

ELI Weekly

The Weekly Newsletter of the English Language Institute

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Ichetucknee River Tubing and Snorkeling

This Saturday, **September 9th**, the Cultural Immersion Program (CIP) is sponsoring a snorkeling and tubing trip down the pristine waters of the Ichetucknee River. Come make new friends, see Florida's natural beauty, and join your ELI family for a refreshing day on the river.

We'll meet at the Norman Garage at **9:30am**. Each car will decide when to return, though most will return around 3pm. If you'd like to come, please sign up on the activities board by **Thursday, September 7th**. In case of rain, call 392-3354, extension 230, after 8am to see if the trip has been postponed or cancelled.

Entrance to the park is **\$5** per person. Also, bring another **\$5** to rent an inner tube. There are no snorkeling sets at Ichetucknee Springs, but you can rent equipment from: The Outfitters at Reitz Union (\$4, bring your ID) or The Aquatic Center on Archer Road (\$7.50, call 377-3483). Reserve early!

Also, be sure to bring your **bathing suit, sunscreen, and a lunch**.

Inside this issue:

River Trip | ID's and Gatorlink Accounts | Restaurant Etiquette

Countries Represented

This semester, the ELI is proud to have students from the following countries:

Argentina	Republic of Korea
Brazil	Russia
Chile	Saudi Arabia
Colombia	South Korea
Ecuador	Spain
El Salvador	Sudan
Haiti	Taiwan
Iran	Thailand
Israel	Turkey
Japan	USA
Nicaragua	Venezuela
Portugal	Vietnam

ID Cards/Gatorlink Accounts

This **Friday, September 8th**, we will walk you over to purchase your UF Gator 1 ID and get your UF computer accounts. You will need **\$15** for the ID, your ELI Tuition Receipt, and a photo ID, such as your passport or driver's license. We will meet at the **Norman Hall Garage at 11:45am**.



Manners and Culture

We're looking for your input! If you have a question about U.S. manners and culture, please email our *ELI Weekly* editor, Jen Ramos, at jennlej@hotmail.com, or put questions in her mailbox (marked *Ramos* in the ELI Main Office).

Q: How can I get my waiter's attention in a restaurant?

A: Americans generally treat waiters and waitresses in a polite manner. To get their attention, you can raise your hand slightly so they see you and say, "Miss" for a young woman, "Ma'am," for an older woman, "Sir" for a man, or simply "Excuse me".



In other dining norms, there's no rule about who will pay at the end of the meal. Friends may kindly offer to "treat" you when the check comes or you "treat" them if you're feeling generous. Or you may all agree to pay for your own food or "split" the bill. Also, putting your elbows on the table while you eat is generally considered bad manners as is speaking with your mouth full, chewing loudly or burping.



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Birthdays

Happy birthday to:

September 5: Mohammed Al Zahrani
September 7: Won-Hyuk Bae

A belated birthday wish to:

September 2: Mohammed Alwaheeb



Notes from the Office

Immunization Deadline—Proof of immunizations must be received by Friday, **September 15th**, or you will not be allowed to continue to attend classes. No exceptions.

Class Attendance—Remember, your attendance is very, very important. Your teachers are taking note of both your absences and your tardies in every class, every day. If students miss more than 15% of classes during the semester, they will not receive a certificate.

Also, in many classes your grade will be affected by a large number of absences and tardies.

Student Mailbox—Please come to the office from time to time and check the mailbox for any mail that you may have received. If you are waiting for something and don't see it, you can assume that it hasn't arrived yet.