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# The ELI Weekly

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

*Help others while helping yourself!*

### Volunteer Weekend

We are holding our first **Volunteer Day** of the summer term on Saturday, May 24<sup>th</sup>. This is your chance to help out the community while practicing your English in a real-life environment.

**When:** Saturday, May 24<sup>th</sup>. See below for meeting times.

**Cost:** Free! Wear comfortable clothes and sneakers. You should bring water to each volunteering activity.

**Gainesville Rabbit Rescue:** Help rabbits that have been abused. Groom rabbits, move and clean cages, and clean the area. Meet at Norman Garage at 9:00am.

**Guardian Angels:** Interact with service dogs that help many people who have mental or physical disabilities. Meet at Norman Garage at 9:00am.

**Little Orange Creek:** Learn about Hawthorne's history while cleaning up an old cemetery. Learn about plants, animals, and historical sites like cemeteries. There are many animals such as deer, birds, and even snakes. Meet at Norman Garage at 11:00am.

**Project Downtown Gainesville:** Help feed the homeless in the downtown Bo' Diddle Community plaza. Meet at Norman Garage at 12:45pm.

**Emeritus:** Come out to Emeritus and engage the elderly residents with fun conversation and/or games. Great fun for the whole family! Meet at the Norman Garage at 1:30pm. You can also meet us at Emeritus at 2pm if you live close by.

Please sign up on the Activities Board for your choice of activity by 4pm on Thursday, May 22<sup>nd</sup> but don't sign up for an activity if it is already full. Arrive **ON TIME** at Norman Garage! If you have any questions about any of the activities, see Tiffany in the CIP Office, Room 318.

### The Next Trip

Next weekend, we will be going to **Blue Springs**. Details about the trip will be on the Activities Board and in next week's *Weekly*.

### Afternoon Activities

Join us for the following activities this week:

**Wednesday:** *Coffee Talk* at the Starbucks on Archer Road, 6:30-9:30pm. Bring money for drinks and snacks.

**Thursday:** *Volleyball* at Lexington Crossing, 6:30-9:30pm. Free!

**Friday:** *Five Guys* on Archer Road, 7:30-9:30pm. Bring about \$10 for dinner.

### Notes from the Office

**Withdrawing from the ELI or one course:** Students who withdraw from a course or from the ELI after the drop/add deadline will not be able to receive a refund or credit for their courses. Their transcript will have a grade of W (withdraw) by the deadlines published in the Student Guide.

**Feeling Sick?** If you get sick, you should send your teachers an email from home or talk to them when you get back. If you are going to be out for 3 or more days, please call the office and let us know.

**Student Mailbox:** Please come to the office from time to time and check the mailbox for any mail that you may have. If you are waiting for something and do not see it, however, you may assume that it has not come yet, and you will not need to ask in the office.

**No class:** Monday, May 26<sup>th</sup> is Memorial Day. The ELI Office will be closed, there will be no classes, and the buses will not be running. Enjoy your day off!

### UF Services

**Libraries:** UF has great libraries and you have full access to them if you need to study. If you want to check out books, you'll need to pay your tuition, get a Gator 1 ID, and get it activated at the Education

Library in Norman Hall. You can check out a maximum of 5 books for a week.

**Recreational Facilities:** UF has a number of gyms and recreational facilities on campus. As ELI students, you are able to use the pools, Lake Wauburg, Florida Gym, O'Connell Center weight rooms, and other outdoor fields and courts for free by showing your Gator 1 card. However, the Student Recreation & Fitness Center, the Southwest Recreation Center, and the Broward Outdoor Recreation Center are funded by UF degree-seeking student activity fees so they are not free. If you want to use these facilities, you need to pay a membership fee. You can talk to Emily if you have questions.

**Parking:** Very important! If you drive to the ELI, you need to purchase a parking decal to park on the UF campus. You'll need to get a letter from Olga in 315 Norman to purchase a Park & Ride decal. If you don't have a parking decal, you are likely to get a very expensive ticket. Once you get a Park & Ride decal, you may park in the Red and Red One sections of Norman Garage but not in the Orange section. This is only for the summer!

## Manners and Culture

*Q: I go to restaurants a lot and I don't understand when I should tip. What restaurants should I tip at?*

At restaurants where you have full service from a waiter like The Top or Gator Suyaki, you should leave between 15% to 20% of the total bill. If your bill was \$25 and you leave \$2, **this is not enough!**

Some full-service restaurants nowadays automatically include an 18% gratuity in the bill for large groups. If you're splitting the bill and the restaurant didn't add the gratuity, make sure you calculate it and add it.

At restaurants that have partial service like Tijuana Flats or Bentos, where you order at a register and they bring the food to your table, it's nice to leave a small amount. Here \$2 is ok, usually on your credit card receipt.

Restaurants that are complete self-service like Maude's or Leonardo's where you order at the counter and then pick it up at the cashier, it's not necessary to leave a tip. However, if they were extra friendly or helpful, it's always nice to leave a couple of dollars for the tip.

Tipping in restaurants is particularly important here in the US; servers in restaurants in Florida have a minimum wage of only \$4.77 an hour, which is much less than the Florida minimum wage of \$7.79.

## Grammar

*Q: When can I use on when talking about transportation?*

A: *On* is used for mass transportation that requires a ticket. Also use *on* for *bicycle*, *horse*, and *motorcycle*. For personal modes of transportation like cars, vans, and trucks, use *in*.

- I got on the bus.
- I got on my horse.
- I got in my car.

## Quote of the Week

The man who does not read good books has no advantage over the man who can't read them.

**Mark Twain**



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