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The ELI Weekly

The Weekly Newsletter of
the English Language Institute
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Picnic!

Join us and make new friends!

This Saturday will be a fun day in the sun to welcome the new ELI students. All ELI students, staff, and friends are invited. This will be a picnic at Yulee Pit. There will be sports, games and great conversation.

WHEN: Saturday, October 29th at 11:00 am. **Even though this is not a carpool trip, you must sign up on the activities board by 4:00pm on Thursday, October 27th so we know how much food to order. Guests are welcome, but please be sure to sign them up, too!**

WHERE: Behind Broward and Yulee Halls (Across 13th Street from the ELI).

COST: This trip is completely FREE!

WHAT TO BRING: Wear tennis shoes and sun-block for sports and activities. We will provide the food so come hungry!!

Everyone is welcome!

Halloween Party

The ELI invites you to come to our **Halloween Costume Party!!!** Show

off your costume to your friends at the ELI. There will be food, music, and a prize for the best costume and maybe even a pumpkin contest!

When: The Halloween party will be from 6:30 pm to 9:30 pm on Monday, October 31st, the night of Halloween.

Where: Gainesville Place Clubhouse at 2800 SW 35th Place Gainesville, FL 32608. The website is: www.gainesvilleplace.com

Cost: The party is totally free, but we hope everyone who attends will bring a spooky snack for all to enjoy whether it's chips, cookies, brownies, cupcakes, or something from your country.

What to Bring: Remember to wear a Halloween costume!!! **There will be a contest and a prize for the best costume!** If you want to participate in a pumpkin carving contest, bring a pumpkin that is already carved or decorated.

Come enjoy one of America's spookiest and enjoyable holidays! We can't promise you'll ever be the same again.

Notes from the Office

Student Mail: Please remember to check from time to time to see if you have any mail from home or from other sources. The student mailbox is a tray located on the shelf immediately below and on the right-hand side of the teachers' mailboxes just inside the door in the ELI Main Office.

The Next Trip

Next weekend, we will be going to Homecoming Parade and Gator Growl! Details will be on the Activities Board and in next week's *Weekly*.

Birthdays

The following are ELI Birthdays for the week of October 28- November 3:

Students:
October 28: Jackson Alzahrani
October 29: Kanghee Cho
October 30: Abb Aldossary
October 31: Kiswendsida Ramde
November 1: Junghyun Kwon
November 2: Alejandra W. Guzman
November 3: Ali Labban

Staff:
October 28: Judith Strack
November 3: Marpessa Reitbergen

Happy Birthday one and all!

Manners and Culture

Q: What's Halloween and why is it such a popular holiday in the US?

A: It's actually a combination of ancient Celtic and early Christian traditions. In Europe, All Hallows Eve (the night before All Saints' Day—November 1 on the calendar) was said to be a night when ghosts and spirits would roam the earth; people carved scary faces in vegetables and left them out to scare the spirits away. This tradition is carried on in modern times with the carved pumpkins. In the 20th century, it became a popular holiday for children. And, so many of us remember fun at Halloween as kids that it has gradually become a holiday that adults enjoy as well!

Q: Why is the US a multicultural nation?

A: We've always been a nation of immigrants. From the start of American history, from the standpoint of European colonization, the American story is one of many different people coming here for many different reasons, including freedom from religious persecution, economic opportunity, and the sheer adventure of starting something new.

Q: How do people in the US visit other states other than by plane or car?

A: Well, those are the big ones. There is also the Greyhound Bus system, which is often the least expensive option (though it can also take the longest), and many of our larger cities are also linked by Amtrak train, particularly in the Northeastern US.

Q: Why do some Americans not like to say their age?

A: Among taboo questions for us, the questions that involve numerical

comparison are usually on the list. We also don't like to talk about money, physical measurements, or even things like our grades in school.

Grammar

Q: What's the difference between "who" and "whom"?

A: Technically, "who" is a subject pronoun and "whom" is an object pronoun. The problem is, we're increasingly not using "whom" at all, particularly in spoken English. The only time it's absolutely required in spoken English is if you put a preposition first. And most people don't even do that!

Quote of the Week

The best index to a person's character is
(a) how he treats people who can't do him any good, and
(b) how he treats people who can't fight back.

--Abigail van Buren

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