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The ELI Weekly

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Hoggetowne Medieval Faire *Journey back to Europe's Middle Ages!*

This Saturday, January 24th, we will be going here in Gainesville to the **Hoggetowne Medieval Faire!**

The Hoggetowne Medieval Faire is a festival where people remember and celebrate the **medieval times**. Step back in time, cheer on **royal knights** as they joust on horseback and charge head-on at a full gallop with only a lance and shield to defend themselves. Watch a chess game played out with **human chess pieces** on the Living Chessboard! Laugh along with **jugglers, magicians** and a colorful cast of characters! There will be plenty of **great food and fun**. This is a wonderful place to bring your family and children.

WHEN: Saturday, January 24th. We will meet at Norman Garage at 11:30 AM. We will probably return around 3:00-4:00 PM depending on what time your car leaves. This is a carpool trip so you must sign up on the activities board by 4:00 PM Thursday, January 22nd.

COST: Admission is \$12 for adults (Noreen has a \$1 off coupon in the office), \$6 for children ages 5-17 and free for children 4 and younger. Bring money for food. You should also

bring some spending money if you would like to buy gifts and souvenirs!

If it rains Saturday morning call 392-3354 ext. 230 before 10:00 AM and listen to the message to see if the trip has been cancelled

Have a great day, everyone!

Notes from the Office

- **ELI T-Shirts**-Don't forget, we have the ELI T-Shirts for sale in the ELI main office, \$10 each, sizes S, M, L, X-L, 2X, cash only, exact change, sold from 8:30am-1:30pm.
- **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.
- **Student Mailbox**-Don't forget to check the student mailbox in the main office from time to time. There is mail for some returning students already.

Smoking and Butts

Folks, the university has become very, very serious about smoking areas and

litter. They are targeting smoking areas in a new campaign to enforce them in general and to reduce the amount of litter thrown on the ground around them.

Here at Norman Hall, the only officially sanctioned smoking area is at the two tables right under the tree at the edge of the small parking lot on the north side of the building, directly across from the Credit Union. The two tables in the middle of the parking lot are NOT a smoking area.

University Police will be watching to make sure that people do not throw their cigarette butts on the ground any longer. This is considered litter. People caught throwing their litter on the ground will be issued citations to appear in court, and the fine for littering is \$500. Don't risk it, please. Be sure to carefully put out your cigarettes and throw the butts in the trash bin.

The Next Trip

Next weekend, we will be here in Gainesville for our first **Volunteer Day** of the semester. Details about the trip will be on the Activities Board and in next week's *Weekly*.

IRS Tax Forms

All international students are required to file a tax form in the United States. You are required to file this form, even if you have no income. The deadline to file if you have no income is June 15. The deadline to file if you have income from any source other than bank interest (like an on-campus job), is April 15.

You can find the form you need to complete and the directions on how to complete it at:

<http://www.irs.gov/pub/irs-pdf/f8843.pdf>

You can also find many answers to your questions on the UF

International Center tax page:

<http://www.ufic.ufl.edu/taxesfaq.htm>

You can also always make an appointment to speak with Barbara if you have questions.

Don't forget!

Your Student ID is Forever!

There has been some confusion about ELI students concerning the UF Student ID and Grad School Application. The UF Student ID assigned to you when you arrived at the ELI (the number on your Gator1 Card) is your official UF ID number forever. This is the **only** number you will be assigned during your studies at UF. When you apply on-line for graduate school at the University of Florida it is very important for you to

check "Yes, I already have a UF ID" and for you provide the number. If you check "No, I do not have a UF ID number" a duplicate record will be created for you, which will delay your application process. If you have any questions about applying to UF, you can make an appointment to speak with Barbara in 315.

Birthdays

The following are ELI Birthdays for the week of January 23-29:

Students:

January 25: Wagner Guzman

January 26: Dongwook Kim

Staff:

January 26: Joel Deacon

Manners and Culture

Q: What are the rules for drinking alcohol?

A: Well, in almost all places in the US, you have to be at least 21 to do it. And, if you do it and you drive, you risk losing your license and paying hefty fines and going to jail (not to mention the possibility of killing or injuring someone). Also, if you're under 21 and use a fake ID to do it, you risk fines, jail, and deportation. On that same note, it's illegal to provide alcohol to anyone under 21.

Here in Gainesville, we also have what's called an open-container law. It's illegal to be outside walking

around with an open container of alcohol. The fact that many people actually do it during UF football game times doesn't actually change this.

Q: Why are the teachers really strict with punctuality?

A: Well, first and foremost, they are all required by official ELI policy to be strict with both punctuality and attendance. Also, it's a very strong cultural point of view for us. To Americans, it's rude and arrogant to be late—it indicates that you think that your own time is more valuable than everyone else's. In the classroom in particular, it's difficult to get things going for all the students if all the students aren't there.

Grammar

Q: What is the difference between "have to" and "had to"?

A: Tense. "Have to" is for present or future requirements and "had to" is for past obligations that you actually performed. For past obligations that you *didn't* perform (and you regret that you didn't), we use "should have".

Quote of the Week

If you want your life to be more rewarding, you have to change the way you think.

--Oprah Winfrey

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