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The ELI Weekly

*The Weekly Newsletter of
the English Language Institute
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Volunteer Day

Help others while learning English

This Saturday, March 26th, we are holding our second **Volunteer Day** of the spring term. This is your chance to help out the community while practicing your English in a real-life environment. Below is a description of the volunteer activities going on.

We will meet at different times. Students, language assistants, teachers, and staff will meet at the NRN Garage and carpool to the different sites. Please sign up on the Activities Board for your choice of activity by 4pm on Thursday, March 24th.

Join us for the **HABITAT FOR HUMANITY 3-6k RACE** from 6:30-8:30am. We will pick you up. Help with registration, water handling and time keeping as runners go through the race.

Do you like talking with the elderly? Join us at **EMERITUS** from 1:45pm-5pm and then play games and talk with older people. Meet at Cabana Beach rental office.

How about helping the homeless? Volunteer for **ANGEL FOOD MINISTRIES** from 8:30-11am. Help collect, package, and distribute food for the homeless. Meet at Norman Garage.

Want to meet new American friends and UF students? Join us for

PROJECT DOWNTOWN GAINESVILLE from 12:30-2:30pm. Prepare and serve lunch to homeless people. Meet at Norman Garage.

Join us for the **SPRING FESTIVAL AT NORTH FLORIDA REHAB** from 9:45am-12noon. Help residents make arts and crafts projects. Meet at Norman Garage.

Have a great day, everyone!

Notes from the Office

- **Library Fines and Infirmary Fees**—Since we're coming closer to the end of the semester, we just want to remind you that now is a good time to think about clearing up any fees and fines that you might have with the university. **If there are any outstanding balances owed**, we won't be able to release any of your academic information or certificates to you.

Daryl's Hours

Students, Daryl wishes for us to let you know that, effective immediately, he will **only** be available to speak with students on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays, and **not** on Tuesdays and Thursdays.

This includes both walk-ins and appointments.

The Next Trip

Next weekend, on Saturday, April 2nd, we will be going to **Lake Wauburg South for Rock Climbing**. Details about the trip will be on the Activities Board and in next week's *Weekly*.

Manners and Culture

Q: What's the difference between a college and a university?

A: Not as much as there used to be; colleges lately seem to be taking the name university even though they aren't big enough. Traditionally, the main difference is that a university is a larger institution made up of many colleges. Also, even though some older colleges (such as a place like Boston College) retain the name for tradition purposes, they really are universities by this definition.

One major thing that differentiates the whole list is the types of degrees offered. Pretty much you can say that a Community College offers Associate's Degrees (AA, AS), a college offers Bachelor's Degrees (BA, BS), and a

university offers the Bachelor's Degrees plus graduate degrees (MA, MS, and up). Many Community Colleges, such as Santa Fe here in Gainesville, are starting to offer the BA and BS degrees, so they're dropping the word "Community" from their names.

Q: Is the word "redneck" discriminating?

A: Like so many words in this category, it depends on who's using it and how it's used. The term traditionally refers to less-educated, rural southerners (working out in the sun tends to produce a "red neck"). It can be used by such people in a gentle, fun way, but it also can be directed at people to say that you think they are ignorant or backward. In general, unless you're sure, it's best to avoid using such terms.

Q: Why are women so hard to understand?

A: Well, I'd tell you to ask one, but you might not understand the answer.

Q: Why do some students arrive late for class all the time? Is this polite in their own country?

A: Well, I don't know for sure; you'd have to ask them that. However, I can

certainly tell you that, unless it's an extreme emergency, it's considered terribly selfish and rude here!

Birthdays

The following are ELI birthdays from March 25-31:

Students:

March 27: Chia-Yin Tsai

March 30: Hamzah Qadiri

Staff:

March 27: Roxy Fraser

March 30: Sarah Adams

Happy Birthday, one and all!

Grammar

Q: What's the difference between "like" and "such as"?

A: Depending on which grammar book you're reading, when we use "like" to mean "such as" (in other words, to introduce an example or series of examples), it's either slang, conversational, or informal. In other

words, it's incorrect grammar that a lot of people use anyway. "I enjoy many American foods, like pizza and hamburgers," is the way many of us would express such an idea, but the correct way to say it is "I enjoy many American foods, such as pizza and hamburgers."

Student Voices Deadline

Two more weeks, everyone! Steve wants to let you know that the deadline for *Student Voices* submissions is fast approaching. We would like to have everything in by Friday, April 8th. Submissions can include any student work that you might like to see in print. You can submit your entries for the *Voices* to Steve's e-mail at sflocks@ufl.edu. Let's see what you can come up with!

Quote of the Week

Viewed freely, the English language is the accretion and growth of every dialect, race, and range of time, and is both the free and compacted composition of all.

Walt Whitman



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