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CIES Nole News

The Weekly Publication for the FSU Center for Intensive English Studies

The Frederick L. Jenks
Center for
Intensive
English Studies
at The Florida State University
Volume 1, Issue 3



Getting Ready for Springtime! *Springtime Tallahassee Festival*

It has been a cold winter in many

parts of the United States, but, thankfully, winter is almost over and spring is coming soon. To celebrate the changing seasons, Tallahassee has a big festival every year. **This year's Springtime Tallahassee Festival is Saturday March 28.** The festival always happens in late March or early April, which is a time when the weather is mild and many flowers are in bloom. Many thousands of people from Tallahassee and all over the region come to this festival. There is a **parade**, great music, and a lot of fun things to eat, buy, and experience. Everybody at CIES, especially those students with children, should plan to attend!

Springtime Tallahassee Run

To start off the festival, there are a few running races. The first race is only 1 mile, but the other races are 5 kilometers and 10 kilometers. Some people can run very long distances, but other people can sign up for the short 1 mile race. Even if you do not run, you should still sign up to walk the race! The money collected is used to benefit two charities: one **charity** helps homeless animals that are in need of homes and the other charity helps give children after-school programs to make their lives better. You will have a fun time walking or running with friends, and you can help people! Please go to <http://www.springtime10k.com> to sign-up or get more information.

CAMPING !!

During the CIES spring break, there will be a camping trip on March 25th and 26th. This trip will help you make new friends and enjoy the beautiful nature in North Florida.

Important Announcements

Stay Clean & Drink water

In a few weeks, the weather will become very warm in Tallahassee. Since many of you spend a lot of time outdoors, we encourage all of our students to shower regularly. Even though you may smell good in the morning, you might not smell as fresh in listening class. One way to solve this problem is to bathe or shower regularly!



Another important habit is to drink plenty of water – your body loses water when you sweat, so drinking lots of fluid will keep you healthy.

Knocking on the Door

Lacey and Peggy have an office that is right next to the front desk at CIES. Lacey and Peggy both love to help students, but they also have many other important jobs to do. If you need to ask either of them a question in their office, please knock on the door. If the door is closed, you must knock! It is very impolite to open a door without knocking. We learn reading skills at CIES, so if the sign says 'please knock', then make sure you obey the sign.

Getting to Know: Joshua Valentine

Joshua is a man of many talents. Not only is he an experienced teacher, but he is also a mechanic. If you ever see a 1977 Volkswagen van on campus, chances are it belongs to Josh Valentine. One of the coolest things about Josh is his van. He has had the van since 2004, and he spends a lot of time taking care of it. Even though the van is over 35 years old, he was able to drive it all the way to Canada last summer. Josh has traveled many places, but he is actually originally from Tallahassee. He even attended **preschool** right here on the FSU campus back in 1994! He has loved Florida State for many years because many people in his family also went to FSU. Another of Josh's biggest **passions** is riding a bicycle. Bicycling is an important form of



transportation and Josh volunteers with The Bicycle House which is an organization that tries to get people to ride bikes. Josh believes that "the bicycle is part of a **sustainable** future." Next time you see Josh, ask him questions about bikes, and that will definitely make him smile.

FSU Campus Events

Never be bored!

Sporting Events:

Wednesday 3/11: Baseball @4pm

Thursday 3/12: Softball @ 5pm & 7pm

Friday 3/13: Baseball @ 6pm

Saturday 3/14: Softball @ 4pm & 6pm

Saturday 3/14: Baseball @ 6pm

Sunday 3/15: Softball @ Noon

Sunday 3/15: Baseball @ 1pm

Tuesday 3/17: Softball @ 6pm

Softball games are played at the Joanne Graf softball field – located on Spirit Way next to the soccer field (north of the baseball stadium)

Quote of the Week

The secret of happiness is not doing what we like but in liking what we do.
–J.M. Coetzee

Special Thanks ☺

A very special thanks to **Sana McHarek** and **Lisa McClellan** for proofreading each issue of *Nole News*.

Happy Birthday



Palingwende Joseph Ilboudo (March 12)

Culture Question

Q: Can I request discounts or haggle at American retail businesses?

A: The simple answer is no. Many businesses in America are run as corporations and are not flexible in their prices. Every business, even smaller businesses, must pay sales tax which usually requires that the price for an item be final. If you go to places like Chinatown in New York City, you will find that **haggling** is common. In Florida you will find informal markets called flea markets. Flea markets are places where you can often haggle for a better price. However, do not worry! Many American businesses have wonderful sales and coupons. Stores such as Kohl's, Macy's, and Publix often have coupons in the store, and they are easily available online. If you shop at any of those stores, you can ask any of the employees about coupons, and chances are they will have some in the store. You can also find coupons on the internet (using your phone), and you can usually save some money.

Language Questions

Question: What's the difference between 'it's' and 'its'?

A: This is a common question and it is a mistake that many native English speakers make. **It's** is a contraction for it + is. It is similar to other contractions such as *I'm*, *you're*, *we're*, and *they're*. **Its** is a possessive adjective similar to the words *my*, *your*, *our*, and *their*. An easy way to remember is to ask yourself: Can I break it down into two words? If you can, then use the contraction **it's**.

- **It's** really warm outside today! (You can separate this into two words: it + is)
- A bird will lose **its** feathers in the winter. (The feathers belong to the bird.)

Question: Why is it incorrect to say "I have lots of homeworks?"

A: The word *homeworks* does not exist in English. Even if all of your teachers give you homework assignments, then you still cannot use the word homeworks. Homework is a non-count noun. Non-count nouns are never plural. Other similar non-count words are information and research. It is also incorrect to say informations and researches (as a noun).

- I have way too many homeworks tonight. (INCORRECT)
- I have way too much homework tonight. (CORRECT)



strength. skill. character.

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This week's vocabulary:

parade (noun) – a large public celebration featuring groups marching down a road or street

charity (noun) – an organization that helps the poor, ill, or helpless

preschool (noun) – school that a child attends before kindergarten (between the ages of 4 and 6)

passion (noun) / passionate (adj) – a powerful emotion; to care very much about a hobby or occupation

sustainable (adj) – involving ways to use without destroying natural resources

haggle (verb) – to bargain with someone in hopes of lowering the price