

Ottawa Hills' Newest Eagle Scout

Harrison Leinweber is flanked by his parents, Frank and Teresa, following his Eagle Scout Court of Honor last month. A member of Ottawa Hills Boy Scout Troop 27, Harrison is the troop's newest Eagle. The Eagle Scout is the highest advancement rank in Boy Scouting. Only five percent of all Scouts attain the rank of Eagle.

To earn the rank, a Boy Scout must progress through all six ranks, from Tenderfoot to Eagle and earn 21 merit badges, including: First Aid, Environmental Science, Personal Fitness, Camping, Family Life, and Emergency Preparedness or Lifesaving. They must also serve six months in a troop leadership position and plan, develop, and give leadership to a service project for any religious organization, school, or community.

For his Eagle project, last fall Harrison enlisted the help of 20 Scouts and Scouters and replaced all of the tenth-of-a-mile markers on both the Upland Wood and Grasslands trails at Wildwood Metro Park.



A View From The Other Side Of The Globe

Where English Is A Pose And Fashion

There are probably as many people in Toledo who speak Chinese as there are people in Yuxi who speak English, which is say not very many. I go for weeks without hearing English spoken by anyone other than my colleagues and students at the British school where I teach, unless you count the daily hellos I get on the streets from people who have just exhausted their entire English vocabularies. And yet, English is worn here on a majority of people's bodies.

Nearly every male and most females under twenty wear legible clothing imprinted with English – or at least with the Roman alphabet. The texts of such articles often include obvious errors. I'm convinced that every time a factory accidentally runs off a few thousand typo T-shirts, the boss says, "That's OK, we can sell them in China." Thus I see shirts that say "SECURATY," "Bad Nelborhood" and "Nateur Lover."

Others serve up a word salad that doesn't even attempt to make sense. If a thousand monkeys pounded on typewriters every day for a thousand years, they might indeed produce the works of Shakespeare – but they'd certainly produce some of the T-shirt text seen here in Yuxi. "Stork Upser Boy" and "His Officer Consolation" would take a crack team of semioticians many contentious months to interpret.

Some legible clothing makes grammatical sense, but is just weirdly inappropriate to the people wearing them. I don't think the older, conservatively coiffed woman

sporting a shirt that reads "Bless this ho and all who enter it" is advertising her professional services or her recreational preferences. I also doubt that the stylish Chinese guy whose shirt says "Caucasian Fashion Style" means to deny his own ethnicity, or that the septuagenarian with the Linkin Park hat is really a fan.

Legible English clothing is all pose and fashion, analogous to the Chinese character tattoos on the guys who work out at Wildwood and who, presumably, have no idea what their inked ideographs mean, how they're pronounced, or if they're written correctly. Wearing linguistic nonsense doesn't seem bother Yuxi people. What they want to express is an association and an attitude, not a literal meaning. English is cool, global, sophisticated, innovative and sexy – and so, by extension, is he or she who wears it.

– James F. Trumm

You can read more about Jim's experiences of living in China and see his photos at www.jftrumm.com.

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supported with funds from the 2012 Green Bear Ball. The elementary playground was financed with monies from the 2006 Green Bear Ball funds.

Money raised from this year's Ball will fund three different projects. The projects have a focus on "STEAM," which stands for Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Mathematics.

One project is an elementary and junior high theatre arts program for students in grades 4 to 8. Three carts of iPad Minis will be provided for use for students in grades K to 3 as part of the second project in an effort to provide access to apps with a variety of uses and applications in the elementary classroom.

The third project will fund Computer Based Lab (CBL) technology for science teachers and their students in grades 7 to 12. A CBL generates accurate and reliable data that is collected by digital sensors and incorporates it into data tables and graphs.

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