

# PERSPECTIVAS DE PAZ

Vol. 27, No. 2 Pennsylvania's First International Student Exchange Program FALL 2015

IN A NEVER ENDING QUEST TO BRING PEACE TO ALL PARTS OF THE UNIVERSE, DIRECTOR RICHARD PAGE GREETES ALIEN ON HALLOWEEN AT RICH FAMILY TREE NURSERY HAUNTED HOUSE IN SMITHVILLE, PA



Photo Left: Is this taking Inter-cultural Understanding too Far?

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HERE ARE SOME DATES TO REMEMBER

**OCT 12** - (Columbus Day, original date) [Día de la Raza](#) is the celebration of the Hispanic heritage of Latin America (Mexico, Central America and South America)

**OCT 13** - [Columbus Day](#) , USA to honor the man commissioned by Spain to find a shorter route to India. Thinking he had indeed been successful in his quest. He named the natives of the region Indians.

**OCT 31, 1988** - P.E.A.C.E. was incorporated!

**OCT 31** - [Halloween](#), now associated with mischief-making and devilment, was originally a blessed evening!  
**All Saints Day (NOV 1)** celebrated by Roman Catholic, Eastern Orthodox, and Anglican Churches, is a religious feast day honoring the Virgin Mary, all martyrs and saints including those who do not have a day dedicated to them on the liturgical calendar. Since All Saints Day was known as *All Hallows Day*, then the night before, October 31st, was actually *All Hallows "Eve"* - or now called Halloween.



The basic symbols of Halloween are not secular inventions, but come from religious tradition. The [Jack O'Lantern](#), a hollow, lit potato or pumpkin is an Irish custom used to warn the Devil that this home is not a place he would want to visit.

[Trick or Treating](#) is a custom which began in the Protestant Church as an effort to help the poor. At harvest time, the needy could walk from house to house to gather food; embarrassed, many refused. So begging was called "going-a-souling". To "pay" for the food, the receiver agreed to pray for the family of the giver. The custom soon crossed boundaries of income, and the wealthy joined in, leaving gifts they received at church to be given to the poor. Some of us still remember when we were asked: "What can you do?" In order to receive our treat we had to sing, play and instrument or say a rhyme or poem.

[Costumes and Parades](#) can be traced to the inspiration of the Book of Esther and the Feast of Purim. A costume pageant was held at the beginning of All Saints' Festival. In these pageants, the devils, demons and witches were always defeated, the Saints and/or martyrs were victorious, though gory from persecution.

**NOV 1** - [All Saints Day](#)- A day to honor all who serve God faithfully.

**NOV 2** - All Souls Day - [Dia de los Muertos](#), or Day of the Dead, is a celebration that captures the idea of unity between life and death. It started when the Catholic feast of All Souls' Day merged with Indian rituals of death after the Spanish conquered Mexico in 1521.

**NOV 2** - [Daylight Saving Time](#) ends at 2 a.m.

**NOV 4** - [Election Day](#), U.S.A.

**NOV 11**- [Veterans' Day](#) honors servicemen since the end of W.W.I - previously called Armistice Day.

**NOV 20, 1910** - [Mexican Revolution Day](#) to celebrate the end of dictators and the start of political parties.



**Nov. 27** - Thanksgiving Day is traditionally attributed to the Pilgrims who landed at Plymouth, Massachusetts in 1620. They set aside a day to thank God for the bountiful harvest, good health, and religious freedom they enjoyed, even though the first winter had proven to be a great hardship.

The celebration of [Thanksgiving Day](#) became an official holiday on October 3rd, 1789. The first President, George Washington, signed the Thanksgiving Proclamation which begins: Whereas it is the duty of all nations to acknowledge the Providence of Almighty God, to obey His will, to be grateful for His benefits, and humbly to implore His protection and favor - and whereas both Houses of Congress have by their joint committee requested me to recommend to the people of the United States a day of public thanksgiving and prayer to be observed by acknowledging with grateful hearts the many signal favors of Almighty God, especially by affording them an opportunity to establish a form of government for their safety and happiness. Read the full text of this historic document. . The date was first set as the 26th day of November. In 1863, Abraham Lincoln issued a proclamation to set Thanksgiving as the fourth Thursday in November each year

The holiday feast includes traditional American foods, such as wild turkey with stuffing, candied yams, corn, cranberry sauce, and pumpkin pie! Mmmm!



	September	October	December
	2 Diego Prieto MX 11 Brynjar Hannson IC 18 Carilina Bouchers DE 28 Angi Ye CN	04 Siyuan Huang CN 06 Andrea Sandoval MX 16 Nat Pattarakanjapong TI 28 Yang Li CN	01 Javier Postigo ES 01 Jose Postigo ES 06 Victor Rijos VE 06 Louise Predatch DE 16 Udomsapaya Kiya TI

## THE SPIRIT OF LIBERTY

Where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is liberty [II Corinthians 3:17]  
 Where the Spirit of the Lord is not, there is tyranny D James Kennedy

As we commemorate the discovery of the Americas and give thanks to the early settlers who claimed and tamed this land in which we enjoy such blessings of freedom and prosperity today, in order to appreciate it fully we should look back to our beginnings - to the roots that bore for us the tree of liberty.

As every school child knows, it was Christopher Columbus who paved the way for Europeans to come to The New World; but unknown to most is the fact that Christopher Columbus was led by God to take the risk.

*"It was The Lord who put in my mind that I could feel His hand upon me. For the execution of the journeys to the Indies I did not rely on intelligence, mathematics, or maps. It is simply the fulfillment of what Isaiah had prophesied. The fact that the Gospel must still be preached in so many lands in such a short time is what convinced me."* - Christopher Columbus

Years later when English settlers landed in Jamestown their first act was to erect a Cross. Before doing anything else they dedicated this new land to Christ. In 1620, in the first permanent settlement of the United States, the Pilgrims disembarked the Mayflower. During the voyage they made a covenant before God to dedicate their lives in the new land to Him.

*"In the name of God, Amen, we whose names are underwritten, having undertaken this journey for the glory of God and the advancement of the Christian Faith....."*

- from the Mayflower Compact

For the next half century theirs was a Bible commonwealth where their everyday lives, indeed their entire existence, was based on the Bible. Little did they know that they were sowing the seeds for a free republic under God. William Bradford, the visionary governor of Plimoth, wrote that the new world would be a 'city upon a hill'. [a New Jerusalem!?!]

As other colonies developed on the Atlantic coast of America the Christian religion was fundamental to their establishment. This is reflected in their state constitutions written nearly a century later after the American War for Independence. Actually all 50 U.S. state constitutions invoke the name of God as their authority with statements such as this:

*"Whereas the glory of Almighty God and the good of mankind is the reason and end of government, and therefore government in of itself is a venerable ordinance of God, it is the purpose of civil government to establish laws which shall best preserve Christian and civil liberty".* - from the Pennsylvania Preamble

During the Revolutionary War God repeatedly intervened, preserving a new nation founded on His principles. After America's victory against Mother England the delegates to the first constitutional convention worked hard to lay a solid foundation for our country, but a hidden ideological impasse arose so severe that many actually considered dismissing the convention.

At that time Benjamin Franklin, 81, stood up and said, *"I have lived, sirs, a long time; and the longer I live the more convincing proofs I see of this truth - That God governs in the affairs of men. And if a sparrow cannot fall to the Earth without His notice, is it probable that an empire can rise from the ground without His aid?"*

After Franklin's speech the framers agreed on the course that our nation should take; and the constitution, with its unique guarantees of religious liberty became the law of the land.

As the new nation grew and prospered and as the settlers moved west there were great camp meetings and revivals in the new territories. But the strength of the Union and its constitution was put to its severest test during the Civil War. President Lincoln said the war was the nation's fault for having abandoned God and His principles.

*"It is the duty of nations as well as of men to own their dependence upon the overruling power of God, to confess their sins and transgressions, and to recognize the sublime truth announced in the Holy Scriptures and proven by all history - that those nations only are blessed whose God is the Lord."* - Abraham Lincoln

Abraham Lincoln was by no means the only president with a high regard for the Bible and prayer and their importance in our national life. Many presidents have had an abiding faith in the God of our Fathers and saw in His Book the answers to governing the nation. Below are just a few.

*"It would be impossible to govern without God and the 10 Commandments."* - George Washington

*"The Bible Is the Rock upon which our republic rests."* - Andrew Jackson

*"In this Book will be found the solutions to all the problems of the World ."* - Calvin Coolidge

*"The Bible is the Word of Life. I beg you to read it and find out for your self. When you read the Bible you will know it is the Word of God. You will find it is the key to your own heart, your own happiness, and your own duty."* - Woodrow Wilson



## How much Could Being an Exchange Student Change One's Life and Increase Employment?

Dear Mr. Page:

I am an enthusiastic former PEACE participant, with twelve years of teaching experience between teaching Spanish Immersion in Charlotte, NC, Forest Lake, MN and New York, NY and teaching English as a Second Language in Caracas, Venezuela. I am writing in order to apply for any position that may be available at PEACE.

I am a passionate educator who have gained invaluable experience living abroad at different stages of my life and fulfilling different roles along the way.

I moved to Pennsylvania back in 1998 as an exchange student and lived with the Oxenrider family for a year. That was a remarkable experience and it definitely changed me forever, especially instilling in me the wonder and desire to continue discovering more about the world and different cultures.

After becoming a teacher I came back to the United States in 2005 to teach with VIF at a Spanish immersion school in Charlotte, NC. That was another wonderful experience and again I felt very blessed to grow so much personally and professionally. It was very humbling for me to be recognized as the "Teacher of the Year" during that time.

I then moved to London to study my Master's Degree, and for two more years immersed in a yet another different culture!

Now, I have taught in Minnesota and New York City for the last four years and sharing about my culture has always been central in my teaching practice.

If given the opportunity, I would love to help other students in their transition to becoming exchange students in the USA, raise awareness of the magnificent impact of exchange programs and the cultural open-mindedness necessary to become an international student.

Please find my CV attached, and do not hesitate to contact me if you need additional information.

Kind regards,

Berynes Sosa

1998 Venezuelan Exchange Student

### **Followup Reading recommended by Richard Page**

*A favorite book of mine that I have read three times is "Traveling Light" by Christian Author Max Lucado.*

*Goggle this title or the author and find used paperbacks like new at a very low cost. Traveling Light is about the baggage sojourners carry unnecessarily. This book turns each line in the 23rd Psalm into a chapter and is very insightful for a foreign exchange student.*

## The History of the Carpenter



There was once an old carpenter who, tired already of working so hard, was ready to retire and to now dedicate his time to himself and to his family. Once he made this decision, he knew he must go and tell his boss about it. Although it was going to surprise the contractor for whom he worked, it was something he knew he must do in order to spend time with his family. The contractor was saddened to here that his best carpenter would retire, but he asked him do one more house as a favor before retiring.

The carpenter accepted the proposal of the boss and began the construction of his last house but, as he spent the time building, it occurred to him that his heart was not completely in the work. Sorry to have said yes to his boss, he put less effort and dedication than was usual when he constructed other houses and he chose materials of inferior quality. That was to himself, a very unfortunate way to finish the last of the work to which he had dedicated most of his life.

When the carpenter finished his work, he went to ask the contractor to come to inspect the house. After finishing the inspection, he gave the key to the house to the carpenter and said: "This is your house, my gift to you and your family for all the years of good service". The carpenter felt the world fall away from him... Great sorrow was what he felt when he received the key to the house - his house. If only he had known that he was constructing his own house, he would have been sure to do everything in a different way.

This also happens with us. To those with whom we have relationships throughout our lives, we may on many occasions put the smallest effort possible into making that relationship work. Then, it is only with time that we realize how necessary it is to always do the best job we can. If we could do things over again, we would do them totally different. But we cannot return.

You are the carpenter. Every day you hammer a nail, you put up a door, or you erect a wall. Somebody once said: "life is a building project and we should choose good beams". Your attitudes and relationships are the beams that you use today to construct the house you will live tomorrow ". Construct it wisely!

Remember... work as if you did not need the money; love others as if you have never been hurt by them; dance as if nobody is observing you... Perhaps for the world you are a single person, but for a single person perhaps you are the world.



**PAN DE LOS MUERTOS  
BREAD OF THE DEAD**

- |                                 |                              |
|---------------------------------|------------------------------|
| 1 package active dry yeast      | 1/3 cup warm water (110°F)   |
| 1 cup butter                    | 1/4 cup granulated sugar     |
| 1/2 teaspoon salt               | 3 cups all purpose flour     |
| 1 tablespoon water              | 1 teaspoon crushed aniseed   |
| 1/2 finely shredded orange peel | 3 eggs                       |
| 1 egg yolk                      | 1 egg white                  |
| 2 teaspoons water               | granulated sugar to sprinkle |

Soften yeast in 1/4 cup water; set aside. In mixer bowl cream butter, 1/4 cup sugar and salt. Blend in 1/2 cup of the flour, water, aniseed and orange peel. Add eggs and egg yolk; beat 2 minutes at medium speed. Blend in yeast mixture and 1 cup of the remaining flour; beat 3 minutes at high speed. By hand stir in remaining 1 1/2 cups flour. Cover; refrigerate 4 hours.

Turn onto lightly floured surface. Remove 1/4 of the dough and set aside. Shape remainder into a ball. Place on greased baking sheet; flatten to a 6" round.

Divide reserved piece of dough into 4 portions. Roll two pieces into two 7" ropes to form "crossbones". Combine egg white and 2 teaspoons water. Place crossbones in an X atop loaf, attaching with some of egg white mixture.

Roll one of the remaining portions into a 2" ball of dough in depression, attaching with egg white. Cut the last piece of dough into 4 portions; shape each into a teardrop and secure onto sides of loaf with egg white.

Cover and let rise in warm place 30 to 40 minutes or till nearly double. Bake in 325 degrees oven for 35 to 40 minutes or till done. Remove to rack. Brush hot loaf with remaining egg white mixture; sprinkle with sugar. Repeat brushing and sprinkling after 5 minutes. Makes 1 loaf.

**JUST IN TIME FOR THANKSGIVING  
MRS. PAGE'S CRANBERRY-PUMPKIN BREAD**



- 2 eggs, slightly beaten
- 2 cups sugar
- 1/2 cup oil
- 1 cup Libby's solid pumpkin pack

Combine eggs, sugar, oil, and pumpkin; mix well. Set aside

- 2 1/4 cups flour
- 1 tbsp. Pumpkin pie spice
- 1 tsp. Baking soda
- 1/2 tsp. Salt
- 1 cup chopped cranberries

Combine flour, pie spice, baking soda and salt in a large bowl; make a well in the center. Pour pumpkin mixture into well. Stir just until dry ingredients are moistened. Stir in cranberries. Spoon batter into 2 greased and floured 8x3-3/4 x 2-1/2 inch loaf pans. Bake in moderate oven (350° F) for 1 hour or until toothpick inserted in center comes out clean. Makes two loaves.



**Candy Corn Candle**



- MATERIALS**
- paraffin wax
  - pencil
  - wick
  - candle mold
  - candy corn

Cut wick to desired length (length of mold plus 3 inches). Tie wick to pencil and lie pencil over candle mold with the wick inside. Gently heat paraffin wax in an old tin in a pan of hot water. Drop some candy corn in the mold. Carefully pour some wax into the mold. Add some more candy corn, then more wax, and so on until the mold is full. Let cool. Remove pencil and remove candle from mold. Have a "Bright" Halloween Night.

**Five Kernels**



The first winter in Plymouth was very cold  
And hunger abounded as the year unrolled.  
Some days each only had five kernels of corn.  
Their lives were becoming sad and forlorn.  
But then spring came and their harvest grew.  
The pilgrims began to thrive and their spirits did too.  
But they never forgot the bleak times after they did abate  
So on Thanksgiving they'd put five kernels on each plate.

The first kernel reminded them of the autumn beauty.  
The second one of the freedom that they held dearly.  
The third reminded of their love and care for each other  
And the fourth was for dear friends like the Indian brother.

The fifth kernel reminded of God's love and care for all.  
So as you prepare and celebrate Thanksgiving this fall,  
Remember to put five little kernels on each dinner plate  
To honor the pilgrims and give thanks for our good fate.



Miguel Galvan—Mexico (center) and friends in Hawaii



Miguel (Mexico) & Ale (Venezuela) overlook Honolulu



Alejandro Monserrat (Venezuela) on the beach in Hawaii



Ale (Venezuela) & Alberto (Spain) shop at Honolulu Walmart



Brynjar Thor Hannson—Iceland in Hawaii



Hawaiian State Coordinator Leon Watson With boys



Andrea Sandoval—Mexico in Hawaii



2 guys follow walk from Honolulu along beach





## ¿Sabias Que? (Do you know what?)



# Friends, Family, and Classmates

## Wall of Fame

**STUDENTS, Please remember to send copies of your report cards to the PEACE office. Have your name included on our Honor Roll list in the next newsletter. PEACE is the only international student exchange program to hold an annual awards banquet to honor top students. We recognize achievements in academics, service, public speaking, the arts and athletics, Last year, 50% of our young ambassadors made their schools' academic honor rolls in a language that was not their own! Will your name appear on the 2015-2016 WALL OF FAME?**

**Diego Prieto** of Mexico is well with Pete & Leslie Russell in Salem NH. Diego is member of the church youth group, science club, student counsel, video game tournament champion, and will play basketball.

**Gonzalo Ajenjo** - Spain likes his host family. They make him feel like part of family. Gonzalo is involved in the robotics club in school and will play basketball. He is taking piano and guitar lessons. Likes teachers, friends, LC.

**Celicia Derbez** says her host family Bradley & D'EstaHackett of Lawrence Pa make her feel like a real daughter. She tried out for cheerleading.

**Pablo Dominguez** -Spain and likes his host family. They make him feel like part of the family. He likes school and has made a lot of American friends.

**Xiaofeng Liu** is likes her host family and they make her feel part of the family. They help her with homework. Wants to join the chess club.



Hilda Muñoz (Venezuela International rep and PEACE counselor) Grandkids - Victor was born on Halloween Day. Yes, he is the PEACE BABY. Tomas was born in March

Alicia Perez hosts Anqi Ye-CN & Ali Nasi-VE



**Gathering Leaves** by Robert Frost

Spades take up leaves  
No better than spoons,  
And bags full of leaves  
Are light as balloons.

I make a great noise  
Of rustling all day  
Like rabbit and deer  
Running away.

But the mountains I  
raise  
Elude my embrace,  
Flowing over my arms  
And into my face.

I may load and unload  
Again and again  
Till I fill the whole shed,  
And what have I then?

Next to nothing for  
weight,  
And since they grew  
duller  
From contact with earth,  
Next to nothing for  
color.

Next to nothing for use.  
But a crop is a crop,  
And who's to say where  
The harvest shall stop?

**Hilda Bjurstrom** our first Swedish student rates Patterson-Mossman family, Eagle school, & LC Stacy Horne first rate!

**Carolina Borschers** of Germans is good with the Rangels in CA. She joined drama club and cheerleading.

**Augusto Monserratt** -Venezuela likes hosts Marty and Diane Bubulka and Thai brother, Nattapong. Gus practices with the swim team. His soccer team with the Italian club won first place.

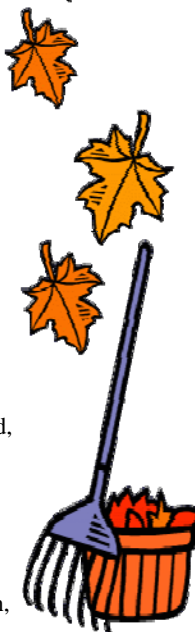
**Nattapong Pattara** -Thailand, likes his the Bubulkas. He likes school. He calls his LC Bernie "uncle" who helps him with his English.

**Ricardo Ortega** (Spain) host mom Michelle Mack in LA says he has great attitude and personality. Michelle likes the way he blends in with the family. He helps out at home. Everything is going well and he's on the soccer team.

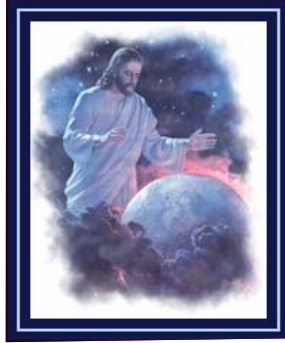
**Rodrigo Ramirez-MX** w/Mike & Alicia Davis in Coudersport PA He plays on the soccer team and is in Spanish club.

**Alexander Muraira** of Mexico is happy in Schuylkill Haven with the Felty's and the quality of education that he is receiving as well as the relationships that he is building. He is impressed that teachers and students both want to help him.

**Anghelo Villavicenio** of Ecuador was last to arrive but is first in the hearts of host mom Tracey Floyd who also hosts a boy from Thailand and LC Kisha Milo who hosts two girls from Montenegro and Latvia who like to go horseback riding. Anghelo was raised in a military home and you know how girls love a soldier's good manners!



*P.E.A.C.E.  
Celebrated Its  
27th Birthday  
October 31*



*Please keep in your prayers all the members of our PEACE family so that with the help of God, we may have a successful year, growing in love, patience, kindness, and faithfulness.*

**Hawaiian Orientation 9/27/15**



**Leon the balloon master!**



**Andrea & boys make their entrance**

**Signing in**



**Exchange Students & host siblings contemplate what to do without electronics**



**Hawaiian Peaches?**