

ELI Weekly

The Weekly Newsletter of the English Language Institute

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COME ON! LEND A HAND!

Volunteer Day

This **Saturday, September 16th**, we'll be taking part in **Gatorplunge**, a volunteering extravaganza where you'll get to work alongside hundreds of UF students in community projects such as: working with animals, art and culture, youth and development, elder care, the environment, and homelessness. Free breakfast and lunch! Meet at the Plaza of the Americas at **8 am**.

Also open to ELI students is the volunteer project called **Fishing for Success**, a UF sponsored program to hook children on science with an interactive fishing day. We'll meet at Norman Garage at **7:30**.

And yet another possibility to donate your time...playing **bingo** with the residents of **North Florida Rehab**. Meet at 2pm at Norman Garage.

All Week, Every Week

There's something going on with the Cultural Immersion Program every weeknight! Visit the activities board or ask your Language Assistant for more information. No experience or equipment necessary.

Mondays, Basketball with Carol. Meet at the Norman Garage at 5:15. Bring your UF ID.

On **Tuesdays**, Rome coordinates game time: pool and bowling, to be exact. Meet in the Norman Garage at 4:15pm, and bring \$5-\$6 for bowling shoes and pool.

Every **Wednesday**, Allison and Josh host Coffee Talk and shopping at the farmer's market. Meet at either 3 or 5:15pm at Norman Garage, depending on your class schedule. Riding the bus is free with your UF ID, but coffee costs a few dollars at the downtown Starbucks. Bring your bike if you want.

For **Thursdays**, we have soccer with Owen. Meet at Norman Garage at 5:00. Bring your UF ID.

On **Fridays**, Jon will lead a group to Gator Nights, free with your UF ID. Meet at Reitz Union Information desk at 5:45.

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Manners and Culture

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

Q: *Why do so many people like to leave their families in the US?*



A: The truth is most of us don't *like* moving away from our family, but we do it for job or educational opportunities, to explore a new part of the country, to gain a sense of independence, or to "find ourselves," as we like to say. Most colleges and universities provide housing for students. After tasting this initial "liberty", many students never return to live with their families again.

In a culture such as the US, where individualism is highly prized, people enjoy moving about and finding new challenges and fresh environments.



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Birthdays

Happy *belated* birthday to:

Sept. 7: Mehdi Eshaghayan



Apologies, Mehdi! Hope it is was a great one!

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.

Speaking English—Although everyone at the ELI values all of the languages of the world, we know that to learn English, you need to speak English and listen to English. For this reason, if we at the ELI hear you speaking a language other than English on the third floor of Norman Hall, we will ask you to stop. If you are unable to stop speaking the other language, we will ask you to leave the building. Thank you for helping us help you!

Noise—Please remember that there are many offices and classrooms in Norman Hall, other than those of the ELI. Please try to speak quietly in the Norman Hall courtyards, common areas, and hallways.