

Seniors promote Toys for Tots

by Eli Hernandez
 Staff Writer

Toys for Tots is a campaign where the main goal is to bring toys for the needy children in America for Christmas. *Toys for Tots* is supported by the Walt Disney Company, Hasbro, Scholastic, Apple bees and other nation-wide companies.

This foundation was founded in 1947 by William Hendricks member of the United States Marine Corps Reserve. The story of Toys for Tots is that the colonel's wife made a child's doll and gave it to her husband to pass on to an organization in Los Angeles, California and that's how he started Toys for Tots, collecting toys for over 5,000 kids in the first year with the help from other reservists. The Marine Corps was struck by the program and made it nationwide in 1948, according to www.toysfortots.org.

This year, Presbyterian Pan American School (PPAS) will participate in *Toys for Tots* again. The senior class made a plan in which they could get money and toys for this cause.

"We are promoting the campaign by asking our under classmates to give money and toys so we can help the children," said Debora Hernandez, 19-year-old senior class president. Hernandez chose some seniors to collect the money from the students. Obed Garcia and Alberto Barron were chosen to collect the money at the boy's dorm and Liliana Santos will collect



Photo by: Rafael Murguia
 Toys for Tots donation box

it at the girls dorm. "We started on November 17 and we are going to stop collecting on December 10 so we expect to collect a lot of money," Garcia said. The money and toys collected will be taken to "Stop in Lube" in Kingsville.

PPAS Choir performs at First Baptist Church

by Liliana Hernandez
 Staff Writer

On Saturday, December 5, 2010, the choir of Presbyterian Pan American School (PPAS) along with other members of the Kingsville Community choir presented a Christmas concert at the First Baptist Church of Kingsville.

The concert was directed by Sandra Glover-Messbarger and Yvonne Jaggard as her accompanist. The concert started at 3 and ended at 4:15. The program included eleven songs and four solos.

One of the solos, "Mary, did you know?" was sung by 17-year-old Senior Reynaldo Torres and Nancy Munn. "I felt really privileged to sing 'Mary, Did you Know?' in company of Nancy. I felt nervous and at the same time proud to have Nancy as my partner," Torres said.

16-year-old sophomore Regina Hernandez and Munn sang "O Holy Night" and after them, Ricki Cunningham interpreted "El Pequeno Nino."

The last solo was interpreted by 20-year-old junior, Marcela Vargas. She sang "Glory Hallelu" and later Ricki Cunningham joined her. 18-year-old Karla Gonzalez, senior at PPAS and one



Photo by: Liliana Hernandez

The PPAS Choir performed their annual Christmas concert.

of the choir members, said that she was very nervous but she saw her classmates there and she felt secure. She also said that she enjoyed singing a lot and that her favorite song was "Joy of the World" and her favorite parts were the solos and the orchestra playing.

"I enjoy the concert because the choir did very well I am very proud of the work that they did and the solos were very good too," said Messbarger PPAS choir director.

13 inducted into National Honor Society

by Debora Hernandez
 Staff Writer

The National Honor Society (NHS) is an organization that recognizes high school students. The NHS honors those students who have demonstrated excellence in the areas of Scholarship, Leadership, Service and Character.

NHS was founded in 1921 by Edward Ryerson, principal of the Fifth Avenue High School in Pittsburgh, PA. This organization was created for four main purposes to create enthusiasm for scholarship, to simulate a desire to deliver service, to promote leadership, and to develop character in the students of secondary schools.

After two weeks of waiting, 13 new members

were finally inducted into NHS at Presbyterian Pan American School (PPAS) on Friday, December 3, 2010. To receive this privilege, they had to work very hard, maintain a high GPA, have a good record of service and participate in several activities. The students had to apply to be considered and at the end they had to write an essay. Diane Garcia, English III and IV teacher and librarian, was in charge of evaluating the essays turned in by the students.

"I'm looking for an honest voice, because some writers services are limited, the students are leaning, and sometimes they are shy. But also I'm looking for dishonesty

(Plagiarism). I want people that not only have good and positive attitudes, I'm looking for people who have strong ethics, people who want to be part of something to be proud of not to laugh at," Garcia said.

The guest speaker was Pete Trevino, Counselor at Costal Bend College in Kingsville. He gave

a speech about his life when he lost his leg. He explained all the battles he went through to achieve his goals to be where he is now.

"I feel very proud of myself and the accomplishments and goals that I have reached for being part of this well recognized society,"

said 18-year-old senior Reynaldo Torres.



Photo by: Debora Hernandez

Members of the National Honor Society

SPORTS

Five chosen for All-State Soccer

by Jose Obed Garcia
 Staff Writer

Five soccer players from Presbyterian Pan American School (PPAS) were elected for the All-State team.

Senior Christian Ortiz, captain of the team, was nominated and elected for the 1st Team All State.

"I'm very proud that all my hard work paid off," Ortiz said after he found out that he had made it to the 1st Team All State.

17-year-old Senior Erick Luna, midfielder and Co-Capitan of the soccer team was

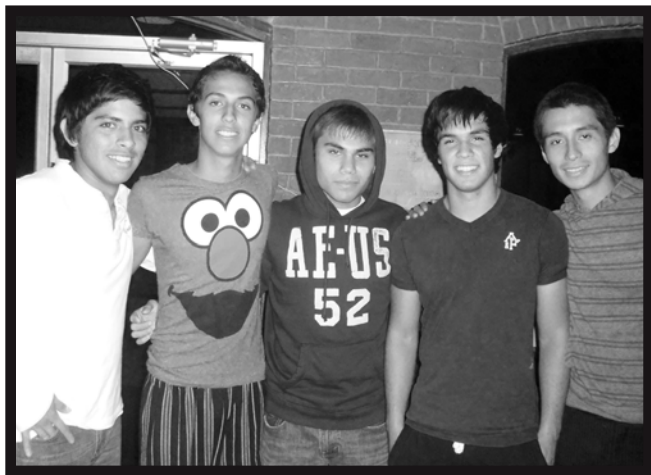


Photo by: Obed Garcia

From left to right: Erick Luna, Manuel Moran, Raul Zavala, Christian Ortiz, and Jasiel Hernandez.

elected for the 2nd team along with 17-year-old Senior Raul Zavala, goal keeper.

"I feel more than happy because it's good to know that all my

effort was recognized," Luna said.

Zavala said that he feels proud because it's his second year that he is awarded with this honor.

17-year-old Senior

Jasiel Hernandez and freshmen Manuel Moran were elected for the All State honorable mention. They played as defense and midfielder respectively during this season.

"I'm really honored by this award but I'm also thankful to God because he made it possible," Hernandez said

Coach Dan Meek said that he felt extremely proud of the elected players because they won this award even though they didn't get to the state championship.

PPAS Boys placed 2nd at annual tournament

by Enrique Varela
 Staff Writer

On November 20, 2010, a basketball tournament was held at the gym at Presbyterian Pan American School (PPAS). The school's team played against other schools, that included Christian Life Academy, Academy High School, Incarnate Word Academy (IWA) and H.M. King. In his second year as the basketball coach, Daniel Meek said he felt very proud of the team's improvement.

"I have been the coach for two years. I saw big improvements much better over the last year, and I expected to win the Tournament but I was proud of the way they played," Meek said. PPAS got second place at the tournament, losing against IWA, but two PPAS players won the All-Tournament Awards. Christian Ortiz was the scoring leader in the tournament with 49 points, followed by Rafael Murguia with 38 points.

"I felt proud for winning this great award and proud of the team because they did a great job in every game that we played and I feel that not only did I deserve this award but the team did also," Ortiz said.

Girls win 35-28 over CLA

by Nam Kim
 Staff Writer

The girl's basketball team at Presbyterian Pan American School (PPAS) played against Christian Life Academy on November 30, 2010 at the school's gym. The score was 35 to 28, with PPAS as the winner.

"I feel really good about the result of the game because they played well and I could see some improvement in both defense and offense," said Head Coach Reili Cantu.

During game, ten PPAS players played. From there 14-year-old freshman Hefzi Jimenez scored 29 points. Also Cantu said that she saw really good defense from team captain Anyul Abud and Sandra Gomez, both 17-year-old seniors.

"I feel excited about the result from the game and I knew that we could do it and we made it,

and also I am thankful to coach because I didn't know anything about basketball but she helps me to improve and I think missing practice is an opportunity to lose the game," Abud said.

Gomez said that she thinks they did a really good job and she believes that when they go to practice, they always learn something new and that helps them to improve.

"I feel really proud of the team and I could score 29 points because my teammates helped me a lot during game," Jimenez said.

Cantu said that she is going to help them work hard at practice and teach them more basic skills so they can improve their knowledge of the game to prepare for their next game.



Photo by: Enrique Varela

PPAS 2010-2011 boys basketball first team

Annual Fall Formal banquet held at PPAS Nov. 20



Photo provided by: Cynthia Jacobo
From left, seniors Erick Luna, Hector Villegas, Belinda Gutierrez, Paul Vilchez and Samuel Chavez

by Ericka Campuzano
Staff Writer

Thanksgiving is an important date that we celebrate each year to remember the day when colonists and Native Americans sat and ate dinner together. Presbyterian Pan American School (PPAS) celebrated the Fall Formal Banquet and Dance on Saturday November 21, 2010. The sophomore class was in charge of the cafeteria decorations, and the freshmen class decorated the Student Union Building (SUB), where the dance took place. "We spent a week and a half working on the decorations," said Adriana Sanchez,

16-year-old sophomore and class vice-president. The banquet and all the food that was served was prepared by Marlene Zamora, Dining Hall Supervisor. "I am really happy with the work that my classmates did. They know how to work as a team," said 16-year-old Carlos Bello, sophomore class president. Students from different cultures ate dinner that night together. Yi Guo, 16-year-old, sophomore said that she enjoyed the banquet, the food and the desserts. She also liked that she could spend time with her friends. She liked the new traditions.

Head Cheerleader chosen as Student of the Month

by Nicole Corona
Staff Writer
Belinda Gutierrez, 17-year-old senior from Vallehermoso, Tamaulipas, Mexico has been chosen as the student of the month for December at Presbyterian Pan American School (PPAS).



Photo by: Nicole Corona
Senior Belinda Gutierrez

"I feel very proud of myself because all the effort I have done was worthy and it feels good to be recognized for all the things that I have done," Gutierrez said. She is involved in the basketball team, captain

of the cheerleading squad and choir. Gutierrez thinks that she was chosen as the student of the month because she gets good grades and she is also

part of sports. She likes volleyball, basketball, cross-country, track, soccer and cheerleading. "When I study, I try to be alone, pay attention in my classes and I review my notes for the test focusing on my subjects," Gutierrez said. In her free time, she likes to be with her friends, resting and joking around. She was the treasurer of the junior class. Her favorite subject is Pre-Calculus because she is good at solving problems. Her favorite teacher is Mr. Turner because he really cares about his students, she said. After finishing high school, she is planning to major in finance because she is good at mathematics and she really enjoys it. What she likes the most at PPAS is that she lives with her friends. In the future, she is planning to go to UTSA, get a good job and have a family. "Believe in yourself, trust and always expect for the best to happen," Gutierrez said.

PPAS starts new fellowship group

by Jose Manuel Torres
Staff Writer

On Sunday, November 21, 2010, Cross Culture, a Christian fellowship meeting was celebrated at Presbyterian Pan American School (PPAS), under the direction of Marla Hill, who is in charge of Christian activities at PPAS. Cross Culture was hosted at Hill's house. This because she wanted to do an activity where the students could feel a different environment and forget about the daily life problems, she said. "It was a fun day where I got closer with my friends," Alfredo Macias, 17-year-old junior at PPAS said. Junior Carlos Gutierrez, 17-year-old, said that he enjoyed this activity because he forgot all his problems during that time. Every class will celebrate Cross Culture once a month. Seniors and juniors have already assisted, where they played some games and spent a good time together. "I think it is fun and we are going to be able to create closer relationships and so far I am excited that so many students are coming," Hill said.

Veterans Days celebrated at PPAS with members from VFW Post 375

by Enrique Varela
Staff Writer

The Eagle X-Press apologizes for not printing the Veterans day article with its photo in the November Issue.

On November 12, 2010, Presbyterian Pan American School (PPAS) honored Veterans Day to recognize the U.S. armed forces, said Ellie Perez, academic counselor. "When I hear about Vietnam, I think about all the soldiers that died to protect our country," said Boys Dorm Parent Albert Garcia. Garcia was one of the hundreds of soldiers that fought in Vietnam for four years. Perez was the one who organized the assembly that was held at the dining hall. At PPAS, it become a tradition to invite some of the Veterans who participated in this war to come and talk about their experience and also be recognized by the students. Perez said that she likes to encourage all the students to keep in mind the many things these soldiers had to go through so the U.S.A could become the country that it is today. She also said that it's important for students to learn about American culture due to the fact that most of us are from different parts of Mexico, Latin America, Korea and China.

ENTERTAINMENT

Physics students build space colony

by Arnaldo Rodriguez
Staff Writer

The physics class at Presbyterian Pan American School (PPAS) presented the first space colony project, where students had to represent gravity. It was presented by the 4th and 6th period students on November 22 and 23, 2010. "The main purpose of the project was to allow students to express their creativeness utilizing recently learned physics concepts," said Physics Teacher Sylvia Gonzalez. There were thirteen teams explaining their projects. Some teams created posters, other teams did power point

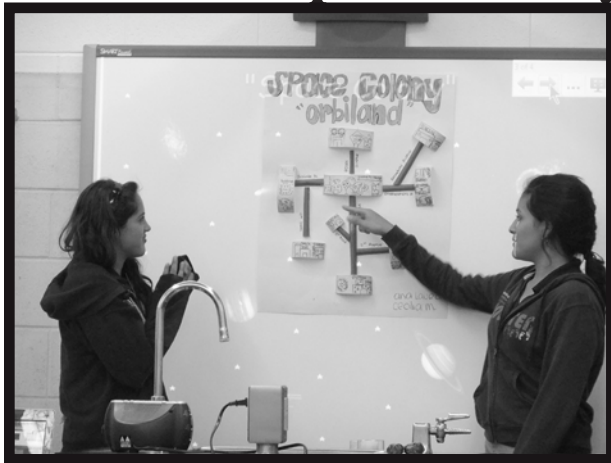


Photo provided by: Sylvia Gonzalez
Ana Laura de Leon and Cecilia Moreno presenting their space colony called "Orbiland."

presentations and a few others made models with materials such as paper, sticks, water bottles, poster boards and foam. "Sandra [Gomez] and I did a model shaped like a watermelon colony, which inside was basically our school," said seventeen-year-old senior Diana Zelaya.

Eighteen-year-old Senior Mauricio Saenz said that he enjoyed watching the other projects, because they were very creative and fun to watch. Gonzalez said that she was proud on how creative the students could be during their presentations.

Christmas Exchange set for December 11

by Alejandro Ochoa
Staff Writer

As almost every family in town prepares to receive Christmas, Presbyterian Pan American School (PPAS) has its own way to celebrate the holidays. For many years PPAS has been participating in a Christmas exchange among students and teachers. Besides the gift exchange, the dining hall also offers a special Christmas dinner with turkey and mash potatoes the choir performs a concert at the chapel in campus, and finally ends with a dance held at the classroom building all on Saturday, December 11. "I think the Christmas gift exchange at Pan Am is a wonderful costume. At public school throughout the students do not exchange gifts traditionally unless it is among friends, and at Pan Am however students draw names and exchange gifts. I'm not aware of how long this costume has existed but it is another example of what makes Presbyterian Pan American School special. Through the exchange of gifts students are able to strengthen their bonds of community and share the joys of Christmas," said World History Teacher Donald Turner. 15-year-old sophomore Nathan Zelaya said that it's a good opportunity to know new people, people that we don't talk to, to know their likes and preferences, and maybe make new friends. "It's a time when we can share the same spiritual energy that Christmas bring towards us by celebrating as a family as we are giving material presents to someone that probably we never spoke to," said 16-year-old sophomore Jimena Gonzalez. 15-year-old sophomore Mathilda Mireles said that the purpose of exchanging gifts is not to buy him or her an expensive gift but to give them a gift that comes from the heart.

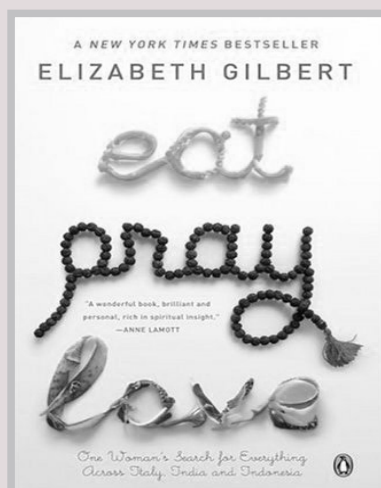
Eat.Pray.Love. invites the reader to start a long trip all over the world and life

by Marian Moranchel
Staff Writer

Eat, Pray, Love is a real story based on its author Elizabeth Gilbert's feelings, love, and hope. Elizabeth had everything a person could wish for, a husband, good economy, a house and is trying to form a bigger family with a baby. One day, during the late night, she realizes how unhappy she really is, how empty her heart is. After this, she decides to get divorce, and gets into a deep depression losing weight and still feels unfulfilled. Elizabeth sets a new goal for her life so she decides to look up for what she needs to be okay with herself, for what she is missing, balance, pleasure and devotion. She goes on a long journey (a year) around the world to learn how to enjoy life in all senses. She goes to Italy, India and Indonesia, places that will change her life. Italy is her first destiny, where she finds the

beauty of their culture and the Italian language. She meets new people and interacts with them feeling better. She had Gelati in the mornings, the original Italian pizza for dinner and some Sardinian wine with her new friends at nights. She plays soccer and socializes celebrating the defeat eating and enjoying life, filling the pleasure emptiness and gaining the 23 pounds she had lost. "Never forget that once upon a time, in an unguarded moment, you recognized yourself as a friend." She thinks at this point. Then, she goes to India for four months. Here she looks up for her spiritual life and finds God within herself and understands why life is so amazing and why every person is rewarded with it. "Look for God like a man with his head on fire looks for water, God is an experience of supreme love," she says. After this, she keeps going and travels to Indonesia where she finds love with Ketut, a medicine wise

man. She explains to him how she would like to live on this planet and enjoy it at the same time, knowing and following God. She feels fulfilled and discovers all she wanted to learn and understand. This is a good book to self-discovery and to see the way people can change their mind in just a blink. "I crossed the street to walk in the sunshine." she says. Indonesia becomes her final destiny.



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