



THE COURIER



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Eastbrook community calendar

Upland Elementary School

March 2, 2005
Wizards Reading Program Kick-off

March 4, 2005
February and March Birthday Lunch

March 8, 2005
"Respect" Program

Academic Excellence Program at 7 p.m. in the High School Auditorium

March 9, 2005
Dismiss at noon

Van Buren Elementary School

March 3
P.T.O. Meeting at 6 p.m. in the library

March 5
Sixth Grade Boys Basketball Game 10 a.m.

March 8
Quest for Respect Convocation

March 9
Early Dismissal

Washington Elementary School

March 2, 2005
Report cards sent home

Science Fair Workshop

March 3, 2005
P.T.O. Meeting at 6 p.m. in the library - Science Fair Make Up

March 7, 2005
Character Education Convocation

March 8, 2005
Academic Excellence Program at 7 p.m. in the High School Auditorium

March 9, 2005
Dismiss at noon

Grant County Events

March 3, 2005
Grant County Retired Teachers Meeting

Does your school, club or organization have a function you would like to see listed here?

If so, contact The Courier Editor Sheri Ann Richerson at editor2@indy.rr.com or call 765-674-0070.

Eastbrook Superintendent Jerry Harshman is making a difference

By Sheri Ann Richerson
The Courier Editor

Growing up with a disability certainly did not stand in Jerry Harshman's way. He credits that to a close friend he had who told him they would figure out how he still participate in all the activities he enjoyed. That influence has never left Harshman's mind. Today he is the Superintendent of Eastbrook School Corporation where he hopes to leave a lasting impression that helps others realize the possibilities that lie ahead.

Harshman grew up in Moran, Indiana. He attended Rossville High School. His memories of those days are of attending a small school where the families all knew one another.

"The neighborhood kids played together," Harshman said, "There were baseball and football games in someone's yard in the neighborhood. When I was nine there was an accident where I was hit in the left eye with a rock. I lost my sight in that eye. I had to learn how to cope with the situation."

Harshman said when he was released from the hospital the doctors told him to be careful about the activities he participated in because of his eye injury.

"I had a good friend, Mike Timmons, who was four years older than me," Harshman said. "He said to me you're a little different now but we'll figure out how to help you through the adjustment period."

Harshman was able to continue to do the things he enjoyed and did not think of himself as someone with a disability. The encouragement of Timmons was



Eastbrook School Corporation Superintendent Jerry Harshman in his office in the Eastbrook Administration Building.

the loss of my eyesight as a shortcoming."

Harshman went on to college and began teaching in 1972 at Wayne Township Middle School. He was a teacher and a coach for the seventh and eighth grade. He stayed at that job for seven years.

Harshman then went on to Taylor High School in Howard County where he remained for the next twelve years.

"I did some student teaching there," Harshman said. "Ken Freeman was my supervising teacher. I began to have some connections with Eastbrook at that point. I began to think about what I was going to do with my life."

Harshman moved on to become the principal of Peru Middle School. He was the principal for the seventh and eighth grade for seven years then he was offered a position at the high school in Peru.

"About this time J.T. Coopman the assistant superintendent at Eastbrook called me and said he was leaving. He said

this would be a good fit for me, so I came over and interviewed. I interviewed three times before I was hired."

The road that lead Harshman here was a long one. One of the motivating points was that he was concerned as a teacher that the administration was not as interested in improving instruction and helping teachers as he felt they should be.

"I wanted to be an administrator so that I could provide the support I wasn't getting. I also wanted to create a better learning situation."

Harshman said Eastbrook was a good fit for him because it was similar to the community he grew up in.

"The Universities' influence here is important. I would like to see us get more involved with both Universities," Harshman said. "I hope we can develop a close relationship with the new Ivy Tech Campus as well."

Harshman holds three degrees. A B.S. from Indiana University in Bloomington he received in 1972, a Masters from Purdue in 1977 and an E.D.S. from Ball State in 1994.

He is a member of the Indiana School Business Officials Association, Indiana School Superintendents Association, East Central Study Council and the Upland Chamber of Commerce.

Harshman is also active in the Hanfield United Methodist Church. He said his involvement in church was almost as important of a part of his life as his involvement at school.

"Church is a way to balance my life," Harshman said. "I am on the administration council,

the adult ministry team, the teacher of an adult Sunday School class and I lead a small group."

Harshman said he became a believer at twenty-nine. This was the second turning point in his life. The first was the accident when he was nine.

"Becoming a believer changed my way of looking at the world," Harshman said. "I claim Jesus as my personal savior. I believe in the Trinity. I believe the Bible is the word of God. I sincerely believe in the power of prayer. I started a pastor's prayer time here. All of the Eastbrook area ministers meet the first Wednesday of the month with me and we have a time of prayer. I am always looking for a way to be a positive Christian witness while still honoring the separation of church and state."

Harshman said his philosophy for life was to live by the golden rule which is treat others as you would like to be treated.

"I try to be caring, compassionate and take in the feelings of others," Harshman said.

When asked what saddens him the most Harshman replied, "The increasing sense of immorality. Things are wrong and people accept it as the way things are. People don't take enough pride in doing things right."

Harshman's professional goals are to retire from Eastbrook. He wants to have good feelings about what he has done while he is there as well as the point Eastbrook is at when he retires. He hopes others will feel the same way about his accomplishments.

Eastbrook graduate Ryan Collier is a finalist in the USAREUR General Douglas MacArthur leadership award

By Jason L. Austin
USAREUR Public Affairs

Heidelberg, Germany -- General Douglas MacArthur once said, "In no other profession are the penalties for employing untrained personnel so appalling or so irrevocable as in the military."

The training and care of military personnel falls squarely on the shoulders of the men and women who lead the Army's formations in war and in peace.

MacArthur, a 1902 West Point graduate, built his career, which spanned 49 years, three wars and the peace in between, was built on his leadership abilities.

Fifteen of U.S. Army Europe's most outstanding officers were recognized for their commitment to leadership during a luncheon, February 17, honoring them as the winners of the 2004 USAREUR General Douglas MacArthur Leadership Award.

Speaking during the luncheon, Lt. Gen. Ricardo Sanchez, commander, V Corps, said,

"It is these fine leaders, these fine warriors that will lead our Soldiers and our Army into the future as we continue this global war on terrorism. Every one of us must never forget that it is our solemn responsibility to ensure the training and professional development of our Soldiers."

The winners were selected from a field of 3,200 officers eligible to receive the leadership award. The program, which honors extraordinary leaders, began in 1987. The award can



Lt. Gen. Ricardo Sanchez, commander of V Corps, stands with two of the three officers who will represent USAREUR at the Department of the Army General Douglas MacArthur Leadership Award competition. Fifteen officers won the award at the USAREUR level. Chief Warrant Officer 2 Ryan N. Collier, Co. C, 1-1 Aviation Rgt., 1st ID, and Capt. Joseph M. Ewers, Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 1st Battalion (Mechanized), 6th Infantry Regiment, 2nd Brigade, 1st Armored Division, Collier and Ewers along with Capt. John C. Moore, Co. C, 2-37 Armor Bn., 1st Bde., 1st Armored Div., will compete at the Department of the Army.

be earned by junior company-grade officers and junior warrant officers who demonstrate the values that MacArthur espoused: duty, honor, and country.

The officers are hand-picked by their commands and their nomination packet is presented to their major command. The packets are sent separately to individual boardmembers, generally comprised of the MACOM's general officers, who each individually assign a numerical value to each candidate.

The officers with the highest numbers receive the USAREUR-level recognition. Three of the 15 officers recognized in the USAREUR competition were selected to represent this command at the Department of the Army-level competition. DA winners are expected to be announced in May.

The officers representing USAREUR at DA are:

- Capt. Joseph M. Ewers, Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 1st Battalion (Mechanized), 6th Infantry Regiment, 2nd Brigade, 1st Armored Division
- Capt. John C. Moore, Co. C, 2-37 Armor Bn., 1st Bde., 1st AD
- Chief Warrant Officer 2 Ryan N. Collier, Co. C, 1-1 Aviation Rgt., 1st ID.

Editors Note: Collier, seen in the middle of the photo, is a 1992 Eastbrook High School Graduate. Collier is the grandson of Upland residents Fred and Georgia Kern. His mother, who resides in Anderson, is Leann Brown Collier, who recently returned from a tour of duty, resides in Alabama with his wife and son.