

Alison Dinsdale, Jason Johnson married

Alison Dawn Dinsdale and Jason Ryan (JR) Johnson were united in marriage by Pastor Virgil Ediger on October 2, 2010, at Christ Community Church in Omaha. A reception was held at Happy Hollow Country Club in Omaha.

The maid of honor was Paige Dinsdale, sister of the bride. The matron of honor was Breanne Youngers of San Diego, California, a college friend. Bridesmaids were Hillary Ahrens, sister of the groom; Andrea Feltz, Liz Larmore, Cori Pollak, Carrie Ratcliff, Melanie Schulte, friends of the bride; and Brittany White, cousin of the bride. The flower girl was Delaney Feltz, daughter of Andrea and Ryan Feltz.

The best man was Ben Fisher, brother of the groom. Groomsmen were Jerrad Ahrens, brother-in-law of the groom; Matt Dinsdale, brother of the bride; Matt Davis, J.B. Goll, Brad Joseph, Tyler Levey, Kris Paulson and Heath Stukenholtz, friends of the groom. The ring bearer was Spencer Sorensen, cousin of the groom.

House Party members were Malorie Bolton, Kirsten Cook, Alison Hult, Sarah Joseph, Stephanie Kylo, Ann Pitschka, friends of the bride; Brandy Johnson, sister of the groom; Brian Marasco, Bob Smith, Steve Stonebraker and Jeff Weaklend, friends of the groom.

The bride is the daughter of Dawn and Sid Dinsdale of Elkhorn, and the granddaughter of Gloria and Roy Dinsdale of Palmer, Nebraska. Alison graduated from Baylor University in Waco, Texas. She is employed by Pinnacle Bank as an accountant.

The groom is the son of Janet Fisher of Omaha and Randy Johnson of Mesa, Arizona, and the grandson of June Simons of Mead, Nebraska. JR graduated from the University of Nebraska in Lincoln and is the Nebraska Territory Manager with Le Mars Insurance Company.

Alison and JR traveled to the Turks and Caicos Islands in the British West Indies for their honeymoon. The couple will make their home in Omaha.



Elkhorn library to offer class on Social Security

Being smart about money is not always easy. Staying smart about money can be even harder. That is why the Omaha Public Library and other organizations are teaming up the week of November 8-14 to present Money Smart Week in Nebraska.

Locally, the Bess Johnson Elkhorn Branch Library, 2100 Reading Plaza, will offer a free seminar, *Baby Boomer's and Retiree's Guide to Social Security*, on Wednesday, November 10, at 2 p.m.

Additional free classes and events that help consumers learn to manage their personal finances will be offered throughout the Omaha and the state during the week. For more information, visit moneysmartnebraska.org or omahalibrary.org.

Money Smart Nebraska Week is coordinated by the Nebraska Financial Education Coalition, a non-profit coalition created to help Nebraskans of all ages improve their level of financial literacy.

Elkhorn Valley Garden Club volunteers clean up trail



Elkhorn Valley Garden Club volunteers and friends from the community participated in a trash cleanup activity on September 28 that was sponsored by Keep Omaha Beautiful. The Club worked along the Skyline Road Trail, from Cumberland Drive to West Maple Road, and collected around eight bags of trash. Among the volunteers were (l-r) Isaac Headley, Marla Newell and Phoebe Headley. To learn more about the club's activities, call 289-3872 or 332-4324.

Local nurse receives state award

Roger Beins was awarded the Outstanding Gerontological Clinical Nurse award during the Nebraska Health Care Association Convention in Lincoln. He received a plaque and a \$200 award from the Midwest Geriatric Nurse Leadership Academy. Beins is a nurse for Vetter Heath Services in Elkhorn and a graduate of Barton Community College in Great Bend, Kansas.

Beins was one of 64 Nebraska nurses who have completed gerontological or nurse executive certification courses for registered nurses employed in long-term care through the Midwest Geriatric Nursing Quality Improvement

program, part of a \$500,000, two-year grant to improve care in regional long-term care facilities. The program offers two, 10-week online courses to help nurses become certified as a nurse executive or in gerontological nursing.

The grant is funded by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation and the Northwest Health Foundation's Partners Investing in Nursing's Future program. The Vetter Foundation of Nebraska is the lead foundation for the grant and the University of Nebraska Medical Center College of Nursing is the lead organizational partner.



Recipients of the 2010 Hall of Fame awards include: (front row, l-r) Barry Stark, SuZanne Rogers, Tia Peterchuck, Patti Franz and Robert Guinn; (back row, l-r) Tom Fencel, Arnold Fencel, Joyce Fencel, Ann Long, Teri Dreesen, Dan Johnson, Ashley Hendrickson and Kevin Gross.

Elkhorn woman Midland Hall of Fame inductee

Amber Robinson Bradley of Elkhorn was enshrined in the Warrior Athletic Hall of Fame at Midland University in Fremont as part of as part of its 2010 homecoming festivities.

Robinson Bradley was a volleyball standout. She was a four-year starter for the Lady Warriors from 1996-99. At the time of her graduation in 2000, she was the school record holder for solo blocks in a season (128), kills in a career (1,588), attacks in a career (3,485), matches played in a career (155) and games played in a career (550).

College News

University of Nebraska-Lincoln

Rachael Fithian of Elkhorn has been awarded the Holling Memorial Scholarship from the College of Agricultural Sciences and Natural Resources at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. The scholarship, valued at \$750, was awarded for the 2010-11 school year. Rachael, the daughter of Wayne and Susan Fithian of Elkhorn, is a senior plant biology/insect science major and a graduate of Elkhorn High School. Previously she was awarded the Robinson Agricultural Scholarship and the Milton E. Mohr Research Scholarship.

EPSF hosts Hall of Fame Banquet

Approximately 300 people attended the Elkhorn Public Schools Foundation's 16th annual Hall of Fame Banquet, held at Elkhorn South High School on October 24. Hall of Fame honorees and classroom grant recipients were recognized during the event. Additionally, a silent auction of selected student artwork was held that raised over \$1,800 in support of the Elkhorn Public Schools Foundation's Arts Scholarship.

The Carl White Outstanding Educator of the Year was awarded to Tia Peterchuck, a kindergarten teacher at Westridge Elementary. Kevin Gross, a math instructor at Elkhorn High School, received the Golden Apple Outstanding Educator of the Year.

Elkhorn Middle School's Patti Franz was the recipient of the

Support Staff Person of the Year. Former Educator of the Year was awarded to Barry Stark, and Ashley Hendrickson was recognized as Mentor of the Year.

The Fencel Family (Arnold and Joyce Fencel, Tom Fencel and Teri Dreesen) and Publication Printing were recognized as Community Boosters of the Year. Ann Long and SuZanne Rogers were both recognized as Outstanding Volunteer of the Year.

Linn Johnson was recognized, in memoriam, as the Outstanding Alumnus Athlete of the Year. His son, Dan Johnson, accepted the award on Johnson's behalf. Robert Guinn received the Outstanding Alumni of the Year award.

"The accomplishments of our award recipients are indicative of the spirit and sense of community that

truly make our district one of a kind," said Kim Riggle, executive director of the Elkhorn Public Schools Foundation. "The Foundation is proud to honor the dedication and accomplishments of these outstanding Elkhorn teachers, graduates and community members."

The Hall of Fame banquet received support from numerous community members, businesses, booster clubs and parent-teacher organizations.

Teachers who received classroom grants from the Foundation were recognized during the banquet for their commitment to innovative instructional programs. Thanks to the generosity of community members and businesses, classroom grants totaling more than \$126,000 will be implemented in each of the schools during the 2010-11 academic year.

Kathy Townsend receives Knowles Mercy award

Friends of Knowles Mercy Spirituality Center near Waterloo gathered on September 17 for their annual dinner/auction fundraiser. The festivities took place at Erin Court in Omaha, with over 100 people in attendance, and \$35,000 was raised to support the mission and ministries of the Center.

The highlight of the evening was the presentation of the Sophia Wisdom Award. The award is given annually to an individual whose life reflects the wisdom of Sophia from the Hebrew book of Wisdom and whose actions spark others to recognize their own wisdom. This year's recipient was Kathy Townsend.

Townsend holds a Bachelor's degree in Psychology from Northwestern University, and a Master's degree from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln in Educational Psychology and Counseling. She also holds a Leadership Diploma in Religious Education from Creighton University. Kathy is a Columban Companion, serves on the Archdiocesan Social Ministry Commission, and is the co-founder of Transition Omaha - part of an international grassroots movement to reduce energy consumption and encourage the use of locally produced food and goods as a way to heal our community and Earth. She has served as a member of the Board of Directors for Knowles Mercy for five years. Kathy is married to Robert Townsend, and is the mother of two and grandmother of six.



Marisa Gilbert (left), Knowles Mercy Center director, presents the Sophia Wisdom Award to Kathy Townsend at the annual dinner/auction to benefit Knowles Mercy Spirituality Center.

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