

# Celebrate Thanksgiving



*The Pilgrims came to America to find freedom of religion. After several arrests on trumped up charges and seizures of their lands and property, just under 1000 decided to leave England. About 600 of them escaped in the year of 1607 to the only country in Europe without a state religion, Holland.*



*12 years passed in Holland while these bravehearts aged and their children began to drift into the Dutch culture. They survived in utter poverty. Even the children were required to work 12 hours a day and were forced to give up their education. At this point, these people referred to themselves as Pilgrims instead of Puritans. They came to believe that America was the place God intended for them to go.*

*They began to seek a way to finance the trip halfway around the world with no one to meet them. Tales of the struggles the Jamestown colony faced in 1607 and its eventual demise did not discourage them but only served to warn them that the dangers were high and survival questionable. They pooled their resources to buy the ship Speedwell, but decided only 200 of them could make the first journey. They join their ship, the Speedwell with the Mayflower but the Speedwell springs a leak and the two groups must combine on the Mayflower. There are now only sixteen men, eleven women and fourteen children from the original church beginning a 9 week journey with no cooked food, no bathing, and no room for all to sleep during the night-even on the floor. They crowd 102 passengers into the space for 80. William Bradford became Governor after 3 months on Cape Cod and continued as governor 30 of the next 36 years. He kept a daily journal to record these events, named, Of Plimoth Plantation..*

*During their twelve years of exile, Brewster had acquired a printing press, he prepared to print in the New World. Little did he know that the press would save the crew and the Pilgrims from death when the mast of the Mayflower was damaged during a storm.*

*The Pilgrims would write the Mayflower Compact before stepping onto American shores as the first form of government that was created by men of equal stature, leaving behind the English feudal system of landowners and titles. Little did they know the significance of that seed of democracy and the nation founded a century later on these words: We hold these truths to be self-evident. That all men are created equal, endowed by their Creator with inalienable rights.*



\* Please disregard this offer if your property is currently listed with another realtor.

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- Please enter my name into the drawing for \$100 grocery card.
- I am interested in a free market evaluation of my home
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- I am considering relocating to \_\_\_\_\_.

Please Return by November 30, 2005

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