

## Highlights

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# The ELI Weekly

The Weekly Newsletter of  
the English Language Institute  
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## Volunteer Day

*Help others while helping yourself!*

This Saturday, March 24<sup>th</sup>, we are

holding our second major **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 this weekend.

We will meet at different times. Students, language assistants, teachers, and staff will meet and head to the different sites.

Please sign up on the Activities Board for your choice of activity by 4pm on Thursday, March 22<sup>nd</sup>.

There is no cost to volunteer. Wear old, comfortable clothes and closed shoes. You should bring water to each volunteering activity.

**Wilmot Gardens:** Come plant flowers and trees and help make this on-campus garden beautiful! Meet at the Norman Garage at 8:15am.

**Two Tail Ranch:** We will be cleaning up the entrance to the ranch and helping with the landscaping. Meet at the Norman Garage at 8:15am.

**Rabbit Rescue:** We will be cleaning cages and litter boxes, grooming the rabbits, and taking them out for exercise! Meet at the Norman Garage at 8:15am.

**St. Francis House:** We will be preparing food and feeding the homeless! Meet at the Norman Garage at 9:30am.

**Emeritus:** Interact with elderly residents, play Wii games, and practice your English. Great fun for the whole family! Meet at the Norman Garage at 2:00pm.

If you have any questions about any of the activities, see Raquel in the CIP Office, Room 318.

## The Next Trip

Next weekend, we will be going to **St. Augustine!** This is a bus trip. PLEASE reserve your spot on the bus by signing up and buying a bus pass early. You can begin buying bus passes Monday, March 19<sup>th</sup> between 9am and 12:30pm (starting 10:30 a.m. on Tuesday) from Nate in Norman 318. Please bring \$20 cash, exact change, and your Gator 1 ID cards.

Details about the trip will be on the Activities Board and in next week's *Weekly*.

## Student Voices Deadline

Three 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 6<sup>th</sup>. 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!

## Summer C 2012 Deadlines

If you are returning for the Summer semester, please be aware of the following deadlines.

**Check in online, by phone, fax, email or in person:**

*Summer C students:* Between May 10 - May 15, 2012

*Summer B students:* Between June 21 - June 25, 2012

**Pay tuition online**

*Summer C students:* before May 15

*Summer B students:* before June 25

If you are going home, and want to return to the United States, before you leave, you must get your I-20 signed. When you return, you must bring your new I-94 to the main office and you must report to the Student Health Care Center for a PPD evaluation. Students returning for the Summer B term must contact Daryl 30 days prior to June 25 (May 25) in order to request a change from "terminated" to "active" status in SEVIS.

If you are taking a vacation semester, you must let us know before May 21, 2012.

If you do not check in on time, there will be a \$100 fee and you may not be permitted to enroll.

## Notes from the Office

**Be courteous!** Please treat everyone, including your teachers, LAs, office staff, and classmates respectfully by not say bad words in English nor in your native language. This also means speaking softly in the hallways and using English.

**ELI Video Competition:** Remember to submit on your videos soon! The deadline is Friday, April 20<sup>th</sup> in the CIP Office (Rm 318). Check the ELI Facebook page for more details.

**Immunizations & Insurance:** Remember that if you received a green note from Emily, you need to take care of it immediately. Please see Emily in Norman 316 if you don't understand the note. **If you have to miss class because of an issue with immunizations or insurance, it counts as an absence.**

## Birthdays

The following are ELI Birthdays for the week of March 19 to March 25. I also missed one last week; I'm sorry!

Students:

March 17: Chen Cao  
March 19: Jose Coello Ortiz  
March 19: Sooyoun Choi  
March 20: Latifah Almulhim  
March 20: Hye Won Lee  
March 24: Hyung Rai Oh  
March 25: Majed Alasmari

Staff:

None this week.

Happy Birthday, one and all!

## Spring B Places of Origin

The following is a list of the many places of origin of our new Spring B students:

Bolivia	Kuwait
Brazil	Libya
Chile	Saudi Arabia
Iraq	Thailand
Japan	Turkey
Korea	

## Manners and Culture

*Q: Why do Americans use so much plastic?*

A: Plastic is cheap, convenient, very versatile and easy to mold. As a nation, we're growing more awareness of the negative effects, though, and trying not to throw it away.

*Q: I often see American flags in front of restaurants, classrooms, houses, buildings and so on. In my country, we hang our flag only on specific days. I wonder why American flags are always hanging outside?*

A: Just a simple cultural point for us. The flag is a very strong symbol of patriotism in the US, and it has been for most of our existence. Study the lyrics to our national anthem—you'll find that the song is about seeing the flag in the middle of a battle. Interestingly, there's now even a law in the State of Florida that requires that all state classrooms must have one!

## Grammar

*Q: What's the difference between "not" and "non"?*

A: "Not" is a word that can be put in front of other words. "Non" is a prefix that attaches to the words. They mean the same thing, which is the negative of the word, but you'll need to memorize which words take "non", "un", "dis", "anti" and so on. Be careful, however, since they can have slightly different meanings.

- The children are *not* interested in the case.
- The children are *uninterested* in the case.
- The judge is *disinterested* in the case.

*Q: What does "he was disappeared by the government" mean? Why not say "he disappeared"?*

A: The word "disappear" is intransitive which means it usually doesn't take an object. This also means that it usually can't be made passive, the same way that "die" can't be passive. In the 1980s, magicians started using "disappear" with objects to explain what they did in their jobs. Look at the following examples:

- The Statue of Liberty disappeared.
- The Statue of Liberty was disappeared by David Copperfield.
- David Copperfield disappeared the Statue of Liberty.

## Quote of the Week

Too often we underestimate the power of a touch, a smile, a kind word, a listening ear, an honest compliment, or the smallest act of caring, all of which have the potential to turn a life round.

Leo Buscaglia

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