

PERSPECTIVAS de PAZ

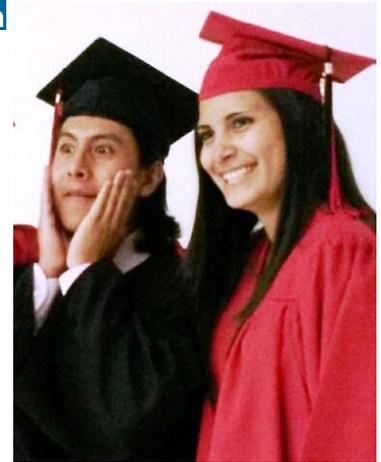
Vol. 28 No. 6 Pennsylvania's First Int'l Student Exchange Program FINAL 2018

CONGRATULATIONS GRADUATES!



Austin Area PA HS
Bradford PA HS
Cajon CA HS
Exeter Township PA HS
Granite Hills CA HS
Hackettstown NJ HS
Mt. Union PA HS

Niagara WI HS
Pennridge PA HS
San Bernardino CA HS
Summit Leadership Acad.
Victor Valley CA HS
Williamson PA HS



OMG! We've graduated!
The party is over. What next?
What should we do now?
Where will we find the answers
for the future?



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*Find us on Facebook,
Instagram & Twitter*

(username
@peace_inc1234 or use full
corporate name for
Facebook)

Bill Gates High School Commencement Address

- Rule 1: Life is not fair- get used to it!
- Rule 2: The world won't care about your self-esteem. The world expects you to accomplish something **BEFORE** you feel good about yourself.
- Rule 3: You will **NOT** make \$60,000 a year right out of high school. You won't be a vice-president with a car phone until you earn both.
- Rule 4: If you think your teacher is tough, wait till you get a boss.
- Rule 5: Flipping burgers is not beneath your dignity. Your grandparents had a different word for burger flipping - opportunity.
- Rule 6: If you mess up, it's not your parents' fault; so don't whine about your mistakes, learn from them.
- Rule 7: Before you were born, your parents weren't as boring as they are now. They got that way from paying your bills, cleaning your clothes and listening to you talk about how cool you thought you were. So before you save the rain forest from the parasites of your parent's generation, try de-lousing the closet in your own room.
- Rule 8: Your school may have done away with winners and losers, but life **HAS NOT**. In some schools they have abolished failing grades and they'll give you as **MANY TIMES** as you want to get the right answer. This doesn't bear the slightest resemblance to **ANYTHING** in real life.
- Rule 9: Life is not divided into semesters. You don't get summers off and very few employers are interested in helping you **FIND YOURSELF**. Do that on your own time.
- Rule 10: Television is **NOT** real life. In real life, people actually have to leave the coffee shop and go to jobs.
- Rule 11: Be nice to nerds. Chances are you'll end up working for one.
- Rule 12: If you can read this - Thank a teacher!
- Rule 13: If you are reading it in English - Thank a soldier!!

REMEMBER

If God brings you to it,
He will bring you
through it.
Happy moments, praise
God.
Difficult moments, seek
God.
Quiet moments, worship
God.
Painful moments, trust
God.
Every moment, thank
God.
The year's at the spring
And day's at the morn;
Morning's at seven;
The hillside's dew-
pearled;
The lark's on the wing;
The snail's on the thorn;
God's in His heaven -
All's right with the
world!

~Robert Browning



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June 12, 1776 - The Virginia Bill of Rights became law. Penned by George Mason, it was the model for the Bill of Rights amending the US Constitution December 15, 1792.

June 14 - Flag Day The ancient Persians, Egyptians and Greeks all used an emblem; a flag, to symbolize the highest ideals of their society. Early flags in our pre-revolutionary history were adopted by the different British colonies and bore symbols such as the pine tree and rattlesnake. During the American Revolution some flags bore slogans of inspiration, such as "Liberty or Death" or "Don't Tread on Me."

On this date in 1777, the U.S. Congress adopted a national flag for the new republic symbolizing the faith of free men and women in a free country. Beginning with 13 stars and 13 stripes for the original 13 colonies; with each new state a star has been added. To people everywhere, the American Flag stands for individual liberties of free speech, religion, free assembly, a free press, privacy and property rights, democratic rights of universal suffrage, equal opportunity in the pursuit of happiness in one's chosen vocation, and social traditions based on principles of honor, integrity and faith in God.

A symbol is as revered as the principles for which it stands. It is our duty to see to it that the principles which made America strong are passed on to each generation. To preserve our heritage we must preserve our history, challenging Americans in all the Americas to promote and preserve these principles wherever and whenever we can.

June 17- Father's Day - "Honor your father and your mother so that you may live long in the land the Lord your God is giving you" The 5th Commandment

July 4, 1776 -America's Declaration of Independence from the mighty British Empire penned by Thomas Jefferson, founded on the concept of liberty and justice for all as rights given by God not privileges from men.

July 4, 1826 - on the Declaration's 50th anniversary, Presidents John Adams & Thomas Jefferson died.

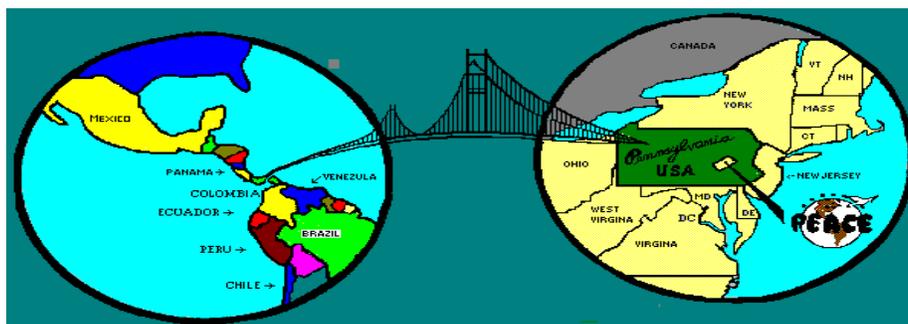
July 4, 1831—5th president James Monroe, author of The Monroe Doctrine, the cornerstone of U.S. foreign policy, died.

July 4, 1884 France presented the Statue of Liberty to America.

July 13, 1787 The Northwest Ordinance was passed by the new Continental Congress to guarantee the same rights and privileges for all citizens in new territory west of the Ohio River and west of the Allegheny Mountains won from the British. The ordinance provided a formula for establishing new states and prohibited slavery in all the new territory. Historically all nations have kept people in newly acquired lands in a subordinate role. There was a landmark generosity to grant equality to them.

Thomas Jefferson played a lead role in this as he had in writing the American Declaration of Independence. In addition to suffrage issues, he also created public schools so that the pioneers became literate enough to read the Holy Bible. This preserved that the moral values guaranteed in the Declaration would be instilled in future governments established in the new territories moving west. The one room school house also taught all generations to write well enough to make business and personal contracts and to master arithmetic necessary for basic commerce.

President Jefferson later expanded the ordinances as America's land expansion stretched to the Pacific due to the Louisiana Purchase.



VISA EXTENSIONS

EVERY YEAR students ask about extending their stay for travel or college. **The J-1 visa cannot be extended beyond 11 months for ANY reason.**

Students who plan to attend college in the United States must first be accepted by a college. (We cannot help you with this.) The college accepting you completes an I-20 form visa application to sponsor you as a foreign student at their University. Students must go home and reapply with that form to the American Consulate Office in their country, who will issue an *F-1* Student Visa. (different than your current J-Visa, which **CAN NOT be converted. YOU MUST GO HOME.**) Colleges can help you with housing and insurance or you can contact our insurance carrier for college student plans.



RETURN FLIGHT CHANGES

Students may stay beyond the deadline on their visas by an additional **30 DAYS** without any paperwork—you get a “*grace period*” from U.S. Immigration. However, PEACE will not take flight change requests until late Spring after the trip.

If you extend beyond the contracted time (time on your acceptance letter from PEACE), **you must pay \$150 for 1-15 days or \$300 for 16-31 days to cover airlines changes fees, insurance extensions, visa changes and support service.** Send a check with a letter from your host and natural parent explaining your request.

PLEASE DO NOT PHONE THE OFFICE WITH PLANE CHANGE REQUESTS. DO IT BY EMAIL OR FAX.

TOEFL CHANGES

TOEFL was administered by us on our trip from 1992-2013. It was not administered by ETS; they stamped all certificates not to be used for college admission, except for community colleges. Most universities now do not accept “Institutional TOEFL” and require you to pay full price at an official TOEFL testing center even though it is the same test, but most universities require it be given by ETS directly for admission, so we discontinued giving it AY 2014. Some claim we charged them \$200 extra for TOEFL. Not true! That may be what ETS charges but we only paid \$30 for test books, answer sheets, practice tests AND ETS grading!

SHIPPING ITEMS HOME

IF YOU DON'T PLAN BEFORE YOUR DEPARTURE DATE YOU WILL NOT BE FINISHED IN TIME, SO START NOW.

DON'T EXPECT P.E.A.C.E. OR YOUR SCHOOL OR HOST FAMILY TO SPEND \$50 FOR FEDEX TO SHIP YOUR DOCUMENTS HOME.

REVALIDACIÓN DE GRADOS ACADÉMICOS

Students who have not graduated want credit for grades earned abroad. The requirements are: an official transcript (not a report card). School must stamp or emboss it with the official school seal, translated to your home country's language of your grades at the end of the school year, and then have all notarized.

In Pennsylvania, for certification, send to PA Dept. of State, 304 North Office Bldg., Harrisburg, PA 17120 with \$15 + a self addressed return envelope.

In other states or for other countries contact the nearest consulate of your country in the U.S. for their “*legalization*” service and find out their fee.

Call 1-202-555-1212 for Washington, D.C. to get the current phone number of your embassy in the U.S., which can then help you find the nearest consulate.

BOOK REVIEW:

GEORGE WASHINGTON'S SECRET SIX— The Spy Ring That Saved The American Revolution.

By Brian Kilmeade & Don Yeager

During the P.E.A.C.E. historic, educational spring trip, students visit Mount Vernon: George Washington's estate and resting place.

In the gift shop, I found a book recently written by a 15-year Fox News morning host and New Yorker who learned through research that America's central intelligence and secret service began during the American Revolution and was kept a secret for nearly two and a half centuries.

In the book I learned that the Father of our country was more than a courageous soldier, a wise leader, and a Godly man. Washington was the inventor of the stealth tactics made famous during the 20th century Cold War — tactics so far ahead of their time that they have been taught at CIA headquarters for half a century since the OSS (a precursor to the CIA) began during World War II!

Necessity is the mother of invention; and when routed out of New York City by the mighty British Empire from who we had declared independence, Washington was in need of more than weapons and soldiers. He needed to outsmart the Brits that had trained him during the French & Indian War. He had to maximize home field advantage.

Freedom is not free and never has been. We wouldn't have won our freedom if it were not for the cleverness of Washington, the courage of the Culper spies, and the grace of God. Truth is stranger than fiction and this book is proof of it. A great read!

Richard S. Page

Thank you! Don't forget the lives you have impacted during your stay!



“Weronika’s work ethic is outstanding!
My husband and I are enjoying her company tremendously.
She is responsible, friendly, kind, talented, and very intelligent.”

-Theresa Stockel,
host mother of Weronika Lehwark

“Respectful, kind, and humble.
Good young man that works well with all.”

- Leona Gibson, Local
Coordinator of Haoyang Zhang



Chenxin is a caring, ambitious, and intelligent student. She is a joy to her host family and she is always willing to participate in new activities with them. I thank Lisa and Thomas for providing her with a warm, loving, and supportive home. They’ve done so much to help her develop into an excellent student ambassador.

- Yi Lu, International Representative and
Local Coordinator of Chenxin Wang

A big thank you to Alexis Bermeo for helping PEACE in our school presentations. She truly made the material more interesting and relatable for high school students. Moreover, her public speaking skills were put to the test and she really excelled.

-Mary Kate Kubick, PR

-BIRTHDAYS



- MAY** 31- Director Richard Page
- JUNE** 3- Chinese Counselor Yi Lu
- JULY** 5-Office Manager Vanessa Romeu
30-Chenxin Wang- China
- AUGUST** 1-Placement Coordinator Kathleen Reichwein
27- Tonnam Werrattanachai

Look WHOOO Made the Honor Roll!!

- Esteban Coronel
- Chenxin Wang
- Weronika Lehwark
- Joseline Fajardo
- Bowen Liu
- Chawanat Raruenjit
- Haoyang Zhang



STUDENT MEDALISTS



Director and Founder **Richard Page** officially announces PEACE's award winners for the 2017-2018 academic year.

Student of the Year Runner-Up *Chenxin Wang*



Host Families of the Year It takes a very special family to extend themselves for a year to a total stranger. God bless all our wonderful host families - We declare a tie. They are all Winners!

Student of the Year *Esteban Coronel- Ecuador*

Our students were recognized widely in school and communities as cheerful ambassadors of good will, displaying poise, manners, morals, humor, intelligence, common sense, and a charitable spirit. They demonstrate talents in academics, arts, athletics, church and community services and were nominated by school administrators and host parents as great representations of their countries.



Esteban Coronel is a star student, athlete, and volunteer in Austin, PA. An excellent role model for those around him, Esteban is the ideal student ambassador. What makes him stand out, is not simply his academic consistency— more importantly, it's his positive, “go-getter” attitude. Esteban eagerly tries new activities and welcomes any new experience that comes his way. Throughout this academic year in Austin, PA, he has been a member of the trapshooting & basketball teams, as well as volunteered at the local hospital to shadow a surgeon in his spare time. Esteban aspires to become a surgeon in the future and PEACE fully supports him in achieving his dreams.

Director's Awards—Employee of the Year, USA & Int'l. Rep of the Year

Yi Lu is our Regional Coordinator for China as well as a Local Coordinator for students studying in Eastern PA and Western NJ. A native of China, Yi moved to the U.S. during her college years and has resided in the Reading, PA area every since. Yi began helping PEACE counsel Chinese students in 2015 and now recruits Chinese students for PEACE. Yi has an exceptionally bright personality and motivated mentality. She ensures that all her students, in the US and China are having all their needs met and truly learning from this experience. Thank you, Yi for all you do!

Kathleen Reichwein is our National Placement Director and Employee of the year. Kathleen works at PEACE headquarters in New Philadelphia, PA, where she leads student placements, school speech bookings, as well as Spanish counseling. A devout Christian, Kathleen is always willing to help students, local coordinators, host families, and international representatives in any way possible. Kathleen positively reinforces PEACE values throughout the organization. Furthermore, she credits the Lord with her great success in student placements. How would we survive without Kathleen??

Lori Walters is a regional coordinator in Central Pennsylvania & Southern NY. Over the past six years, she has been one of our best area representatives to place students, ensure that everything is arranged for schooling, and consistently be there in an emergency and report their progress. Lori is always great at getting back to the headquarters office in a timely manner despite her busy schedule. We could not ask for a better person to hold down the fort in the Pennsylvania for us!

ACADEMIC MEDALISTS

Gold: Chenxin Wang
Silver: Weronika Lehwark

Honorable Mention:

Alexis Bermeo
Esteban Coronel
Joseline Fajardo
Thanaphat Lasas
Chenfeng Lyu
Maria Quezada
Haoyang Zhang

CHURCH-COMMUNITY SERVICE

Christian Service Medalist

Gold: Esteban Coronel
Silver: Maria Quezada

PUBLIC SPEAKING

Gold: Alexis Bermeo

ATHLETIC MEDALISTS



Gold: Esteban Coronel

Honorable Mention:

Joseline Fajardo
Thanaphat Lasas
Bowen Liu
Miguel Moncayo
Chenxin Wang
Haoyang Zhang
David Matute



EXCELLENCE IN ARTS

Arts Medalists

Gold (Instrumental):
Weronika Lehwark

Vocal Honorable Mention:

Joseline Fajardo
Chenxin Wang



POSING FOR PROM



Thanaphat Lasa at Mt. Union High School prom (above).



Thanaphat Lasa at Mt. Union High School prom



Thanaphat Lasa at Mt. Union High School prom (ABOVE)



Austin High School Prom King, Esteban



Maria Paula Quezada at Hackettstown High School Prom





Who's ready for vacation??



PEACE social media guru, Mary Kate, travelled to the Philippines in May to visit family friends. The 10 day trip required a 21 hour commute to arrive in Cebu, Philippines. A seasoned traveler, Mary Kate took the strenuous flights in stride. She spent a few days in the famous isles of Coron, Palawan (pictured above). Coron is home to crystal clear water, lakes, and lagoons. Mary Kate enjoyed snorkeling in the coral reefs, basking on white sand beaches as well as visiting noted sights of Japanese WWII shipwrecks. The rest of her trip was passed in Cebu, a city of roughly 6 million people. There, Mary Kate & Co. experienced a concert of the Mactan Strummers, a children's ukulele group supported by her cousin, Thomas (pictured below). The strummers put on an excellent show for their visiting guests and also raised money for local students who were recently affected by a terrible fire. Mary Kate has only been back a few days but is already missing the warm sun, beautiful beaches, and warm hospitality.





ADIOS A TODOS

GOODBYES ARE NOT FOREVER.
GOODBYES ARE NOT THE END.
THEY SIMPLY MEAN I'LL MISS YOU,
UNTIL WE MEET AGAIN!



FORMER WINNER OF THE ONLY SMILEY AWARD IN THE HISTORY OF PEACE. AFTER SIX DAYS NOBODY HAD SEEN HER NOT SMILE, SPECULATING AS TO WHETHER SHE WAS BORN THAT WAY OR IT WAS FROM SURGERY!