church, bingo, horse races, her recycling business, and the neighbors of several blocks around her home of 50 years.

During her frequent visits with me in the last 2 years, I would ask her to reminisce. She recalled that her mother, Sophia Kropatsch Kresha, had the best vegetable garden of all the farm wives in her area. Her mother would be outside at a very early hour, tending her fruits and vegetables. She would have the earliest produce of all the farm gardens around. Ann also recalled that as older teenagers and as young adults, George, Mike, Rose and Ann were very close and casual with each other. Frequently the 4 would accompany each other to Saturday night dances.

In the last year, Ann was receiving assistance in her home. She received hot meals 5 days a week, weekly Communion from her parish, assistance to her medical appointments by her private gerontology caseworker, and the help on Saturday mornings from a home care worker who would do her shopping, cooking, cleaning and washing. Last March, Aunt Ann insisted that she work at the local precinct voting site. We congratulated her for the long day she put in!

Between 7 p.m. on Friday, May 19th and 9 a.m. on Saturday, May 20th, Aunt Ann suffered a major clotting stroke, precipitated by a heart attack, while lying on her couch/bed. With the help of her Saturday care worker, she was taken to a local hospital. She passed away on Tuesday, May 23rd, at that hospital in the company of her neighbors, Delia and Jose, and myself, her niece, Diane.

At her funeral Mass, the priest recalled from the Eucharistic Minister, that often she would grace the minister with a handful of rose blossoms on his weekly visits. This was a common thank you that she extended on her doctor's office visits and on her neighborhood visits. She is interred in Bakersfield, California at Greenlawn, Southwest, a few yards from her brother, George.

By Diane Kresha Chaisson

Picture taken 2/2000 at herhome.



Ann Hensel

RESEDA, CA — Ann Kresha Hensel, 92 of Tarzana, CA, died Tuesday May 23, 2000, at Kaiser Hospital in Woodland Hills, CA. Services are 10 a.m. Friday at Our Lady of Grace Church in Encino, CA. Burial is Saturday at Greenlawn-Southwest Cemetery in Bakersfield, CA.

There will be a 7 p.m. vigil today at the church.

Mrs. Hensel was born July 12, 1908 in Polk County to Adolf and Sophie Kresha. For more than 20 years, she worked in nursing in Nebraska and California, specializing in newborn care. In 1937 she moved to California to join her brothers, Mike & George. She married Norman Hensel in 1950. She enjoyed gardening, baby-sitting and caring for animals. Survivors include her half-brothers and sisters, Martin, Charles & Wilfred (Bill), all of Columbus. Lillian Witulski of Beatrice, Mary Lukassen of Kimball and Rita Kresha of Berkeley, CA. She is preceded in death by her husband, her brother and sisters, Sophia, Leo, Cecilia, John, Adolph, George, Rose and Mike; and her half-brothers and sisters, Amelia, Adrian, Arthur, Walter and Patricia.

OUR SYMPATHY TO

Lou (Logan) & Joe Kresha in the loss of Lou's father Wayne Logan who died May 27, 2000 at the age of 71. (Joe is the son of the late Adolph Kresha.)

Michelle (Hilger) & Steve Casaus in the loss of Steve's father Henry Casaus who died June 3, 2000 at the age of 71. (Michelle is the granddaughter of the late Rose (Kresha) Hilger.)

Kresha Kronicle

Volume 4 No. 1- December 2000
1236 4th Street, David City, NE 68632

Seasons Greetings:

Again thanks to all who sent Christmas greetings.

Another busy year drawing to a close. As I sit at the computer this morning deciding what to put in my Christmas letter I know why there are fewer items in the Kronicle this time, things are just so busy, it just seems we don't take time to slow down and enjoy the true meaning of the Christmas season. People with kids in sports, jobs and numerous volunteer groups and activities time just gets away from us.

Bob is always busy with the alfalfa business, not only with the actual business itself but the politics that go with the agriculture industry. With the alfalfa he is supplying for the new dairy in Shelby, NE he is spending less time on the road which is nice, especially with the weather we've been having. He is still involved with Aquinas High School in several different areas. Enjoys being a volunteer fireman but he does hate to go out in this sub zero weather to fight fires.

As I write this letter today it is 2 below zero, fortunately the wind stopped blowing last night or it would have been just about unbearable to go outside. Yesterday we had a wind chill of -40 degrees. I did run downtown to get a few things and the stores I went into said they had all been very busy which surprised them. I am still a casual employee of the hospital but I'm content to be a home and taking care of family business matters and anything else that pops up. I volunteer 2 days a month at Aquinas High School, one day in the library and one day in the office, I really enjoy being around the kids. Our church has just started "perpetual adoration" and Bob & I do our weekly hour together.

Matt & Nissa have sent their own newsletter so I will let them tell you their "news".

Bethany is a freshman this year, I don't know where that time has gone. She turned 15 on Dec. 14 and we are in the process of planning a birthday party for her and her friend Kayla whose birthday is Dec. 17. Of course the parties now must include boys. So far the plans are games, kareoke, pizza & movies. Most everyone has a curfew so the parties do end at a reasonable time. (I can't handle the late hours anymore.) Bethany loves high school, I can't decide if its because she has a "boyfriend" or she truly enjoys high school!!!!

Well, must go. Hope to get the newsletter put together today as well as going the to Kobza/Hilger Christmas party and having Bethany's family birthday party this evening. Never a dull moment.

Merry Christmas to all and hope that you have a wonderful and healthy new year.

Peace and Happiness,

Bob
Sue
Bethany



Well, another year has passed us by. Hope this letter finds you all in good health and that you are enjoying the spirit of the Christmas Season. Looking back, it has been quite a wonderful year for us and we have lots to be thankful for.

In early April, we went skiing in Colorado with friends, Lynn and Jana. No one came home with any broken bones and a good time was had by all. It was our first ski trip (not counting skiing the slopes of NebraSki). We hope to go back to Beaver Creek again sometime.

We did have some sad news in June, my Grandpa Kosch passed away at the age of 83. He will be missed!

In July I resigned from my position at the insurance agency and took a few weeks off. Then in August I joined the staff at the Bellwood Elementary School. The majority of my time at school is spent as the librarian. And 3 mornings a week, I also work in the preschool as an aide. It was a huge change from my previous office job, but a good one. I absolutely love it! The kids are all so much fun to be around, not to mention how nice it will be to enjoy Christmas break and snow days!

Besides farming and hauling hay to the dairy near Shelby, Matt keeps busy with his RC car racing hobby and the fire department. After many hours of class, he took the National Registry Test in July and received his EMT-basic certification. So he is officially an EMT now! He also was elected to serve as the training/safety officer for the department. He is very excited about this position and really enjoys being a part of the department.

I can't believe it, but December 30th will be our 5-year anniversary! Time really does fly. Friends, Pat & Jodi, will be married that day, so we will be celebrating with them!

And for our most exciting news of the year...we are expecting! Baby Hilger is due to arrive July 3rd. I don't know which of us is more excited. July seems like such a long time to wait, but I'm sure it will be here before we know it. Chloe and Scout (our dogs) will have to take advantage of being the center of attention while they still can!

We want to wish you and yours a Wonderful Christmas Season and a Great Year ahead!

Happy Holidays,

Matt & Nissa

Email us at: hilger1@dtnspeed.net



Happy Holidays
May the Blessings of Christmas
Be with you
All through this season and
the coming year.



Love,
Charles & Lucille Hesta

Well we're in a New Millennium.

This has been an interesting year with all that has happened. At this time of writing this Christmas letter we still don't know who is going to be our next President. We need to keep praying for the right selection and for life.

Marcus reenlisted in the Marines for another four years. He left to go on float to the Mediterranean for six months. Marc spent some time in Turkey, Croatia, Spain, Italy, and other places in the Mediterranean. He'll be back to the states around the 21 st of December. We're hoping to see him at Christmas time.

In June the father of our son-in-law , Steve, past away . We went to the funeral in Effingham, Illinois.

The end of July Dan and I went to Greenbush Minnesota for a conference on the Central Boilers that Dan sells. After the conference we went fishing on Lake Bemidji. We caught a few fish. The man who took us out on the lake also cleaned and filet the fish for us and put them on ice. It was fun. On the way back home we stopped at Watertown, South Dakota to tour the Terry Redlin museum. It's a neat place to tour and his paintings are really great!

May the holidays bring you the beauty of friendship, the joy of good health, the comfort of peace, and the blessings of Christ as we celebrate His birth.

Merry Christmas and a Blest New Year!

Dan and Mary Jane



John is the son of Hank - Bonnie (Helger) Kobza

*Bonnie is the daughter of the late Bernard
+ Rose (Kreska) Helger*

The Kobza Family

Holiday Greetings!

As the big fluffy snowflakes are falling this November evening, it sure gets me in the Christmas spirit!. James loves the snow and has decided to put on his boots to go outside to see how many snowflakes he can catch with his tongue!

Wow, what a wonderful millennium year it has been for us! Late January we were contacted by Nebraska Children's Home to possibly adopt another child. We were able to meet Jenna's birthmother, Melissa, and her parents late January. Jenna Rose, our daughter, was born on February 5, 2000 and brought home on John's birthday, February 7th. What a priceless gift! James and Aunt Julie came with us to Lincoln to pick up Jenna from the hospital. James was a bit fidgety and really was more interested in riding the elevator. When we were taking Jenna down the elevator though, he started to understand as he said, "Mommy, take baby home!!!"

Jenna is a very happy baby! She has beautiful red hair and blue eyes. She loves to play "peek-a-boo" and "this little piggy." She started crawling at six months and has already taken her first steps! Jenna is also quite a talker too, as she says "Ma Ma" and "Da Da" and Mama and Dada's hearts just melt. So of course Mommy and Daddy are thrilled with their adorable daughter! What does BIG brother James think of her? He absolutely loves her! He loves to hold her, sing to her when she cries, and even thinks it's okay to SHARE macaroni and cheese with her now that she has three teeth!

James is growing up so fast! He is now three and a half years old and is always full of energy and funny things to say. This past summer he loved swimming at the pool, collecting frogs, playing in his sandbox, and checking irrigation with John. He certainly is "all boy!" He even knows how to sweet talk me into letting him have any of his cousins over to play. He informs me quite often that someday he will go to Kelby and Kalen's school (St. Mary's) and ride on a real school bus!

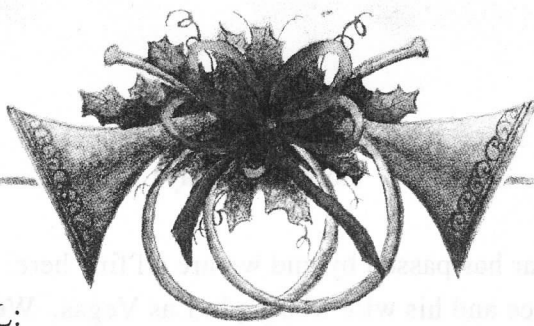
Both James and Jenna are truly blessings from God. We feel so fortunate to have open contact with their birthmothers and their families, as we realize what neat families our children came from.

John continues to farm but with no livestock anymore. He has become more and more involved with the family auction and real estate business. Last year he started taking classes and obtained his real estate salesman's license and in the spring of this year he obtained his Broker's license. So needless to say he stays quite busy!

I continue to teach fifth grade at Schuyler Grade School and have a neat class of 21 students this year. We have a great babysitter in Schuyler which makes going to work worry-free. And it goes without saying that being home with the kids during the summer months is a dream vacation!

MAY YOUR FAMILIES BE BLESSED THIS HOLIDAY SEASON AND IN THE NEW YEAR!

*Love,
Kim*



December 2000

CHRISTMAS GREETINGS TO ALL:

On January 8th, 2000 our daughter and son-in-law Chris and Brian Tighe had a baby boy, Thomas Arthur Tighe. Things didn't go exactly as planned so Clarence and I flew to New York a few days later to give them a hand. Chris got stronger each day. After about a week of helping the best we could and enjoying the children it was time to come home.

After getting back from New York we made our usual trip to Las Vegas meeting up with Dennis and Carolyn Kresha and we had a very good time. There are some beautiful new casinos to see in Las Vegas.

Things went along until May when we had a rental empty. Luck was with us as our Tenant moved out on the 13th and we rented it on the same day. We were then free to drive to Nebraska for my 40th Class Reunion at Silver Creek. During our trip we spent a couple days in Denver visiting with Clarence's Aunts and Cousins and it was very nice to see everyone.

After much planning and bids Clarence decided to replace our shake roof with a new 40-year composition roof. Deciding to do it himself, with Matt and John's help, they got started in late September and it has been an on going project. The weather has been watched very carefully. The rains started earlier than usual so Clarence has been working with small portions so the roof can be secured during the rainy times. He's about 80% done and the new roof really looks nice.

October was our month for visitors. My friend and her husband from Omaha, Celestine and Chuck Syslo came on the 5th of October. We really enjoyed their visit going to Tahoe, Reno, San Francisco and a quick tour of Sacramento. On October 23rd, Chris, Brian and the Children spent the second week of their vacation with us. The first time we ever had 3 children under 3 years in our house. The twins are really starting to talk a lot and Thomas was already cruising around the furniture. I understand he has just recently taken his first steps.

Matt is still going to college and helping his Dad, and John is still working for Pacific Bell. As stated above, Clarence is working on the roof, trying to get these big projects out of the way so when I retire in the next year or two we can do some traveling.

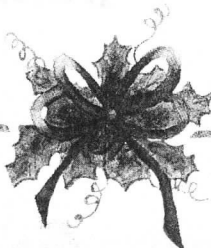
We had a nice year, but it went by much to fast. We have all been well and hope everyone at your house is also well. Have a Very Merry Christmas and the Happiest of New Years. God Bless You All.

All Our Love,

Clarence, Marge & Matthew Kresha

Clarence, Marge and Matthew Kresha

Sacramento, California



Happy Holidays

Well another year has passed by and we are all fine here. In Feb. we went to meet Denny's brother Clarence and his wife Margie in Las Vegas. We had a really nice time. We are planning on meeting them again this Feb. in Las Vegas.

Denny, Ron (our son), and, our son-in-law, Chad went to Canada to fish with Ron's father-in-law. They fished for about 8 days in July. While they were in Canada I took my two daughters, Terri, and Jennifer along with my neighbor and her daughter to Chicago for a weekend. We had never been there so we had an enjoyable time sightseeing. While we were there we also had the opportunity to see a Cub's baseball game.

In Aug. we attended a wedding in Denver, and visited Denny's three aunts that live there. We enjoyed the visit since it has been a few years since we had seen them.

Denny has a part-time job with Quest Diagnostics as a courier. He travels to different towns in the area to pick-up and drop off medical specimens. I am still a beauty operator.

Our oldest son, Ron, still lives in Little Falls, MN. He is a Computer Technician for Pierz County Public School, which is about 12 miles from where he lives. Ron and his wife, Wendy, have two children, Alexander and Wendy. Alexander is six and is now in Kindergarten, and Amelia will be three in March. We really enjoy them when we get to see them.

Jeff has moved back to Nebraska from North Carolina. He is now staying at home until he finds a Job. He has recently joined an Army Reserve Unit in Omaha where he is serving as a detachment commander. He is leaning toward finding a job in Omaha. It is good to have him closer.

Terri, our daughter, and her husband, Chad, live here in Columbus. She works as a child coordinator for Central Nebraska Community Services. Chad works for Nebraska Central Railroad and they are expecting their first baby in March.

Jennifer is 17 and a junior at Scotus High School. She keeps busy with school and her job at Burger King. She plays fast pitch softball during the summer months and fall for the Columbus High team. She is planning on going to Washington D.C. this spring with her history class at school.

We hope you all have a merry Christmas and a great 2001.



Seasons Greetings,
The Kresha's

Denny, Carolyn & Jennifer

Merry Christmas and a Blessed New Year in 2001!!!

God has given us many many blessings this past year and this is a special time to stop and remember.

We've had a change in our household as Haley graduated with honors (top of her class) and took off for college in Dallas. She is attending the Univ. of Dallas a catholic college where she is majoring in theology. She has done super and is returning home for Christmas the 1st time since she left in August.



Laureen is our some-what-resident-16yr.-old (those who have teens in sports know what I mean) who is excited about this years girls HS basketball team as they are undefeated, as of now, and just came off of a volleyball season where they finished 2nd at state (1st in the schools history of going to state in VB).

Whitney is a 8th grader-wantabee-high-schooler, who is doing terrific in school and as the team sports manager-go-for-everything. She is tall and many think she is in high school already.

Tom and I have been busy going to games and keeping peace at home and staying young with teens around. I am substituting between 2 school districts, and Tom is with AT&T and wondering where they are going next!!!

Our home is right along I-70 for any relatives traveling out to Colorado, do give us a call or stop by. Byers, Co. 303-822-9860

GOD BLESS YOU ALL,

Tom and Nadine , Haley, Laureen and Whitney Timmons

*Nadine is the daughter of Mary (Kresha) Lukassen
(Mary is the daughter of the late Adolph + Eva Kresha)*

Dear Kresha family,

The Kresha are still doing well in Arizona after having moved way out into the woods at 6800 feet elevation. Vickie is busy getting and keeping us organized, hiking, and doing a 1001 projects. Andy is still at the hospital in Human Resources with now 9 years at the same job. He continues to study for the permanent diaconate. This formation will continue until mid-year 2004 for the Catholic Diocese of Phoenix. He enjoys working with the men at the county jail, woodworking, and hiking.



Vincent is a junior at Northern Arizona University in chemistry. He hopes to apply to medical school in the spring, looking at University of Arizona, Creighton Univeristy, and the Mayo Clinic for the next 4 year piece of his education. He is an avid snow boarder and works as a phlebotomist in the summer. Carmen graduated with honors this past spring from Prescott High and is a freshman at University of Arizona this fall, studying to be a dietitian. She is really enjoying college life 4 hours from home (just far enough away) and becoming a proficient computer user.

Our love and blessings to all of you as the Lord Jesus Christ seeks a home in our hearts this Christmas where He can bring great peace, joy, and hope.

Andy + Vickie Kresha

Andy is the son of Glenna Kresha - (Glenn is the son of the late Leo + Pauline Kresha)

Larry + Carol (Smith) Kresha



Larry & Carol Kresha celebrated their 40th anniversary Sunday October 8, 2000 with many friends and family. The celebration was hosted by their children Dan & Becky Brad & grandchildren Brandon, Brittany Breanne & Brooke. (Larry is the son of the late Adolph & Rose Kresha)



Announcement:
Daughter born to
Roger & Christina
Smith - Nicole Marie
born 8-21-2000
(Roger is the son of
Ron & Romona
(Kresha) Smith.
Romona is the
daughter of the late
Adolph & Rose
Kresha



Dunekacke, Kerkman honored as Rotarians

Rising City High School senior Tom Dunekacke, son of Lee and Mary Lou Dunekacke, was Student Rotarian last week.

Dunekacke has been on the Merit Roll and Honor Roll for 4 years and was named to "Who's Who Among American High School Students" for 4 years.



He currently serves as Student Council President and Fellowship of Christian Athletes Vice-president. He has been selected for Academic All-State in both basketball and track. He was the recipient of the 2000 Bruce Crook Memorial Sportsmanship award. He has participated in football, basketball, and track lettering in all 3 and was a member of the Shelby-Rising City 1998 state playoff team.

Musically, he was chosen for Platte College Honor Bands and Crossroads Conference Honor Bands, earning 1st and 2nd chair honor in both.

For four years he has participated in the all-school plays and one act plays as both a cast and crew member. Recently, he received the Superior Acting Award at Conference One Act Competition. He is also a member of the school's speech team.

Dunekacke serves as Captain of the KLIR Brainstorm Team and was the Rising City High School Representative at Cornhusker Boys State where he served as Dept. of Roads Director. His other activities include: Big Buddyz/Little

Buddyz, Band Council, RC Club, Dare Role Model, Homecoming Candidate, and student UNICEF chairperson.

Community activities include being a member of 1st Lutheran Church where he has served as an acolyte and usher. He has volunteered for the Summer Reading Program at Rising City Public Library for several years and volunteered at the Bloodmobile. Tom has attained Order of the Arrow in Boy Scouts and attended the National Order of the Arrow Conference.

Dunekacke was employed at Augie's Body Shop in Osceola and worked at the family's farming and hog operation.

Tom Dunekacke is the son of Lee and MaryLou Dunekacke. (Mary Lou is the daughter of the late Adolph & Rose Kresha)



Season's greetings from our house to yours. The millennium has come and almost gone without a glitch. What a build up we had. The only thing that happened might be that the water from the skies seemed to shut down. This had to be one of the driest years we can remember. With irrigation and all of today's technology we still manages to have a good crop. From time to time we feel like things are pretty tough but all in all we've got it pretty good. We don't remember ever wondering if we would have a meal or a warm house to sleep in. We've been truly blessed with a wonderful life.



Our nest is getting smaller. Connie moved into her own place in September. Her address is: Connie Kresha, R.R. 2, Box 175, Osceola, NE 68651. She has a real cute apartment in Osceola just west and south of Good Samaritan Center. She is now employed full-time at Wal-Mart in Columbus.

April is still taking a few classes at Platte College in Columbus and works part-time at Wal-Mart. She still dreams of a career in childcare. She seems to be on the road more than not.

Jodi and Todd moved to a nice brick home in Osceola in August. It's rally nice to have all of our children so close to us. Jodi is a Speech Pathologist at Osceola and Shelby Public Schools and Todd is part owner of Radio Shack in Columbus. We now have a grand doggie. The kids got a Shih tzu puppy and boy is he active. We were never much into housedogs but is a cutie and livens up the place.

Gregg and Denice still keep busy with all kinds of activities. Gregg has really done well with his seed sales this year and we will be going to Cancun, Mexico in January with the seed company. Summer seemed to be never ending with all of the irrigating. Denice is still employed at Farm Bureau in Osceola and has taken up a new hobby of walking and racewalking. She talked the whole family into going to the Cornhuskers Sate Games last summer. We all walked in the Volkswalk on Saturday and on Sunday she competed in the 1500 meter Racewalk. She cam in 1st and received a gold medal. The whole weekend was a lot of fun and a nice family mini vacation.



We're looking forward to 2001 and hope all of you will stay healthy and prosper.

Gregg & Denice
Kresha

Dear Kresha Family,

2000 has not been a super-eventful year for me but I have accomplished a little, or at least made a few changes. I sold my building last spring to the people who started a fitness center in the east half. Now I'm renting space from them for the newspaper office (in the west half) and one of the apartments. I'm still working on my office space — hope to finish it in 2001.

Joe moved here from Reddng CA last summer and he and I are sharing the apartment and he is attending Mesa State College in Grand Junction. Our mailing address is 221 E. Aspen Ave. Apt. 3, Fruita CO 81521.

Teri wrote a book about Fruita's famous headless chicken last spring. I put up the capital to have it printed and we've both worked at marketing it. Had 5,000 printed which has turned out to be a bit optimistic and we're going to be a long time selling all of them. Teri has moved to her own apartment — 935 Northern Way Apt. 34, Grand Junction CO 81506. She's also started working a new job at a printing company.

Karen is still helping me some on the paper and living in her house at 1076 E. Carolina Ave., Fruita CO 81521. She and Donegal and Connemara drove to Ohio in August to visit Gloria, Brett, Spencer and Sophie. While they were gone, Joe and I looked after the 5 cats and 1 parakeet and got quite a bit of work done on the lawn and yard.

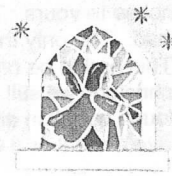
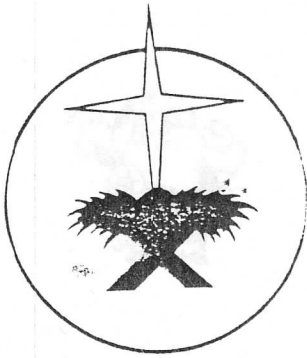
Gloria and Brett Beckfield and kids are still at 1900 Normandy Ln., Troy OH 45373. I'm pretty sure they're writing their own letter for this Kronicle so won't dwell more on that.

Since Joe and I have moved into our apartment we've both gone through a lot of stuff we've had packed away in boxes for years. We've still got a ways to go but it feels very good to know where most of the stuff is.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

Gene Thomas 9





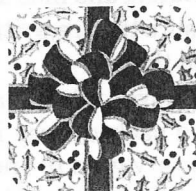
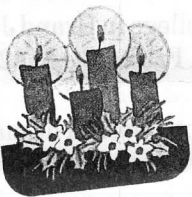
Dear Family,

Wishing all of you a Blessed Christmas and many graces in the New Year!

On December 12th the Sisters of St. Francis of Perpetual Adoration of Colorado Springs are ending their year-long celebration of 125 years of their service and presence in the United States. This is my fourteenth year teaching at St. Bonaventure's in Columbus. The Sisters have served at St. Bon's for 118 years. We are grateful for God's many blessings throughout these many years.

May He continue to bless you and all of us as we begin a New Year.

In the peace and love of Christ,
Sister Dolores Smagacz



11-29-00
Melvin - Dolores Wetgen

Dear Family-
 Last year at this time some were worried what the change to 2000 would bring us. The things we thought might happen ~~and~~ didn't but we sure had plenty unexpected things happen. The worse for us, who farm, was the draught and the low prices for livestock and grains. We all know the Clinton "soap opera" and the President Election Recount has made the U.S.A. look bad every ^{place} in the world. But all this in the Past. Each morning I thank God for another Day and for His many Blessings. Have a Blessed Holiday Season.

© Janet Ametola

Dolores & Melvin

P.S. New Address For 9-1-1. Same house 6480-33rd Ave Columbus Ne. 68601

Dec. 8, 2000

Dear Family:

It wouldn't seem like Christmas if I didn't get in touch with my Kresha family.

I truly miss Ann, we used to talk several times a week. Now L.A. seems so empty down there.

I'm sure you all know her body was interred here in Bakersfield, her grave is only about 20' from George and I.

I've been feeling fairly good except for artheritis in hands especially. And the heart is behaving.

I'm sorry I missed seeing you all while back in Neb. Ralph and I traveled back and forth from Roseland weekends to do yard work and etc and middle of week with Louis. He truly suffered, so badly paralyzed. He did die on his feast day St. Louis. Hopefully, next trip we can get together.

We had a dry mild fall - now a week of fog - Past two days 60* Cold weather is predicted for next week. Hope it won't get to cold. I'm in process of remodeling my kitchen.

I had to special order a new sink - (My faucets are in the wall). They came from East Coast and wrong sink. So had to cancel tile and vinyl flooring. Its finally all lined up for this week- I hope so - so will all lined up for Christmas.

Suppose you heard about California's power shortage- too many new businesses and large new homes - and many of power plants old and not efficient. Asking all Christmas outdoor displays be shut off. (Not all are complying)

Jerome, Rosa and girls are fine, Ruth is 7th grade and Elizabeth is 4th.

Pres. Clinton, opened up the Pistacio Market to Iran to ship their nuts to U.S. So now the growers are confused - not wanting to open new fields. California is the only state that grows them. Jerome is thinking of only selling buded trees - that is grafted trees, for transplants and nurseries. Also planning other things in the green houses.

Diane is not traveling this year, she can get down to visit me more often. Donald has been working very hard, lots of responsibility Traveling a lot for the company -3 trips to east Coast in 3 wks Monday he goes again. Co. books him 1st class seating. Helps.

I better say good nite, sorry I probably won't get this in Kronicle until the spring issue. I just couldn't get with it. Much love to you all and I wish you a Blessed Christmas and good health in the new year/

Love,
Margaret



Christmas December 2000
8558 W. Lilac Road, Beatrice, Ne. 68310



FOR UNTO US A CHILD IS BORN. UNTO US A SON IS GIVEN.

Dear Family and Friends:

May the new-born Savior bring
all of you His choicest blessings,
happiness and good health.

We have had a wonderful year. The past winter was mild and all the bugs didn't freeze, but we saved on heat and I hung clothes on the line, all winter!

It was a drouth, but the irrigation systems kept the corn, soybeans, and milo watered. The orchard was watered, too.

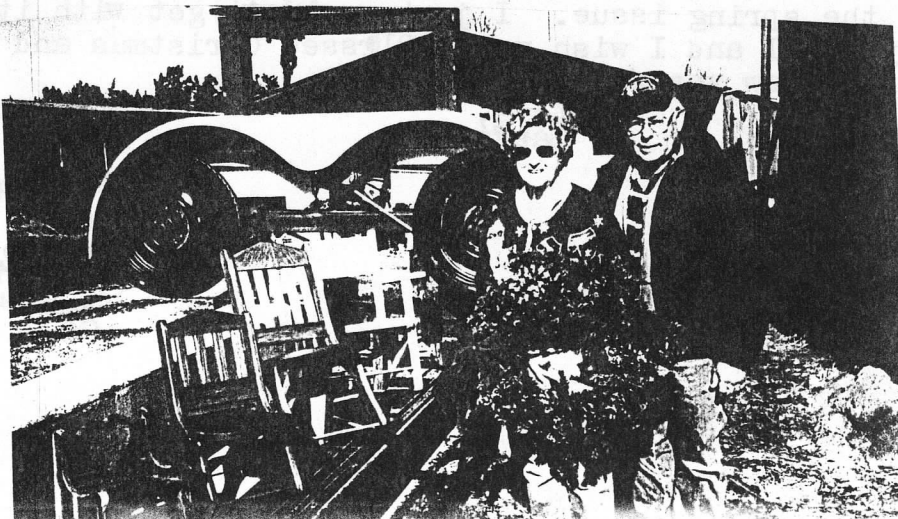
Our 34 year old Bartlett Pear tree was loaded with fruit and I canned 45 quarts. The choice fruit was given away for eating fresh. I also froze apples and "red" peaches from our trees in the orchard.

In April we enjoyed a bus tour to Miami, Florida. Highlight of the trip was the above-ground graves in the cemeteries in New Orleans. Water level is 2' deep. On one Mausoleum it showed that there were 25 people buried in it within the last 100 years! In Orlando, Disney World was not our favorite place. Back to Ne. we went a different route and I got a good picture of the Arch in St. Louis. We traveled 13 days.

In Nov. we drove to Colo. to spend Thanksgiving with Murl, Marcie, and Zach. We also spent part of the day with Pat Kresha and family, and had pie at her house.

Earlier this year, Harold made a sawmill from spare parts on the farm and began sawing lumber. He has made 9 doll chairs, and 15 child/chairs of various sizes. He also demonstrated his antique tractors at 8 shows in this area. He collects and saws oak, cedar, maple, pine, and elm boards.

Best wishes for a happy, healthy, and safe New Year. Love & Prayers,



*Harold & Marcie
Kresha*

Christmas

There is a list of folks I know, all written in a book
And every year at Christmas time, I go and take a look.
And that is when I realize that these names are a part
Not of the book they are written in, but of my very heart.

For each name stands for someone, who has touched my life sometime.

And in that meeting, they've become etched in my mind.
I really feel I am composed of each remembered name.
And while you may not be aware of feeling quite the same,
My life is so much better than it was before you came.

For once you have known someone, the years cannot erase,
The memory of a pleasant word, or of a friendly face.
So never think my Christmas cards are just a mere routine,
Of names upon a list, to be forgotten in between.

For when I send a Christmas card that is addressed to you,
It is because you're on the list of folks I am indebted to.
And whether I've known you many years or just a few,
In some way you have had a part in shaping things I do.

So every year when Christmas comes, I just realize anew,
The biggest gift that God can give is knowing folks like you.

Greetings from Western Nebraska,
We're having the start of an "old fashioned"
winter. The past 5 nights the temp. was
below zero. Today the sun is shining
and the 20° above feels good.

On Thanksgiving day, the 'Gang' was
all here. We had a great time.
As a member of the board of directors
of our Senior Center here, I was in charge
of a fund-raising raffle. I enlisted
the help of the membership to sell
tickets. (sold 1400) We asked merchants
to donate the raffle prizes. The drawing
was on 12-2 at our annual turkey
dinner and bazaar. We cleared over \$3000.

On Labor day weekend all my children
and grandchildren surprised me at a
Ft. Collins Motel to celebrate my
birthday. We had a grand overnight
stay. It's a birthday I'll always
remember.

Wishing you love, joy and
peace at this Holy Season.

Mary Lukassen



David Patsy Wanda Mary Chris Nadine Marty
Lukassen Bauman Toombs Saunders Timmons Lukassen

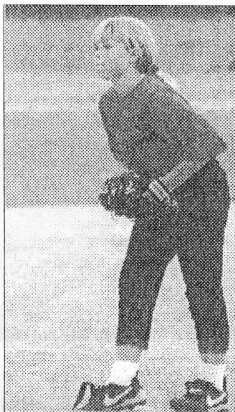
Merry Christmas from The Kresha's

Happy Holidays Family & Friends.
As Y2K is nearly over, it must be time for the annual Christmas newsletter! This has been another busy and eventful year in the Kresha house!

Autumn, our oldest, has become a teenager, turning 13 in October. This year, she started 7th grade and a new school, moving from Bellwood to Scotus Central Catholic in Columbus. With the new school comes a 7th grade class as big as all of Bellwood School, uniforms and a higher level of academic and athletic competition. In spite of this, Autumn has adjusted pretty well. She continues to be an honor student, made the "A" team in both Volleyball and Basketball, and has taken up the saxophone in band. She also keeps busy reading, downloading Napster MP3 music, playing piano, pitching for the Bellwood softball team and learned to de-tassel corn this past summer.

Megan turned 9 in January and is in the 4th grade at Bellwood. She is also doing well, achieving superior honor roll at Bellwood. This year she was both catcher & pitcher on her Bellwood Softball team and had the lead part in the spring play! She enjoys the computer, reading, trying to keep up with her big sister and playing with her friends. This past summer she enjoyed an extended visit with Grandpa & Grandma Kresha & Uncle Gregg on the farm!

(Continued from page 1)



Megan determined to deliver a strike.



Kathie 4 Wheel'n in Arizona with Nephew, Kirk Dittmer



Megan on the farm

Center & Radio Shack in Columbus. This past summer, Tony and a group of long term employees saved the business from closing, repurchasing the business from the owner. This acquisition has led to a very busy late summer and fall, as the business has been consolidated and reorganized. He is also on the Bellwood School Board & a director on the Clear Lake board. Tony also was head coach this past summer for Autumn's softball team and assisted for Megan's team too!

This past year we were able to travel a little. In February, we took the annual family ski vacation to Breckenridge, Colorado. We all skied without lessons this year and enjoyed tubing, sledding, ice skating and night skiing at Keystone.

In August, we traveled back to Colorado by way of Fort Robinson (Nebraska). This time our destination was Estes Park and an attempt to summit Long's Peak, one of Colorado's 14,000 ft. peaks. Tony's long time friend and high school classmate, Steve Davis, encouraged, organized and lead the hiking party, which included Tony, Steve & Kathie. We were hiking by 2 a.m. by flashlight, and we reached "Keyhole" at 13,000 ft. at 10 am. This demanding hike/scramble left only Steve with the time and energy to reach the summit! Although we did not reach the top, we still felt a sense of accomplishment, having completed a 14 hour hike that day! And yes, Steve, we still consider you a friend!

Kathie made a trip to Arizona in November for her nephew, Kirk Dittmer's wedding, and enjoyed visiting family and friends and the desert!

We also spend many summer afternoons and evenings on the finer softball fields of Butler & Saunders County, too!

Kathie finally realized a summer of water skiing, as we purchased a used Polaris Jet Ski for our lake. As this summer was so hot and dry, even Tony got on a few times and enjoyed the cool rides!

As another Christmas letter and another year come to a close, we want to wish you and yours a safe and joyous holiday season and a prosperous new year. From our house to yours - Merry Christmas!



Megan, Kathie, Summer, Tony & Autumn



Summer aiming for the fence



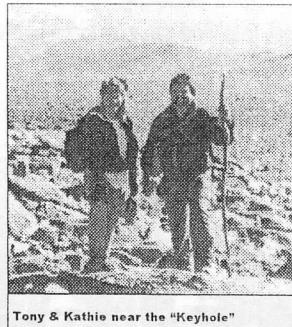
Megan, Kathie, Summer & Autumn Skating in Breckenridge

Tony is back as co-owner of Connecting Point Computer

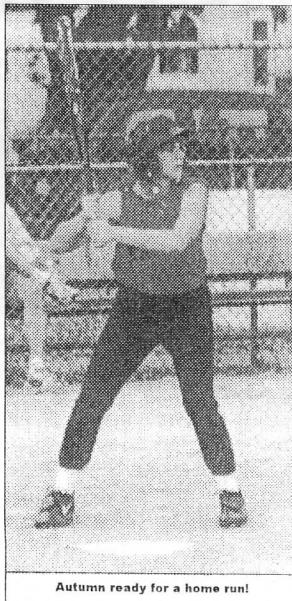
(Continued on page 2)

Summer, our youngest, turned 7 in August. She is adjusting to being a full time school girl, now that she is in the 1st grade. She really enjoys school and is also doing well. She continues to learn and grow up and is enjoying her friends, playing T-Ball, reading and drawing, and ...you guessed it, using the family computer!

Kathie is at home, busy organizing the family schedule of lessons, practices, and appointments. She continues to do volunteer work at Bellwood School, a Girl Scout co-leader, and will be Eucharistic Minister at St. Bonaventure Church. Kathie has maintained her hobby of wine-making and canning, and with this past summer's abundant fruit and vegetable harvest, many gallons of wine and jars of produce are in the cupboard.



Tony & Kathie near the "Keyhole"

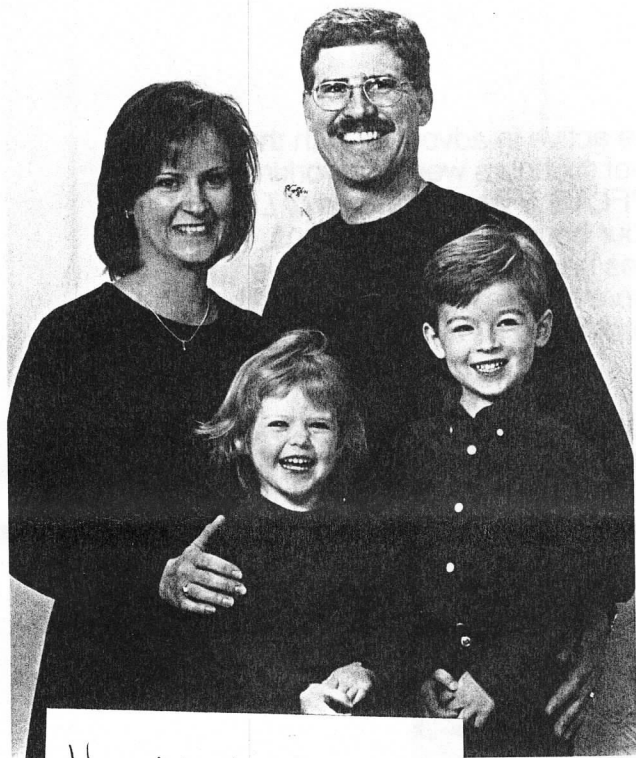


Autumn ready for a home run!

Tony, Kathie,

Autumn, Megan

& Summer Kresha



Happy Holidays To Our Family

What a year 2000 has been. First off we are going to be grandparents. Krista + Art are expecting on or about Jan 23rd they know it is a girl.

Kori + Kevin were married on Oct 27th in Grand Junction. It was a great day. They own the Cabaret Dinner Theatre + both are acting + singing as well as running the dinner/show.

Jennifer is a senior at CSU + will graduate in May with a double major.

Jessica has had 2 knee surgeries due to basketball injuries she is also at CSU in Ft Collins. We are "empty nesters" after 27 years. We just celebrated our 30th Anniversary Nov 28th.

Our farm we've been leasing all this summer so we are looking for a place or pasture to rent. It's really a tough find.

We wish all of our loved ones a Blessed Christmas and a Prosperous 2001. John, Conny, + Darla (Lukaszen)

We don't have any news this year, so we'll just wish you all a merry Christmas and a happy 2001!

Love,

Gloria, Brett,
Sophie and Spencer
Beckfield

Christmas 2000

Dear Kreshas:

A Merry Christmas 2000 to everyone!

As usual I am late: Just can't seem to get anything done on time any more.

Last June (2000) I was forced to give up my job as hospital chaplain. I caught cellulitis in my leg - the one they took the vein out of for the open heart surgery -- and after 2 separate bouts of it, both in the hospital, I was told I had to get off that leg, which meant no more hospital rounds. So, I had to give up my hospital job, and I moved back to the abbey, my home base. Very boring existence. Though I am only 82, at this rate I could live to be 100. Sort of boring.

Well, I'm getting used to it. Now I want to wish you all a very Merry Christmas. And a Happy New Year 2001.



Matthias Burger
202 Mt. Angel Abbey
St. Benedict, OR 97373

In Mate Burger

Gloria Beckfield is the daughter of Gene Thomas + the late Pat (Kresha) Thomas.

^{Palmer} Conney is the daughter of the late Amelia (Millie) Kresha Lukaszen + Dale Lukaszen.

Pat (Kresha) Thomas + Amelia (Kresha) Lukaszen were the daughters of Adolph + Eva Kresha


72 Glen Eden Ave., Oakland, Ca 94611-4317
Happy Holidays from our home to yours, dear family;

I am enjoying my third year of retirement, becoming more active in advocacy with the League of Women Voters, volunteering at our local school six hours weekly, working with our parish's homeless meals program, and working with PFLAG (*Parents, friends of Lesbians and Gays*) to promote equal civil rights to all. I manage our household and gardens, which includes "looking out" for Susan's aged mother who makes her home with us. I am enjoying good health, and work at staying that way. One of the more significant things about my present journey is that I have resumed the path toward ordination as a permanent Deacon which is a servant ministry in the Episcopal Church.

My domestic partner, Susan, who is a Pastoral Counselor and Therapist, has a private practice in addition to supervisory positions that she holds at several counseling centers plus the Psychotherapy center at University of California, Berkeley. We are in our twelfth year together in a healthy and happy relationship as we sustain and encourage each other in drawing nearer to God.

This Christmas season, as always, in the midst of changes in our lives and in the world, we are grateful for the unchanging promise of Christmas: EMANUEL....God is with us!
Warm regards to all, Rita Kresha and Susan Vanderburgh




Merry
Christmas
2000
*Wishing you all a
wonderful & joyful
Holiday Season
God Bless and love
to everyone. Have
a Great 2001. Love*
RONNIE ROMONA
SMITH FAMILY

An addition to the announcement on page 8 of the Kronicle: Nicole Marie Smith is welcomed home by brother Cory. Grandparent are Allen & Rita Groenthal of Columbus & Ronald & Romona Smith of Shelby. Great Grandparents Edward & Geraldine Gronenthal, Martha Smith and the late Adolph & Rose Kresha.

"Sorry for the miss mash of news items, had every thing printed and ready to go but when Bob picked the mail up early today there were several more pieces of Kresha news so decided to add a couple more pages and get as much news in as I could." Blizzard here today. 12-18-2000.

Sue

15

St. Benedict, OR Aug. 2, 2000



Dear Sue:

This note has 2 purposes: first, to let you know of my change of address. Having some serious health problems, and my advancing age (82), I resigned my position as hospital chaplain and parish associate the end of June, and retired back at my home base, the Benedictine Abbey of Mount Angel. Healthwise, I am fine from the waist up, but my legs are shot.

The second purpose is to offer you as a gift a "book" that I researched and authored back in 1963 on the Olbrich Family, my mother's ancestors. That is where the name Kresha first appears. When I wrote the booklet I printed 100 copies and distributed them among the 5 families of Olbrich descendants - one of which came back to me recently through the death of one of the recipients I don't need that extra copy, and I got to thinking maybe someone in the Kresha might be researching your family history, and this book could give them a bit of help.

One of the Olbrich girls, Anna, had married a man names John Scholz back in the old country. Following many others of the family, they came to America in 1875, and settled around Columbus or Duncan Nebraska. Anna Olbrich Scholz was a sister of my grandfather, John Olbrich. The Scholz's had a number of children, one of which was Amelia Scholz, who married Martin Karges. They had 2 children, one of which died as an infant, the other was Eva, who married Adolph Kresha, and is the ancestor of the whole Kresha clan.

If anyone is contemplating drawing up a history of the family, this booklet might give them a little head start.

I'll mail it to you as a free gift, if you or any one you know is interested.

- Fr. Matt Burger, OSB



Matthias Burger
202 Mt. Angel Abbey
St. Benedict, OR 97373

Happy Holidays!
Love,
John & Kim
James & Jenna



James + Jenna
are the
children of John
Kim Kobzar
their Christmas
letter is on
page 4 of
this Kresha
Kronicle



'twas the night
before Christmas
2000

