

Student Newsletter

(Sample Issues of THE ESL TIMES)

January 2002

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ESL SGA

Community Participation

Martin Luther King, Jr.

March 2002

Highlights:

Safety and Security

International Drivers' Licenses

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The Tax Process

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Let It Snow! —By Kriszti Kele

"Santa Claus!
Santa Claus!
Where is the snow?
Where is the ice?
What happened to our
White Christmas?
There wasn't even one
snowflake."

Although the snow is gone, everyone still remembers the winter days we had early January.

For North Carolina it was a big deal. The snow was the principal topic of conversations in the stores, in the places of work and, of course, in our school on Wednesday. And that afternoon the snow arrived.

So on Thursday and Friday students skipped school and enjoyed the snow around their home.

Schools and businesses were closed everywhere.

The food stores made money on Wednesday. People bought milk, eggs, and bread because they didn't know when they would be able to shop again. The stores were almost empty on Thursday, but by Friday people were out shopping again. Children stayed home from school and made snowmen or played in the snow.

European students probably thought the snow should have happened at Christmas time. A "White Christmas" is really necessary for Europeans to feel good about the Christmas season.

For Lumir and Slavka

(Czech Republic) the snow created an illusion of a European winter. However, Tamara (Puerto Rico) was surprised because it was first time she ever saw the white wonder. She took pictures of the snow to send home. Finally, the snow reminded me of the mischievous things I did when I was a child. It seems everyone enjoyed the snow.



Since the snow disappeared so quickly, our ESL class used our break time to make our own "snowmen"

SGA Elections Loom

An important component of the ESL/Civics Grant is the creation of a Student Government Association (SGA) housed within the Basic Skills Program. The SGA will have two members from each of the intermediate and advanced ESL classes that meet on Main Campus and Ft. Bragg.

Elections will be held on January 30, 2002. To be eligible for election, each candidate must be a student in good standing. He/she must regularly attend class and must be willing to attend SGA meetings every Wednesday afternoon.

The Student Government Association is similar

to what is called an extra-curricular activity. Participation is an excellent way to demonstrate leadership skills and other qualities that employers look for when considering people for positions. Membership on the SGA looks great on a résumé and is a great way to help other ESL students.

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Special points of interest:

- Photos and Article—Food Drive Field Trip
- Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday
- Student News from each ESL/Civics class
- Crossword Puzzle
- Information about community organizations
- Lots and lots of photos

Civics Education = Community Participation — By Kriszti Kele

Forty-nine ESL/Civics students and faculty members from Ft. Bragg, Main Campus, and the Family Literacy Program traveled to a warehouse on Forsythe Street to take part in the Heart of Carolina Food Drive. They were met and welcomed by Teresa Rundlett and Rusty Long of Fayetteville Urban Ministries.

Students learned how to separate food into the basic food groups. Some students weren't sure what artichoke hearts were. (What kind of animal is an artichoke and why do people eat its heart?) Most of the students had no clue about grits and couldn't imagine eating them for breakfast. There was a lot of curiosity about American food—how Americans often use canned vegetables instead of fresh, how long food lasts in a can or a box, and why some rice, pastas, and cereals are packed in boxes rather than bags. Some students didn't know how rich in protein peanut butter is—they thought peanut butter wasn't very appetizing and certainly didn't know that it had nutritional value.

After sorting several bins of food onto pallets, students learned how to create a basic bag of food for the 2001 Christmas Opportunity Program. Two students created double bags of plastic and gave them to the assembly line food pickers. Faculty members and some students worked at different pallets, each with an assigned number of cans or packages to give to the students who passed

by. Other students worked behind tables and received the food packages that were created. As the completed bags were received, they were tied and placed 20-22 bags to a bin for distribution on December 18th to approximately 900-1000 needy Fayetteville families.

FTCC students and faculty were responsible for sorting and packing at least 160 bags of this food.

Students learned many things. First, they had to follow directions. They had to learn the names of different types of food and decide if the foods were meats, vegetables, starches, sweets, and fruit. They had to work cooperatively to accom-

plish a common goal—that of creating a bag of food in accordance with a written plan. These are skills that are used in factories and other places of work where assembly lines are used to produce an end product.

In addition to learning work place skills, students came away with an understanding that Americans reach out to those in need. There are homeless people in America and the working poor, but even the poorest person in this country is taken care of. It is an American cultural belief that no one should ever die from hunger in this land. Americans offer assistance to those in need and people who receive assistance often return the favor when they are financially more secure.

The participants felt very good about this project. They learned that their efforts made a difference. People that

they may never meet had a brighter holiday season because the students put words into action and demonstrated that they care.

Spirits were up—a few students even remarked that they now felt like it was really Christmas.



Kyong Cooper, Hyun Sook Lee, and Malai Nammarit sort food products.



Anna Maren Spellmann takes food which has been sorted by Thy Purvis and Victoria Brower to the proper areas prior to the food being packed.



Edwin Alices fills bags for Ngoanch "Ann" Nguyen and other students with canned fruit.



Kyong Yun passes out boxes of stuffing for holiday turkeys.



Yoconda Joel verifies the content of each can of beans, meats, fruit or other canned products.

ESL Board of Elections Named

On January 16, 2002, four students were named to the ESL Board of Elections. Dioselin Gonzalez, Asako Hagy, Naruemon Hennemann, and Hyo Suk Kirschenmann are responsible for registering voters in their respective classes.

To register to vote, an ESL student must have an official FTCC Student Identification Card (or an application for a card that has been signed by the instructor). The student must also attend an average minimum of 11 hours per week and must fill out and submit a registration form no later than 12:00 noon on Friday, January 25, 2002.

After the registration period closes, the Board of Elections members will pre-

pare an alphabetical list of the registered voters in their respective classes. That list will be used to check off the names of the voters as they vote for the members of the Student Government Association on Election Day.

The Board of Elections was also responsible for collecting a copy of the SGA candidacy form that each candidate for election must submit. Students had to fill out their candidacy forms and turn them in no later than Friday, January 18, 2002. From these forms, ballots for each class will be prepared.

On Election Day, January 30th, voters will be able to vote from 9:00 until 11:00 in their classrooms. Each classroom will

have a polling area where the Board of Elections member will sit. As students decide to vote, they will approach the voting area and state their name. The Board of Elections representative will check off the voter's name and hand him/her a ballot to be filled out in secret. Once the voter has voted, the ballot will be placed in a sealed ballot box.

At 11:00, the Board of Elections members will be escorted to the Basic Skills Conference Room where each ballot box will be opened individually. The ballots will be counted and the election results will be certified by the Board of Elections members who witness the counting of the ballots. The winners of the election will then be announced in each classroom.

Army Community Service — By Maricela Ramos

The Army Community Service (ACS) is an important part of the Army's program to assist soldiers and their families in meeting specific needs. ACS offers a wide variety of programs.

The Relocation Assistance Program (RAP) provides welcome packets to newcomers and also has information for people moving to other military installations.

The Information and Referral Program (I&R) helps military families connect to community resources both on and off Fort Bragg.

The Lending Closet helps families who are moving by allowing them to borrow household items while the family's goods

are in transit. Items available include: small electrical appliances, pots, pans, dishes, ironing boards, infant car seats, cribs, and high chairs.

The Community Life Program trains family members for responsibilities within the military community. Family Support Group members and post housing mayors learn skills that help them assist others.

The Exceptional Family Member Program provides information, screening, and referral for families with special

needs.

There are other programs as well. The ACS always needs volunteers. The ACS provides volunteer training which can later become an asset on a résumé. Volunteers are recognized on a regular basis.

For more information, you can go to Bldg. 1-3571, Community Center, Wing G-2, Corner of Knox and Randolph Streets. You can also call 396-8682/396-4120. The hours of operation are 8:30—5:00, Monday to Friday.

The ACS provides volunteer training which can later become an asset on a résumé.

The Hispanic Latino Center — By Tamara Pérez

In September 1998, a Hispanic group in Fayetteville met to discuss some issues of the Hispanic Community. They observed a lot of needs and decided to form an organization for Hispanic people.

With the help of volunteers, the Hispanic/Latino Center was organized. It has participated in some projects to improve life for the Hispanic population.

Various educational courses are offered in Partnership with FTCC. There are free

Spanish and English Classes. The "Tertulia" is an opportunity to practice our Spanish and English skills. There are also free job search classes.

The Center provides referrals for immigration, discrimination, health, and legal issues.

The Hispanic/Latino Center promotes the interests of the Hispanic/Latino Community in Cumberland and surrounding counties. It serves to identify services

and resources available in the community and facilitate their access. It also seeks to promote and share different Hispanic cultures.

Contact:

Hispanic/Latino Center
Address: 351 Wagoner Drive Suite 155 (Omni Family Resource Center)
Phone: (910) 321-1492
Fax: (910) 321-1495
Email: HL.Center@mindspring.com

Marge Walter's Class— By Rute Filipe

Why Do I Need Advanced ESL Classes?

All the students gave their answer to this question. You probably have the same reasons as they do.

"I want to integrate in society and be a part of it."

"English is one of the most spoken languages. In my country many things are written in English, like computer programs."

"I would like to study at a college, to work and speak with native speakers about everything that I'm interested in."

"I want to get along with neighbors and American friends."

"To talk with people; to be able to go to the doctor."

"I'm an ESL student and I'm very

proud of myself."

"To help my son with his homework."

"So I can solve any problem by myself."

"It helps you get a job, go to college and understand US culture and be a part of it."

"It builds confidence."



From left to right: Students Soon Chul Yoo a.k.a. "Tom", Hyo Suk Kirschenmann, and Rute Filipe work hard on "Catch Up Day"

Everyday we study idiomatic expressions, grammar and vocabulary. We also write some assignments and we discuss topics together so we can improve our conversation skills also.

Everyday we study these subjects at a different time so everyone, no matter what time he or she comes in, has a chance to study all these things.

Once a week we do a review. It's called "Catch Up Day". Each of us picks a subject we need to study, works on it, and then our teacher corrects our work and lets us know what aspects need to be improved. It's a form of individualized help.

Our class shares ideas and works very hard to learn. We are in the advanced level but we want to keep going. We are very thankful for all we have. We recommend these classes to all our foreign friends that live here.

Janis Holden-Toruño's Class— By Kriszti Kele

It's early Monday morning— 7:50 AM.

I'm still trying to wake up as I enter my classroom. Janis' back is what I see. "OK. I think I am in the right place!"

Then I hear her voice, "Please sign your name!" I sit down and look around the room.

We had a couple of days off for the snow. Maybe the room is different. No, Janis' computer is in the corner of the classroom.



Snowwomen Slavka and Kriszti demonstrate how to make snowpeople without snow.

On the monitor I can see the colorful system of the lines—a Windows screen saver. Ana Maria is fighting with the 26 Steps book. She isn't very happy. I sit down and I try to pick up the tempo.

Slowly, very slowly, everyone arrives. Until that time Ana Maria looked like a wasp who wanted to make my skin full with red spots. Then four women from Korea arrive.

Very quietly, the couple from the Czech Republic comes in, and next is a favorite friend from Japan. We are so sad now because we lost our favorite students: Rute, Nesrin, Chang Sun, Hyang Hee, and Irena. Where are they? They did a good job and advanced a class. "Good luck girls!" I think to myself.

Now, there's no more time for daydreams. Janis says, "We're going

to read a story." We try to follow her, but unfortunately she is better than we are. Now it's time for vocabulary exercises. The group starts to whimper. I

can hear some Spanish words. "OK, I guess they need some practice in their language." I think. Anyway, it's 10:15 AM—break time. Someone is still working. I go

and get myself in trouble: I come back late. Everyone else is mostly back at the exact time. We need to listen again. Janis (and I am sure all of the teachers) makes a lot of effort to put some nice things about the English language into our brains. By now, it's almost noon. Everyone is hungry. They leave to get their children from day-care or school. Today we did lots of English. Thanks everyone. Tomorrow we'll be back.

"Ana Maria looks at me like a wasp who wants to make my skin full with red spots."

Esther Greenwell's Class— By Nicolaie Stefan, Sylvie Eaton, and Lee Opel

Nicolaie Stefan writes:

When I found out about this ESL program for "Continuing Education", I immediately came here and I was admitted after the first test.

In this program, students attend classes that are very important in their preparation for their life and their careers.

We are enjoying these classes provided by our teacher and our kind director. It is a wonderful program.

We enjoyed using the computer lab once a week last semester and all of us are interested in continuing these lessons on the computer. I think these lessons are very interesting because all major tests are delivered on computers. We can also have free lessons over the Internet. These lessons are important for me and for my classmates.

Thanks for understanding.

Sylvie Eaton writes:

I'm not going to speak about the news on TV or in the newspaper because I haven't paid attention to it.

Actually, my thoughts are devoted to my wedding. Last Saturday, my future husband and I found my wedding dress. Its color is ivory and it has a few pearls. Also, we bought the veil. It is the same color as my dress, of course!

We would like to celebrate our wedding in September 2002, but nothing is definite. Now we don't know our next destination. Which military base will we go to? If we can't get married in September 2002, we will get married in April 2003. It will be in France.

So, during my leisure time, I am preparing for my wedding. For example, I must call the priest; I must make the guest list. I have a lot of work to do!

Lee Opel writes:

We need to have more parking spaces for the students. When we come to school, we can't find the assigned parking spaces.

We need to have a bigger parking lot.



When an exciting event like a wedding approaches, it is difficult to pay attention in class.

Phyllis Reinhardt's Class— By Lucrecia Soares and Sunsil Greene

Lucrecia Soares wrote about a field trip that helped her feel good about the Christmas holidays in the U.S.:

"On December 11, 2001, my ESL class went on a field trip to help needy people. We went to a



Gui Ling Peng, Claudia M. Hatch, and Lucrecia Soares sort boxes of food before creating food packages for needy Fayetteville residents.

warehouse where there were a lot of food and toys. Some students from FTCC went to help pack the food for the people who needed it.

I enjoyed helping pack the food for the people. That day I went home so happy that I helped someone do something for needy people. It is good when you help someone that needs help."

Sunsil Greene did some creative writing. The following piece is her essay which she called

"Just Thinking".

Just Thinking

I have a wind chime.

It is made from metal pipe.

When there's wind, it makes a gentle rhythm according to the wind.

That makes me wonder how music was discovered and formed into melodies.

Could it be possible that early musicians picked musical sounds from natural sources like the sounds of birds, animals howling, sounds of water, rain, and feelings?

—Sunsil Greene

Linda Mullins' Class — By Jaime Santiago

At the end of November and beginning of December, the class was very happy because Christmas was coming. There was "magic" in the faces of all the students. The Christmas spirit began to fill the hearts of the students in my class, including my teacher. Linda told us about the custom of helping others, especially during the holiday season.

Our class decided to donate money and buy presents for some children. We got the names of a girl and a boy from Urban Ministries in Fayetteville. They received some clothes and a game. All the



Linda Mullins' class "adopted" a boy and girl for Christmas

students were happy to help someone else.

The New Year began and the classes began, too. New students have registered from different coun-

tries: Korea, Japan, the Ukraine, Turkey and Moldova. I like to learn about other cultures from all of the students.

Some of the students that were with us in December have moved. They are: Jueng, Choi, Khalida, Betsy, and Francisco. We have received e-mails from them but we miss them.

Sheila is at home with her new baby who was born on January 4th. Best wishes to her and her husband.

I am very happy to be back in class. I understand more English and can follow what is happening in class much better now than in the fall.

Edwin Alices' Class — By Edwin Alices

The beginning level class at Fort Bragg is glad to welcome the returning students. We are also glad to welcome two new students, Rafael from Puerto Rico, and Vesile from Turkey.

The class continues their progress in pronunciation and grammar lessons. The students are working hard to improve their communication skills.



Sun Yo Gendron, winner of the National Literacy Month Contest, works with Nicolai Stefan and Maricela Ramos.

The results of the last post-test indicated that all of the students are progressing well toward achieving their educational goals.

This class is proud to have a winner of the National Literacy Month Essay Contest. Sun Yo Gendron earned and was presented a certificate of achievement earlier last term for her entry.

Chris Hill's Class — By Chris Hill

As usual, my level I and II students come from various countries; from Central and South America to Europe. And as usual, they are an interesting group. But one student is not a typical ESL student. Her name is Mrs. Irene Miranda. This delightful lady is 83 years old. Although she often comes in late because her son has to drive her to school, Mrs. Miranda has not missed one day of class. She understands a little English and

knows a few words, but she works very hard to learn.

Mrs. Miranda should be an example for other students. Regular class attendance and diligence to task are very important and are directly correlated with success.

So, when you think it is too cold or too hot to go outside,



Mrs. Miranda's efforts to learn the English language make her a star student.

you are just too tired or too sleepy, or you feel a great need to spend some money at the mall, think of Mrs. Miranda. You will realize that it is time to revisit your commitment to education. When, in the future, you look for a job and the chief requirement for that job is a good command of the English language, you'll be glad you did.

The Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday—A History

Each year on the third Monday of January schools, federal offices, post office and banks across America close to celebrate the newest American national holiday. It was 15 years after Dr. King's death when President Ronald Reagan signed a bill into law making the third Monday of January a national holiday celebrating the birth and life of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

First a bill had to be introduced by a member of the House of Representatives. The Speaker of the House assigned the bill to a committee where the bill was discussed in detail. Meetings were held where supporters and opposers could discuss their positions. The committee then agreed that the bill should be sent to a vote. The Rules Committee scheduled a debate on the issue. The House of Representatives then voted on the bill. It passed the House with a vote of 338 to 90. Then it was sent to the Senate where the King holiday bill had to pass through committees and public hearings before a final vote was taken.

There were many who opposed the idea of a holiday for Dr. King. Some feared the King holiday was meant as a way to make up to African-Americans for slavery. Other feared the cost of the holiday, with the extra overtime paid to federal workers who had to work on the holiday as well as millions to those federal employees who were paid for the day. Senator Bob Dole pointed out to those critics "I suggest they hurry back to their pocket calculators and estimate the cost of 300 years of slavery, followed by a century or more of economic, political and social exclusion and discrimination".

It took many years for Congress to decide to celebrate the holiday. In the years leading up to the official decree many African-Americans celebrated the birthday themselves with a few states declaring King's birthday a state holiday. The bill was finally passed by both the House of Representatives and the Senate and was signed into law on November 2, 1983.

The first national celebration of the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. holiday



1965: in early March, shortly before leading civil rights demonstrators from Selma to Montgomery, Ala., King attended a memorial service for Reverend James Reeb, a white clergyman from Boston who was killed by white thugs in Selma.

(Photo by Steve Schapiro/Black Star)

took place January 20, 1986. This year the King holiday was January 21, 2002.

King's Last Speech

In April 1968 Dr. King went to Memphis, Tennessee to help the city's sanitation workers who were on strike over unfair labor practices. On April 3rd Dr. King gave what became his last speech:

"We've got some difficult days ahead. But it doesn't matter with me now because I have been to the mountaintop. And I don't mind. Like anybody, I would like to live a long life. Longevity has its place. But I'm not concerned about that now.

I just want to do God's will. And He's allowed me to go up to the mountain.

And I've looked over. And I've seen the promised land. I may not get there with you. But I want you to know tonight, that we, as a people will get to the promised land. And I'm not fearing any man. Mine eyes have seen the glory of the coming of the Lord".

"An individual has not started living fully until they can rise above the narrow confines of individualistic concerns to the broader concerns of humanity. Every person must decide, at some point, whether they will walk in the light of creative altruism or in the darkness of destructive selfishness. This is the judgment. Life's most persistent and urgent question is, "What are you doing for others?"

—Martin Luther King, Jr. August 11, 1957

The following day, April 4 1968, as he was leaving his Memphis motel room, Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. was shot and killed.

Between 1955 and 1968, Mar-

tin Luther King, Jr. helped change America. He brought to the world's attention how unfairly blacks were treated. He had the help of millions of Americans, but his strong leadership and unprecedented power of speech gave people the faith and courage to keep working peacefully even when others did not. This led to new laws that ended the practice of keeping people of different backgrounds apart, making life fairer for everyone.

America will always remember the work of Martin Luther King, Jr. Each year, we celebrate his birthday. This is the first national holiday to honor an individual black American. Dr. King's legacy lives in each of us and we are responsible to promote, teach and live the American Dream.

My Hometown—Cheju-Do Island — By In Suk Kim

Although many people nowadays have heard of South Korea, few people have heard of my hometown of Cheju-Do. Cheju-Do's land, language, and customs are quite different from the rest of Korea.

Cheju-Do is a beautiful island located south of the southern tip of the Korean peninsula. The majestic volcanic mountain, Mount Halla, is in the center of the island. There are many natural caves, waterfalls, springs, hills, and rock formations on the island. Green grassy fields, volcanic rocks, rugged mountains, and tropical beaches can be found all on this same island. The oceans around Cheju-Do are clear blue. Because of the beautiful sights and landscaped, it is the most popular honeymoon sight in Korea.

Cheju-Do has four distinct seasons, although it is best known for its hot sum-



Photo from http://www.chejuinfo.net/tour/tour_e.html

mers. Spring is famous for the abundance of flowers while autumn is famous for the many tangerine groves. There are many wild plants that grow only in Cheju-Do.

Cheju-Do is known for having some of the best food in Korea. The tangerines are known as the best tangerines in the world. Cheju black pigs are known as the tastiest pork. The freshest and widest variety of seafood can also be found on Cheju-Do as well. The soil is very fertile for harvesting crops.

Cheju-Do's current population is about 530,000. Although everyone on the island speaks Korean, Cheju-Do natives have their own dialect that cannot be understood by outsiders—including other Koreans.

Unlike other Koreans, the women do most of the work in Cheju-Do. Farming, gardening, and diving for marine products were traditionally women's jobs in Cheju-Do.

Recipes from Around the World—By Rute Filipe

RICE WITH PORK

1 cup diced pork shoulder
3 tablespoons olive oil
1 large yellow onion, peeled and coarsely chopped
1 large garlic clove, peeled and minced
1 cup converted rice
1 cup beef broth (preferably homemade)
1 cup water
1/2 teaspoon salt
1/4 teaspoon freshly ground black pepper

In a large heavy saucepan set over high heat, stir-fry the pork in the olive oil 4 to 5 minutes until touched with brown; add the onion and garlic, reduce heat to moderate, and sauté, stirring now and then, 3 to 4 minutes until onions are limp and golden. Add the rice and sauté, stirring often, about 2 minutes until rice begins to color. Add the broth, water, salt, pepper; bring to a boil, then

adjust heat so that the liquid bubbles gently. Cover and cook 25 to 30 minutes until the rice is fluffy and all liquid has been absorbed. Fork the rice up and serve as a family main dish.

*Use leftovers:
The Portuguese are ingenious at making a real meal out of bits of meat and rice.*

VARIATION: You can use leftover cold roast pork for this recipe if you like, but reduce the initial browning time to about 2 minutes. Prepare as directed.

Things to Do Around Fayetteville — By Kriszti Kele

1/24

Emile Pandolfi

Piano concert.

8 pm

\$10-\$18

Givens Performing Arts Center,

UNC Pembroke

910-521-6361

1/26

Bilingual Puppet Show

Based on a variety of popular Hispanic folktales told in both English and Spanish

3:30 pm

FREE

Cumberland County Library,

North Regional Branch

822-1998

1/26-1/27

Dr. Louise Tippon, Soprano

A concert based on the poetry of Langston Hughes in honor of the centennial of his birth

FREE

Fayetteville State University,

Rosenthal Concert Hall

672-1474

Why I Am a Vegetarian — By Slovena Pecinova

I have had to answer this question a thousand times. Sometimes people ask me because they are really interested in it, but mostly they just wonder or even want to argue about it. I'm not going to convince anybody to be vegetarian in this article, but if you are just wondering or even if you are seriously interested in it, maybe you would like to read another opinion about this.

So why did I decide to be a vegetarian? Several years ago, I had troubles with bulimia. I knew I was going the wrong way and I was desperately looking for not only a way to nourish my body, but also for a new philosophy of life. Therefore, I started to work for a company that sells nutrition products and I had a chance to learn more about the body—what it needs to be healthy and heal itself. I also started to educate myself. I have read a lot of books on this topic. It wasn't very hard to stop eating meat because I have never liked this taste very much.

The very first reason was my health. I knew that animals, which eat meat, have a different digestion than humans. Animal protein is very difficult to digest. I think if the Lord wanted us to eat meat, he would have given us proper equipment such as claws, fangs and the right digestion system. One of my friends, who has been vegetarian 9 years, says: "Dead flesh is not food for humans and that's it." Later I found more reasons besides health. For example, food from animals has different energy than food made from plants. This kind of energy is more aggressive and it is designed for basis of prey. Another reason could be a moral one, because animals live in bad conditions and then are often killed in a brutal way. In addition, when animals are killed they are scared and produce a lot of



A vegetarian diet can be a healthy choice that people

adrenalin, which stays in their bodies and is later eaten in the meat.

There are a lot of reasons why people stop eating meat, but some don't stay vegetarian. So why do I continue? It is simple, I feel great! And I look great. I can also see the results in my husband. He has had a skin problem (eczema) since his childhood.

He used to have very dry, cracked skin on his hands. The cracks used to be bloody and very painful. When we stopped eating meat, the cracks healed and haven't appeared again.

If you are thinking about being a vegetarian don't do it spontaneously because it isn't only about eliminating meat. There are some rules that you have follow to keep being healthy. The first step is to know more about nutrition and the second is to do it.

No matter what you eat, I wish you the best in looking and feeling good.

Movie Review — By Tamara Pérez

The Wedding Planner

Starring: Jennifer Lopez and Matthew Mc Conaughey
Feature Approx. 105 min.

This is a romantic movie from Columbia Pictures.

Maria is a pretty woman whose job is that of a wedding planner. Her goal is to coordinate a wedding for an important family in society and after become a partner in the Wedding Planning Agency.

One day she was in the street; she had a problem and Steve, a handsome man,

rescued her. She was injured when her shoe got stuck in a drain. As time passed, Maria and Steve fell in love.

Then, Maria got an appointment with an engaged couple and she met the man who was to get married. She was surprised when she found out that the groom was the man she fell in love with. She was upset. So, she decided to marry Max, a childhood friend because that would make her father happy. Her wedding date was the set for the same day as Steve's wedding.

A few minutes before Steve's wedding was supposed to begin, he decided to talk

with his girlfriend and together analyze their future. She agreed with him that she was not ready to get married. They decided to cancel the wedding.

Just before Maria and her father were about to go down the aisle, her father talked to her, and together analyzed that the decision to marry Max was not really what she wanted.

At the same time, Steve went to look for her but he didn't find her. He decided to go to the park where they had their first day. He found her; he told her he didn't get married because he loved her. They decided to stay together.

"The Thai Pepper" Restaurant Review — By In Suk Kim

Because my husband loves to go out to eat, I get many chances to try different restaurants. We like many different kinds of food, but we especially love Thai food. So, the restaurant that I am going to introduce is a Thai restaurant called Thai Pepper.

Thai Pepper is located on Reilly Road in Fayetteville. It serves a buffet for both lunch and dinner, but you can also order from the a la carte menu. The cost is fairly inexpensive compared to many res-

taurants in town. They are closed on Sundays.

The restaurant is fairly large. It is large enough to accommodate a small party. The lighting is good, unlike many of the dark lit restaurants. The tables and chairs are not fancy, but neat and clean.

My husband's favorite dish at Thai Pepper is the beef noodle soup. My favorite is sautéed noodles with Chinese broccoli as well as the Thai-style vegeta-

ble fried rice and vegetable spring rolls. I always order my food with hot tea while my husband always drinks Thai iced coffee which is very strong.

One important warning: Thai food is pretty hot and spicy!



Thai Food is delicious, but it can be very hot and spicy!

**THE NEWSLETTER OF
 FTCC'S ESL/CIVICS STUDENTS**

Fayetteville Technical Community College
 P. O. Box 35236
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 Teachers: Chris Hill, Edwin Alices

Advisor: Janis Holden-Torrujo

**"Active participation,
 not passive acquiescence"**



A Message from our Director

Dear Students:

I must share with you the tremendous sense of excitement that I feel about the ESL/Civics Program. I see many opportunities for students to grow from the depth of learning that takes place when adults move from the theoretical learning that takes place in the classroom to the community where they put their learning into practice. Your experiences in this program will have a profound impact on your lives and the lives of your family and friends.

I encourage each of you to take advantage of the marvelous opportunities this program offers. If you do, your horizons will be expanded and your lives will be enriched.

My best wishes go to each of you.



It's exciting to see how many countries are represented by students in our ESL Program.

Carrie Heffney

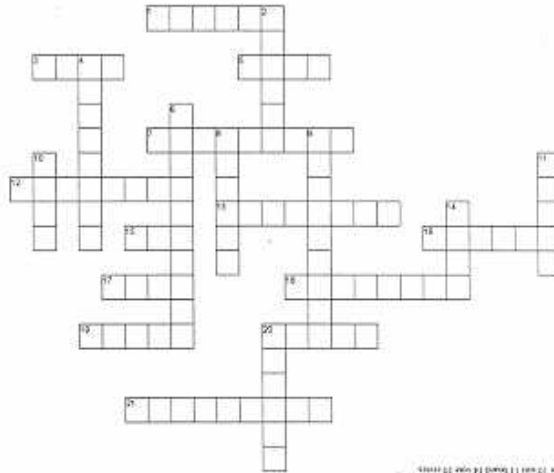
Cool Games (really kewl)

Across

1. oral public statement
3. put in
5. crystal precipitation
7. collection of food for needy people
12. propose a candidate
13. give public notice
15. _____ for office

Down

2. crave food
4. planned election activities
6. administrative body
8. formal argument
9. offer a service
10. separate
11. council; management group
14. fill out a ballot
20. study of rights and responsibilities



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Safety and Security at FTCC – by Phyllis Reinhardt's Class

An Enjoyable Lecture

On March 20th, Lieutenant Grimes spoke to us about "Safety and Security at FTCC". Mr. Grimes is the day shift supervisor at the FTCC Security Office here at the college and



Lt. Grimes makes a point about safety.

he is a very good public speaker. He had great facial expressions and made good eye contact with us. His intonation and body movements



Ruth Springer, ESL Student, and Phyllis Reinhardt, teacher, listen attentively.

held our attention all the time. In addition, he was friendly, pleasant, and humorous.

His lecture was interesting. It gave us much important information about parking at FTCC and also about personal safety.



Lumir Pecina, ESL SGA president, introduces Lt. Grimes.

After his speech, he gave us an opportunity



Lt. Grimes explains the proper way to park our cars.

to ask questions. Everyone enjoyed him. We hope that Mr. Grimes will come and speak to us again sometime.

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Movie and Restaurant Review	5
The Latin American Arts Festival	6
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Special points of interest:

- Free camp scholarships for Latina and Native American girls
- Fraud Alert: International Licenses
- Recipes from Around the World
- Latin American Arts Festival

Spring Time around the World

Easter in Romania

I belong to a Christian Orthodox family, so each year in the springtime, there are some celebrations in my country.

After some weeks of sunny days, when the trees are completely in blossom and the insects are flying, everything is waking up again for a new and better life. Bees fly from one flower to another. Children enjoy warm days for playing outside. For grown-ups, it is a time to sow new crops with the thought that in this new year, they will be better than last year.

During the last week before Easter, each afternoon church people pray with candles in their hands.

On Maundy Thursday or "Big Thursday" after prayers, people follow the priest in a procession around the church while holding candles. After the procession has finished three tours around the church, the people depart for home with the candles still burning. Many people believe that if you succeed in arriving at your house with the candle flame still burning, your life will be full of light.

On Saturday, people decorate eggs by hand painting them in red. This color represents the blood of Jesus.

On Saturday evening, before midnight, people wait outside the church for the priest to come out and share the light with them. Until midnight, the church is in darkness. After midnight, the priest shares light by waving a lighted candle. People then form a line to get a piece of bread and a spoonful

of wine. The bread symbolizes Jesus' body and the wine symbolizes His blood.

On Easter Day, people usually have a celebration with a meal. After the meal, children go out in the street and start playing with each other. They throw the painted eggs at each other, breaking them. They try to win as many eggs as possible.

Usually at this time, children have been on vacation from school. The day after Easter begins a new week. Life goes on and everyone goes back to work or school after this rich experience. (Nicolai Stefan)

Naw—Ruz

My new year is on the first day of spring. It is called Naw-Ruz. We love that day. Our new year is always happy and joyful.



In my family, my father provided everything that was necessary, and my mother spent all of her time to settle the house and cook the traditional dinner. Everyone was happy and wanted paper money from our parents. That was a very good gift for the New Year; it meant that the New

Year began with happiness. I love those days. (Nafiseh Sharifian)

Easter in the Czech Republic

In the Czech Republic we don't celebrate Easter on Sunday, but on Monday. Men and women celebrate this day in very different ways. Men have to prepare a switch, which is knitted from the young branches of a willow tree.

Most young people buy one, but it is



considered better when they make it themselves.

Girls have to prepare painted eggs. They can be boiled in colored water or the insides can be blown out. Then we draw flowers and leaves on the eggs with a marker.

On Monday morning, a man has to whip the women and girls in his family with the switch. He then goes out to whip women in his friends' families. If you're a woman, you have to not only accept the whipping, but also you have to reward the men who whip you. You can give them some of your painted eggs or some candy or if he is adult, some nice strip of ribbon for the top of his switch.

I liked the way that my father did it. While whipping me he used to say, "I'm whipping your legs to walk good, I'm whipping your hands to not be lazy, your head to think brightly and your body to be healthy." The men in my family used to whip women gently, but when I was a little girl my cousins whipped me hard because I was only one girl among the cousins and the boys had fun doing it.

Little boys also get excited that they can officially whip their moms and grand moms or friends.

I don't like this holiday at all, because it is unfair for women, but tradition is tradition. So I have to endure this day or I go with my husband to the mountains and we celebrate this holiday by admiring nature during spring, away from other men and their whips. (Slavka Pecinova)

False Driver's Licenses— By Janis Holden-Toruño's Class

Noelle Taylor, Assistant Public Information Officer for the Office of the Attorney General provided the following:

Attorney General Roy Cooper warned North Carolina consumers about companies that claim to issue valid international driver's licenses. "You may have seen international driver's licenses advertised in newspapers or on slick websites," said Cooper. "They are worthless, but the companies that hawk them will try to rip you off for as much as \$200."

The Attorney General's office has learned that some companies are targeting North Carolina residents, particularly those in the Latino community, through the Internet. Many sites claim that the international license is a valid alternative to a state-issued license or identity card. They also tout it as a way to avoid tickets or points for traffic violations.

Advertisements may be especially misleading to recent immigrants to North

Carolina who are unfamiliar with the process for obtaining a valid North Carolina driver's license. A valid NC driver's license, issued only by the N.C. Division of Motor Vehicles, costs \$10.

"To drive a motor vehicle on a highway, a person must be licensed by the Division [of Motor Vehicles] to drive the vehicle and must carry the license while driving the vehicle." The law gives new residents who plan to drive in North Carolina 60 days to obtain a North Carolina driver's license. Unlicensed drivers can be penalized.

"Drivers need to go to the Division of Motor Vehicles for their licenses," Cooper said. "If you see an Internet site or an advertisement that says they can get you a license, don't be fooled. They will take your money and leave you with a document that is useless."

Licensed U.S. drivers who plan to

drive in certain foreign countries may need to obtain a legitimate international driver's permit before traveling abroad. These permits do not take the place of a valid state driver's license within the United States.

According to the United States Department of State, legitimate international driver's permits are available in the U.S. only through the American Automobile Association and the American Automobile Touring Alliance. Both organizations charge a \$10 fee for this service.

Some companies that claim to sell international driver's licenses also sell official-looking state identification cards. Only state governments can issue identification cards that can be used in lieu of a license for identification purposes. The licenses and cards issued by these companies are also unlikely to be considered valid forms of identification by banks, stores, or places of work.

Ask your ESL SGA

Q: When are we going to have name tags?

A: We are not going to have name tags because the pins can put holes in peo-

ple's clothes. Instead, we are going to have name cards that will sit on the students' tables. The name cards will have the name of each student, the name of the student's country and a picture of the flag from that country.

Note: Do you have a question for the ESL SGA? If you do, please write your question down and give it to an SGA representative.

Being part of the SGA – by Margot Garza

FTCC has made possible the establishment of the first ESL Student Government Association (SGA) in North Carolina. We are quite proud to be pioneers in this new adventure for ESL students.

The SGA gives non-native English speakers an opportunity to become part of the American culture. The SGA meets once a week to discuss various topics of interest to ESL students. After a topic is

Some areas that the ESL SGA is taking care of are:

- Providing name cards for all students.
- Helping make TOEFL practice available.
- Planning a campus wide social activity with the curriculum SGA.

discussed, suggestions or comments are debated in order to come up with a plan of action. A plan is then voted on and implemented. Most topics are selected from ESL students' needs and concerns.

The SGA has had a great impact on ESL students, and we are confident that the program will benefit many future ESL classes as well.

Keeping Safe— by Phyllis Reinhardt's Class

Keeping Safe

When I was young, I had to play near my home so my mother could watch me. As I grew older, I had to make my own choices. I chose not to smoke because smoking is bad for the health. I also chose not to hang around with people who used drugs or committed crimes. I wanted to avoid the bad consequences that come from bad choices.

Now I am a mother. I tell my children not to talk to strangers on the street because they might hurt them. I also tell them not to take food from strangers or cross the street by themselves when they play outside.

When we are in the car, I put my younger child in a car seat and I make my older child fasten his seat belt.

When they become teenagers, I will tell them to choose their friends wisely. To be safe, people must learn to make wise choices.



Lost and Found

If you have lost anything within the last 45 days, please check with Security to see if it has been turned in.

Marge Walter's Class—Rute Filipe

The computer program that we use in Ms. Walter's class is called Townsend.

In class, we learn 10 advanced level words every other day. But because we also need to learn words that native speakers use on a regular basis, we use the program on an intermediate level. It works like a review.

Usually we go to the computer lab on Fridays from 8:00 to 9:30. Each student writes his/her own name on the computer and the program recognizes it. In this way we can start exactly from the point we stopped at during the last lesson.

The words are shown to us in context or isolated, and then we have to pick the best definition. At the end of each lesson the program tells us how much we scored.

It's challenging, fun and useful. The best aspect of it, I think, is that every student works at his/her own pace at his/her level and at the end we get the results. This saves some time for the teachers. The same exercise done on paper would take a long time to be corrected.

It's a good complement to the books and vocabulary lessons.

Recipes from Around the World—By Kriszti Kele

Chicken and cheese

Ingredients

(For 4 people)
-4 medium chicken breasts
-Flour enough to coat the chicken
-3-4 eggs—whisk them
-Grated cheese, enough to coat the chicken.
-Butter
-Black pepper, salt to taste.



Preparation

Wash the chicken breasts, pat them dry and sprinkle them with salt (and black pepper if you like). Coat the breasts in flour. Then dip them in the whisked eggs. When they are sticky enough, dip them in the cheese. Grease a small pan (ovenware)

with butter and put the chicken breasts on top of each other to make layers. On the top add a little bit more cheese.

Bake at 350F for 20-25 minutes. When the cheese browns a little, the chicken is ready.

Serve by slicing through the layers of chicken.

Serve with mashed potatoes.

Things to Do Around Fayetteville

Cape Fear Botanical Garden

Tour 85 acres of land overlooking the Cross Creek & Cape Fear River. Located on the bluffs of the Cape Fear River, this 85-acre garden provides both formal gardens and natural woodland areas for the nature and gardening enthusiast. Interpretive signage provides both historical and horticultural information for visitors. The Garden has more than 85 species of trees including the largest swamp chestnut oak on the Fayetteville register of big trees. The first Saturday of each month is "Free Saturday" and no admission is charged. Admission: Adults \$3; children under 12 FREE; Seniors and Military \$2; Garden

members FREE. 486-0221. Open 10 AM to 5 PM, Monday through Saturday, and 12 PM to 5 PM on Sunday.

April 3rd Spring Nature Fair

State and local natural resource agencies are exhibiting in this family event that includes hands-on activities for children. FREE 10:30am-2:30pm Clark Park Nature Center 433-1579.

Jambbas Ranch

Visit farm & Exotic animals
5386 Tabor Church Rd. Six miles east of I-95 Exit 49. 484-2798
Mon-Sat 9:30-5 Sun 1-5 \$3 - \$5

Family Festival

The public is invited to a festival for the whole family.

When: Saturday April 13th 2:00 PM

Where: Cumberland County Library, 101 Laketree Blvd., Spring Lake.

Refreshments will be served.
FREE admission.

Performances by "Movimiento Tropical" from 71st High School, the Aztec dancers called "Tioke Nahuake", puppet shows in English and Spanish, arts and crafts activities for children, and demonstrations on the use of computers to access library services. For additional information, contact 497-3650.

Movie review—by Sunsil Greene

A Beautiful Mind

Starring: Russell Crowe and Jennifer Connelly
Directed by Ron Howard



This is a true story about schizophrenic mathematician, John Forbes Nash Jr., who suffers a psychological illness. Throughout his life, Nash sees things that are not really there.

Actor Russell Crowe plays John Nash. Crowe portrays an oddly behaving person who always seems out of place. Jennifer Connelly, who wants to believe in the extraordinary, portrays John Nash's wife.

She has the deepest love and devotion for her husband and together they achieve

great things. John Nash, 1994 Nobel laureate, was a fascinating individual.

This is an extremely heart warming story. After the movie, the good feeling lasts. Make an opportunity to see this movie. You'll love it too.

This movie was chosen as Best Picture of the Year by the Motion Picture Academy. It received a total of 4 Oscars.

"Samuri" Restaurant Review — By Inna Eng

Samuri

I like to eat out and my favorite restaurant is "Samuri". It's a Japanese restaurant. It has good food and a "super show". Here people can see how their food is prepared.

As I understand it, in Japan only men can cook in restaurants. They are profes-

sionals at working with knives and food.

It is fascinating to watch how the food is prepared.

This restaurant is located at 239 McPherson Church Rd. in Fayetteville.



"Here people can see how their food is prepared."

Free camp to Latino and Native American Communities

For the third year, Peace College is offering a leadership camp for adolescent girls (rising 9th and 10th graders).

The camp focuses on self-esteem, team building, and leadership develop-

ment, and is taught by Peace faculty members. You can find more information about the camp by clicking on this link:

www.peace.edu/ne_summer_programs.

The program recently received a grant to increase camp diversity by recruiting girls from the Latino and Native American communities. Several full scholarships will be given to Native American and Latina Girls.

The Latin American Arts Festival

The Community Theatre of Greensboro has been committed to making sure it reflects its name. Thus, when it became obvious over the last few years that the Latino population in Guilford County was growing by leaps and bounds, CTG decided to step up to the plate and find a venue to showcase the Latino talent in our community.

This became a particular challenge since unlike other minorities in our community, many in the Hispanic community speak little or no English. And yet, the use of the arts has always been a way to bring people together regardless of culture or language.

Partnering with Amistad, a local Hispanic organization, months were spent reading Spanish plays, talking to Latino community members and planning for a spring event. It was finally decided to



Spring Break

FTCC will be closed for Spring break from Friday, March 29th to April 5th.

Classes start Monday April 8th.

hire New York director, Daniel Jaquez who has a vast background in theatre and Hispanic theatre.

Auditions were set for March 7 & 8 with an unsureness as to whether the Latino community would come out for such an event. The turnout was overwhelming with nearly 70 performers wishing to participate in the festival.

There were actors from Chile and Argentina, dancers from Venezuela and Guatemala, singers from El Salvador and Peru, and musicians from Mexico and Puerto Rico.

The enthusiasm was thrilling and the appreciation for creating such an opportunity was heartening. Best of all, the talent was fantastic!!

On April 6, the Community Theatre of Greensboro will proudly host the first of what they hope will be a yearly festival to celebrate the many talented Hispanic members of the community.

The success of this festival is not only to share the abundance of local Latino talent with the community but to also create an opportunity for the diverse Latino community to meet and connect in Guilford county.



Notary Services

Free Notary Services are available in the Library located on room 20 for FTCC faculty, staff, and students; Susan Rose and Deborah Foster are the notaries on staff. Documents must be unsigned and you must have your FTCC ID card with you.

All interested people are invited to come to Greensboro for this event. Perhaps in the future Fayetteville will be able to sponsor its own Latin American Arts Festival.

For further information please call The Community Theatre of Greensboro at (336) 333-7470.

ALL EVENTS ARE FREE OF CHARGE AND PRESENTED IN SPANISH!!!

The Itinerary for Latin American Arts Festival

The itinerary for the festival is:
Greensboro Cultural Center
200 N. Davie Street - Greensboro.

10AM - 10:55AM and 3PM - 4PM
Studio Theatre 4th floor.

Panel on Legal Issues
This panel of attorneys who specialize in immigration law, personal injury, wrongful death, business and commercial litigation, and criminal law will be available to discuss recent court cases and their impact on the Hispanic/Latino population.

10AM - 11:15AM and 3PM - 4:15PM
UAC Board Room - 1st floor -
Film for Kids: Vampiros en la Habana
(Cuba) 69 minutes running time.

11AM - 11:55AM
Studio Theatre - 4th floor -
Panel on Business Organization and Operation Issues Internal Revenue Service
This panel discussion will include information on filing for an ITN, filing taxes, opening a bank account, and how to keep your money safe.

11AM - 1PM
CTG Classroom - 4th floor -
Acting Workshop for Adults
New York Director Daniel Jaquez conducts a theatre workshop for actors.

11AM - 12PM and 4PM - 5PM
CTG Classroom - 4th floor.
Ask A Lawyer!
Questions and Answers about legal issues in general with today's panelists!

11:30AM - 1PM and 4:30PM - 6PM
UAC Board Room - 1st floor -
Film for Kids Spy Kids (US)
88 minutes running time.

12PM - 12:55PM
Studio Theatre - 4th floor -
Panel Discussion Health Care Issues
Alan Overbey -
Strategic Employee Benefit Services
Insurance Coverage and Programs
Jerono Rotich - UNC - G Center For New North Carolinians.

1PM - 2:30PM
Atrium - Main Level -
Talent Show for Kids and Families.
A musical and theatrical delight for the entire family with over 45 performers from Mexico, Peru, Panama and Guatemala.

3PM - 4PM and 7PM - 8PM
Studio Theatre - 4th floor -
Theatrical Presentation -
Two one—act plays
El Delantal Blanco by Sergio Vodano.
Parece Mentira by Xavier Villaurrutia.

8:30PM - 10:30PM
Artistika Concert Café -
523 South Elm Street - Greensboro -
Adult Talent Show featuring over 25 singers, dancers, musicians and representing Latino countries such as Venezuela, Mexico, Brazil, Guatemala, Puerto Rico, Argentina, El Salvador and Peru. Theatrical presentation of *La Tongo* by Adriel Marat performed by Carlos Rivera.

Permanent Residency

Permanent Residency Under Section 245 (i)

If you or someone you know has entered the United States without permission or if you have remained here with an expired visa, it is now possible to adjust your legal status without having to leave the United States.

There are some special rules that were established under Section 245(i) which allow certain people to adjust their legal status. If you are eligible, you must send certain documents to the INS so that they are received before April 30, 2002. You can find the list of these documents and rules from the INS web site or you can call 1-800-375-5283 for more information.

You may be eligible to adjust your legal status under one of the subparagraphs of Section 245 without having to pay any fees if you are someone who has entered the country legally, but have been out of status for 180 days or less, and if your sponsor is your spouse, parent, or child who is a citizen of the United States. Others may have to pay up to \$1,000 in fees to the INS.

FTCC
 Basic Skills Program
 English as a Second Language

**THE NEWSLETTER OF
 FTCC'S ESL/CIVICS STUDENTS**

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*"Active participation,
 not passive acquiescence"*



The Fayetteville Technical Community College Diversity Committee
 and the Student Government Association (SGA),
 with the support of the FTCC Foundation, Inc., are sponsoring a

CONTEST

for the design of a permanent

"INTERNATIONAL FLAGS DISPLAY"

to celebrate the diversity of our FTCC student, faculty, and staff family.

This contest is open to all students enrolled in
 FTCC Curriculum and Continuing Education Programs.

Cool Games (really kewl)

Across

- 1. To take a question to a higher court for rehearing a new decision
- 6. The punishment given by a court to a convicted criminal
- 7. The Study of Crime and Criminals
- 8. Fairness; the maintenance or administration of what is just by law
- 9. A lawyer

Down

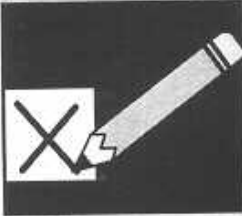
- 2. To take legal proceedings against someone for a crime
- 3. To bring a formal accusation; to charge with a formal offense; the function of a grand jury
- 4. The decision reached by a jury or judge
- 5. A person against whom a claim or charge is brought in a court

1. Appeal
 2. Prosecute
 3. Indict
 4. Verdict
 5. Defendant

6. Sentence
 7. Criminology
 8. Justice
 9. Attorney

Across

Down



The ESL SGA Installation

On June 12th at 10:30, the second English as a Second Language Student Government Association installation was held in the multi-purpose room of the Continuing Education Center.

Among those attending were: Carrie Heffney, Basic Skills Director; Toi Buchanan, Acting ESL Coordinator; Keith McNeill, Curriculum Specialist; Janis Holden-Toruño, Esther Greenwell, Paulina Crass, Chris Hill, and Andrea Dennis, ESL faculty members; Ron McElrath, Director of Human Relations for the City of Fayetteville Human Relations; Michael Hines, Sr., Chairman of the Fayetteville Human Relations Commission, Luis Collazo, and Elmer Floyd of the Human Relations



Students and faculty members enjoy the ESL SGA Installation Ceremony.

Mrs. Carrie Heffney, Basic Skills Director, presented a framed certificate of achievement to each of the outgoing ESL SGA members.

After the certificates were presented, ESL SGA Advisor Janis Holden-Toruño invited all of the students who had served on the ESL Board of Elections and all of the candidates who had run for office to stand and be recognized for their efforts. Then, the new ESL SGA members were invited to come forward for the swearing in ceremony.



Janis Holden-Toruño reads the certificate of achievement that Basic Skills Director Carrie Heffney presents to Lumir Pecina, ESL SGA past president.

Department, and ESL students from all daytime Main Campus classes.

Janis Holden-Toruño spoke about the members of the initial ESL SGA and about their accomplishments. Afterwards, the SGA President, Lumir Pecina, spoke about his experience as the first ESL SGA president and about the goals of the incoming ESL SGA.

The outgoing ESL SGA members were thanked for their service to the ESL community.



Michael Hines, Sr. speaks about the impact that Study Circles can have on a community.

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Study Circles Facilitator	6
Things to Do in Fayetteville	7

Special points of interest:

- Recipes from Around the World
- The Raleigh Rally: ESL Contributes
- Game
- Poet's Corner
- Restaurant Survey

The ESL SGA Installation (Cont.)

mony. Mrs. Heffney administered the Oath of Office to Lumir Pecina, Luis Henriquez, Ana Henriquez, Young Joo Kim, Armando Lezama, and Hyon Suk Chang. Also elected were: In Suk Kim and Carolina Rodriguez.

Following the installation of the ESL SGA, two special guests, Ron McElrath and Michael Hines, Sr., were invited to talk about Study Circles, one of the recent projects of the Student Government Association. Michael Hines explained what a Study Circle is and recounted his experiences. Later, the two gentlemen were joined by staff members Luis Collazo and Elmer Floyd of the City of Fayetteville Human Relations Department to present certificates to the students who had



Roger Dostall, FTCC Diversity Committee Chairperson and Director of the Learning Lab speaks about America and its diversity.

successfully completed facilitator training. They also presented certificates to students who had participated in FTCC Study Circles.

For many of the students, this was a very important moment because participating in Study Circles was their first real experience in taking part in a community activity. Receiving their certificates made the students understand that they are important and valued members of the community.

Chairperson of the FTCC Diversity Committee, Roger Dostall, spoke about diversity and gave a brief recounting of the history of the United States and its immigrants. He thanked the students for making America their home and wished everyone well.

The ESL students expressed their thanks to all who made both the ESL SGA and Study Circles possible.

A Different Kind of Library by Rute Filipe

Earlier this spring, Partnership for Children's Annalisa White came to FTCC to tell us about their programs for parents and for community members.

During her visit Annalisa talked about some interesting aspects of this program. One of those aspects is the Lending Library. Any person can visit their library and borrow not only books, but also indoor and outdoor toys for a period of 2 weeks. I don't have any children, but I did expect a visit from my 3 nephews, so I decided to visit Partnership for Children to verify if people like me (non parents) could borrow toys.

The answer was yes.

The lady who greeted me was very friendly. The library is decorated in a lovely way and everything was arranged to make children happy. There are computers and toys to play with, books to read, etc.



Thank you to those people that run this program and thank you to FTCC for inviting interesting people who can help us make our lives easier by connecting us

to the community.

The Omni Family Resource Center is located at 351 Wagoner Drive, Suite 200 Fayetteville. Phone: (910) 867-9700



The Lending Library assists parents, providers, and teachers on issues surrounding early childhood development by providing toys, cassettes, children's books, parenting books, and teacher resources.

Study Circles Feedback

Two of the participants in the *Changing Faces, Changing Communities* Study Circles project were asked to share their opinions about their experiences in the program.

Linda Yates (Panama) is a teacher in Special Education. She started her ESL classes after the facilitator training had been completed, but she chose to participate in the *Changing Faces, Changing Communities*

Study Circles because she likes "to try different experiences". She had participated in a similar project in her country and found the experience worthwhile. Linda would like to invite other students to participate in the next round of Study Circles "because it is a way to learn about a new subject that could be important for living in the USA". She wants to participate in Study Circles again.

Rute Filipe (Portugal) shares the same opinion as Linda. "I tried it once and I enjoyed it so much that I didn't miss any sessions. If the ESL Civics program offers them in the fall, I'll be there again. I had never participated in anything similar, so I tried it. It was very interesting. My advice is give it a try and you will realize how interesting it is."

SGA Candidates for Summer Semester

During the past month, the ESL/Civics classes held SGA elections. We had very good participation with a total of 14 candidates. Not everyone can win, but participation is very important. Without candidates, there is NO election!

Slavka Pecinova was one of the candidates in Andrea Dennis' class. She is from the Czech Republic. In her country she studied economics and later she owned her own business. She decided to become a candidate because she believed that it would help her with her English. She had never had the opportunity to be a student leader in her country.

Daniilo Artiga is from El Salvador and, just like Slavka, he moved from Janis Holden-Toruño's class to Andrea Dennis' class. He finished high school in his country and then moved to the USA. Although he had never been a candidate before, he gave it a try. He became a candidate because the ESL SGA gives students "an opportunity to speak and to be heard".

Eric Chung is from Korea. Before he arrived in Fayetteville, he studied Chinese in a university in China. "I wanted to learn how student government works in the USA by working in the ESL SGA. I was a representative in my class in 1996". Eric expected to be elected because he trusted that his classmates would vote for him. His message is "have fun, learn English and participate in field trips". He says, "I appreciate your voting for me. I'll work in the ESL SGA to help all of my classmates improve their English". Eric is the Vice President of the ESL SGA.

Young Joo Kim is also from Korea. She studied statistics and business management. Jeong Kim, a former ESL SGA member, encouraged her to become a candidate. He said that it was a great opportunity to practice English. Although she was a student representative when she was in middle, junior-high and high school, Young Joo didn't expect to be elected. She is the Recording Secretary for the ESL SGA. Her priorities are field trips and more study materials. She says to her

classmates, "Thank you for voting for me".

Chat Van Hoang from Vietnam is a student in Mrs. Greenwell's class. He volunteered to be a candidate in his class because he knows how important it is to participate. Like all of the candidates, he has a great attitude. Chat had never had any similar opportunities in Vietnam, but he was willing to try this new experience. Although he was not elected, his class-



Carrie Heffney swears in the Summer ESL SGA

mates appreciate his efforts and willingness to serve them.

Ana Henriquez is from Venezuela where she studied computer science in college and also worked as an assistant administrator in a computer company. She likes to "share with people of different countries, cultures, and languages". Ana said that she became a candidate because "this activity helped me to improve my English and another reason is that I think I have good qualifications to represent my classroom". This is why she was a candidate. Ana was elected and at the moment she is the Corresponding Secretary. She did something similar while she was in high school. As priorities, Ana would like to "provide her classmates with things that they think are necessary for learning." She intends to stimulate her classmates to attend class regularly. Ana would like to thank all who voted for her. If anyone has ideas or suggestions, please let her know. She reminds everyone that the United States is a country that offers big opportunities. "It is very important for our lives to learn English. Thanks FTCC".

Luis Henriquez who is from the Boli-

varian Republic of Venezuela, studied law and criminal investigation. He is interested in developing his leadership and to represent all of his classmates without forgetting the spirit of team work. He had never done anything like this before, but he thinks it is a good start in the ESL program. His priorities are to create a group of volunteers to bring back students who drop out of classes and to improve the book situation, because there aren't

enough copies of some of the most useful textbooks when all of the students attend class. Luis says, "I would like to thank all my classmates for their votes for me, and remind everyone that after we learn English we are going to get bigger opportunities in life. We can't know the future, but we can get prepared for it. Good luck to everybody." Luis replaced Lumir Pecina as the ESL SGA President.

Marina Rivera Gutierrez was a pharmacist in Mexico and is now attending Paulina Crass' class. Her classmates are the reason why she became a candidate. Although she didn't expect to be elected, she would like to thank her classmates.

Armando Lezama is also in the same class as Marina. He is from Venezuela and works and studies at the same time. Being an SGA member is "a big opportunity" and he expects to be able to improve the students' conditions.

Carolina Gonzales was a candidate because she would like to help her classmates. She is from Paraguay, and was an administration student in her country.

Aysegul Julson is from Turkey and she is in Janis Holden-Toruño's class. "Ayse" wants to help the students by finding new ways for students to learn. She hopes to find ways for us to improve our English. Ayse works and studies. She thinks students need to be responsible for learning.

In Suk Kim is from Korea and is another hardworking student. She appreciates the ESL SGA as a way for students to communicate their ideas to the school.

Recipes from Around the World—From Crossroads Café

Romanian Noodles With Garlic Sauce

This recipe comes from the Crossroads Café textbook. Crossroads Café is a video program for learning English. It's fun to do and is well-organized. Watch the newsletter for more information about a distance learning class with Crossroads Café.

Ingredients

Medium egg noodles 1 lb. (pound)
Olive oil 5 tbsp (tablespoon)
Garlic – 6 cloves
Parsley – 3 tbsp
Dry Basil ½ tsp (teaspoon)
Black Pepper – a sprinkle

Board of Elections



Board of Elections members Ana Pérez, Carolina Gonzalez, and Nick Stefan counted ballots after the polling hours were over.

Just like government elections, the ESL Civics classes have a committee called a Board of Elections. Each class has one student that takes care of registration forms, and on Election Day, that student coordinates the voting process. The Board of Elections members also count the votes together to certify the results.

Serving on the Board of Elections were: Nick Stefan, Chiu Jung Chang, Ana Perez, Carlos Henriquez, and Carolina Gonzalez.

Preparation of the Noodles

Put 8 cups of water in a large pan. Put pan on stove over high heat. Heat water until water begins to boil. Place egg noodles in boiling water. Cook egg noodles for 7-8 minutes.

Drain noodles and set them aside.

Preparation of the Sauce

Take the skin off of the garlic with a knife. Crush/mash the garlic with a spoon. Put oil in a frying pan. Put the frying pan over low heat. When the oil is hot, put the garlic in the pan. When the garlic is a little brown, put in the parsley and basil. Stir together.

Pour the mixture of garlic, parsley and basil over the hot noodles. Mix together. Put a little black pepper on top of the noodles. Serve hot.

Thank you to everyone that helped us with this process.

Carlos Henriquez is one of Paulina Crass' students. He volunteered to be a member of the Board of Elections because he wanted "to help the students". He had never done anything similar in Panama, the country he is originally from.

On the day of the elections, Carlos couldn't attend class, so Carolina Gonzalez volunteered to serve as a substitute member and she did a great job of conducting the election process in her class.



Rúben Dario Abella prepares his ballot before turning it in to Board of Elections member Ana Pérez.

Poet's Corner

White Rose
by Walter Poe

In the storm
Stands the white rose
tumultuous waves
of destruction around
her

Yet tall is the white
rose
strong in the face
Of the sensed doom
around her
And she does not bow
down

Pure is the white rose
In the compost earth
growing eternal
strength
in the nights that so hurt

I see not the white rose
She is so far away
But I long to protect her
But only the words can
I say

So I send her my words
And my poets heart
To help her when
there is hope to see her
through

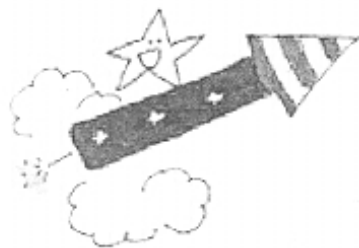
Be Strong little flower
Your heart will guide
true
And as long as you
want
I will always talk to you

Independence Day

Independence Day is an American holiday commemorating the formal adoption by the Continental Congress of the Declaration of Independence on July 4, 1776, in Philadelphia. Although the signing of the Declaration was not completed until August, the Fourth of July holiday has been accepted as the official anniversary of the independence of the United States of America.

At the time of the signing, the United States consisted of 13 colonies under the rule of England's King George III. There was growing unrest in the colonies concerning the taxes that had to be paid to England.

In April 1775, the King's troops advanced on Concord, Massachusetts, and the battle of Concord marked the unofficial beginning of

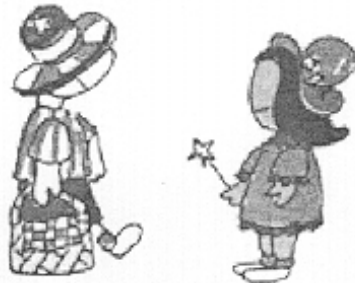


the colonies War for Independence.

The colonies decided to form a Continental Congress and each colony sent representatives to Philadelphia for secret meetings of this group. Some of the colonies were in favor of independence, but not all of the colonies were sure that independence was necessary or even possible.

Then, in June 1776, a committee was formed to compose a formal declaration of independence. Headed by Thomas Jefferson, the committee included John Adams, Benjamin Franklin, Philip Livingston and Roger Sherman. Thomas Jefferson was chosen to write the first draft which was presented to Congress on June 28th.

Debates began on July 1st and the first vote for acceptance of the declaration was on July 2nd. The delegates from the middle colonies thought any declaration of independence



would be premature. On the first vote, only nine colonies voted in favor of declaring independence - South Carolina and Pennsylvania were against independence, Delaware was deadlocked and New York abstained from voting because its delegates had no instructions from the New York legislature. Then, Caesar Rodney, one of the delegates from Delaware who was dying, returned to Congress and his vote broke the deadlock, thus changing Delaware's vote and joining the colonies in favor of independence. Later that day twelve colonies voted for declaring independence, and New York abstained, but approved a move towards independence. South Carolina and Pennsylvania changed their votes because Jefferson reluctantly agreed to remove the provision condemning slavery from the Declaration of Independence.

On the 3rd and 4th of July, the delegates went over the Declaration many times. They made a few changes, but by the time they adjourned on July 4th, the Declaration was adopted in final form. This is why July 4th is celebrated as America's Day of Independence and not July 2nd as John Adams suggested.

To make it official John Hancock, President of the Continental Congress, signed the Declaration of Independence. There is a famous story that he made his signature very large so that the king would be able to read it without using glasses. Americans today continue to remember John Hancock and a popular expression when someone is going to sign a document is to say, "I'll put my John Hancock here".

On July 8th the Declaration had its first public reading in Philadelphia's Independence Square. Twice that day the Declaration was read to cheering crowds and pealing church bells.

The holiday was first observed in Philadelphia on July 8, 1776, at which time the first Independence Day celebration took place the following year - July 4 1777. By the early 1800s the traditions of parades, picnics, and fireworks were established as the way to celebrate America's birthday. It was declared a legal holiday in 1941.



The Fourth of July is traditionally celebrated publicly with parades and pageants, patriotic speeches, and organized firing of guns and cannons and displays of fireworks. ESL students at FTCC had their own celebration on July 3rd.

Fort Bragg has the largest Independence Day celebration in the area. The day begins in the mid-afternoon with parachute freefall demonstrations. Those events are followed by music and lots of family fun. The Main Post Parade Field is the site of most of the activities.

As it does every year, Ft. Bragg had a ceremony of flags honoring the fifty United States, the territories that the United States protects, and all of the major military commands on Ft. Bragg. This ceremony is a stirring sight and ends with the playing of the *Star-Spangled Banner*.

The 82nd Airborne Division Band also plays Tchaikovsky's 1812 Overture with real cannons going off at the appropriate part of the music. This is fascinating to watch. Then, when the music is over, the crowd of thousands is treated to a wonderful fireworks display accompanied by patriotic music.

The Rally in Raleigh

Most of us know that the State of North Carolina has financial problems. There has been talk about cutting the budget for community colleges. At the Summer Splash, some of the ESL SGA members learned about a group that was planning to go to Raleigh. On June 18, some FTCC ESL students volunteered to go to Raleigh with other FTCC students and faculty members in order to let our legislators know about our concerns because the education budget is a subject that concerns all of us. One of those students is Luis Henríquez, who enrolled in our program this spring and has been a leader in our classes by participating in ESL activities. Luis writes for the newsletter, is the new ESL SGA President, and although he is in the intermediate level, Luis is not afraid to speak in English.

After the rally, Jo McEwan, who is one of the FTCC faculty members who went to Raleigh, wrote a letter of appreciation for all of the students that participated. This is what she wrote:

"Just a quick note to let you know that NCCCFA's Student-Faculty Rally in Raleigh yesterday went very well. There were over 100 folks there, nine (whom I know about) from FTCC. System President Lancaster spoke briefly, as did the state CC Trustees' Association president Hal Miller. President Norris and two FTCC students, *Luis Henriquez, among them, shared some impromptu comments as well.*

Thank you for your efforts to coordinate and to help us get Luis to the rally. Please get word to him of NCCCFA's appreciation for his participation. *He is a remarkable man, an extraordinary asset to our community. I was honored to make his acquaintance yesterday. Reassure him that, despite his concerns about his English, the remarks that he made at the rally were both articulate and well chosen. He made us all look VERY good indeed!*

Thanks a gabillion!—Jo McEwan"

Study Circles Facilitators

Slavka Pecinova participated in Study Circles Facilitator Training and was a frequent facilitator of the Friday afternoon Study Circle sessions. What motivated her to attend Study Circles Facilitator Training was her love of challenges. She describes a facilitator as "a person who helps to keep a discussion fluent in a small group of people; a person, who helps others to speak about a particular topic".

Slavka found the subjects that were discussed interesting. She thinks that these types of projects provide "a good opportunity to grow". That's why she would welcome the opportunity to participate in Study Circles again in the fall.

Young Joo Kim describes a Study Circle facilitator as a "person who makes a discus-

sion go smoothly. A facilitator has to be impartial during the discussion.

Young Joo had taken part in group discussions before her ESL Civics grant facilitator training gave her the opportunity to do the same thing in English. She said, "I don't remember specific subjects because it has been a long time since I participated, but I remember most of subjects were quite interesting".

Young Joo added, "There was no one who particularly motivated me to attend Study Circles Facilitator Training. I just wanted to do it". When asked about Study Circles, she offered this: "It's a great chance to practice listening and speaking and also to share various opinions with diverse people".

**Please note:
ESL classes will be
on vacation from
August 9th to
August 20th.
Classes begin again
on August 21st!**

Things to Do in Fayetteville

Cape Fear Botanical Garden is open daily and entrance is free on the first Saturday of the month. Here you can stroll through 85 acres of land overlooking the Cross Creek & Cape Fear River. Hours are 10 a.m.—5 p.m. Located at 536 n. Eastern Blvd. Call 486-0221 for information.

July 18th, The Fayetteville After Five Concert Series starts at 5:30 p.m. and goes until 8:30 p.m. This is an outside event for the whole family and is hosted by the Museum of Art behind the Eutaw Shopping Center on Stamper Road. On this day, the Johnny Grove Band will perform. The concerts are a fundraiser for the Fayetteville Museum of Art. The event is free, but food and beverages are available for purchase.

The Arts Council features HOT SHOTS, its 25th Annual Photography Competition. On display are black and white, color, digital and mixed media photography by local photographers. Come downtown and see the winners of this juried show. This show runs through August 18th. The Arts Center is at 301 Hay St, Fayetteville. Hours: Monday thru Friday 8:30 am-5:00 pm, Saturday Noon - 4:00 pm. FREE

Not Far From Fayetteville

Myrtle Beach offers entertainment and outdoor recreation. One of the attractions is Broadway at the Beach, a 350-acre entertainment experience featuring a park, a lake, nightclubs, cinemas, restaurants, and shops as well as an IMAX Discovery Theater and the Palace Theatre.

Myrtle Waves Water Park is a 20 acre water park featuring more than 30 rides and attractions, including a variety of waterslides, a wave pool and a children's water park. Admission is \$22 for all day. Call (843) 448-1026 or (800) 524 92 83.

Ripley's Aquarium is a place where visitors can walk through an underwater tunnel to view sharks, moray eels, poisonous lionfish and a giant octopus. A freshwater tank exhibits red-bellied piranhas. Admission is \$15. Call toll free for information (800) 734-8888.

Ripley's Believe it or not! Museum offers visitors more than 500 unusual exhibits. The moving theatre is a simulator ride-style replete with 35 foot-wide screen. Admission is \$10.

Clark Park Summer Nature Camp

A summer camp will be held at this park, which is located at 631 Sherman Drive, Fayetteville. Sherman Drive comes off Ramsey Street and is within two blocks of the Veterans Administration Hospital.

The camps last 1 week, Monday to Friday from 8:00 am to 4:30 pm. They provide lunch and snacks. Activities include fishing, orienteering, tracking, camping, survival skills, archery, and a field trip to the Solar Center at the Museum of Natural Sciences.

For kids 10 to 12 years old, the camp will be July 8th to 12th, and for kids 8 to 10 years old, it will be from July 22nd to 26th. From August 5th to 9th, there is another session for children ages 10-12.

The camp costs \$50 per week which includes meals and the field trip. Families may apply for free scholarships if they cannot afford the registration fee.

Registration forms are available at the Park. Phone contact is 433-1579.

Restaurant Review—by Margot Garza

ESL Student Margot Garza submitted this review of a popular restaurant in Fayetteville.

"I heartily recommend *The Olive Garden* restaurant as one of the neatest restaurants I have been to. It is a fun place to go and the interior is very interesting. The staff's service is great. The waitresses are very friendly. They even mix and serve the salad for you.

The food is very good—especially the "Manicotti in Béchamel Sauce," which you'll never find on the menu but I always ask the chef to make it for me. They will do anything to spoil and make their cus-



tomers happy.

The Olive Garden has a relaxed environment and its prices are between \$8 and \$20 per meal. Try it! You'll enjoy it. *The Olive Garden* can be found at 234 North McPherson Church Road."

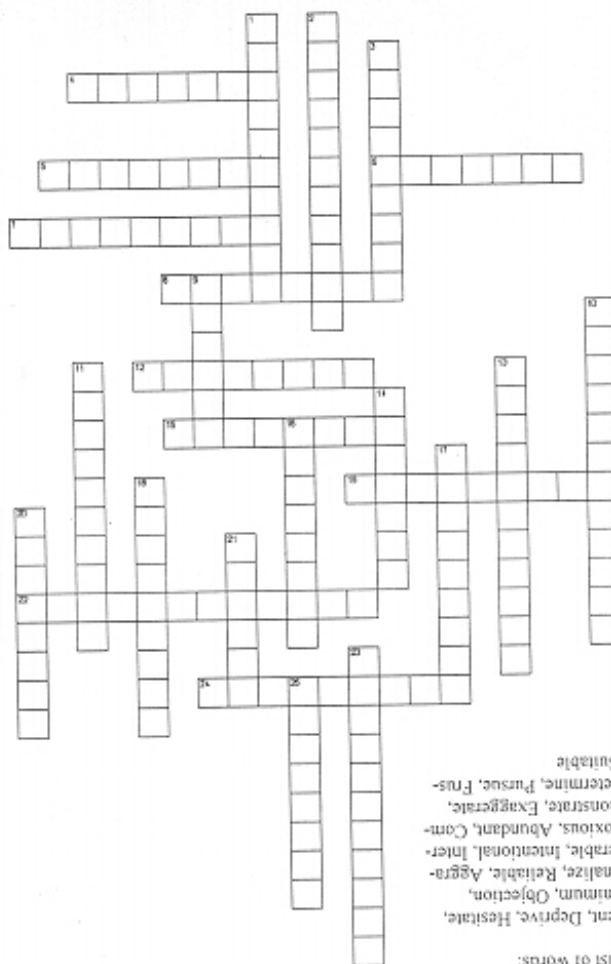
Cool Games (really kewl)

Across

4. Lowest; smallest in size that is possible
5. Odd; strange
6. Modern; existing now; in general use
7. Not pleasant; disgusting
8. To keep up
12. Right for a certain purpose; proper
15. Able to be trusted
19. To begin; to start
22. Getting in the way
24. Having a great need or desire

Down

1. Check of what is alike and different
2. Planned; done on purpose
3. Disapproval; being against something
9. To suggest
10. Rather great; quite a bit
11. To say that something is larger or greater than it really is;
13. To explain or teach by showing
14. To take away from
16. Very plentiful; more than enough
17. To make worse
18. To find out exactly; figure out
20. To be undecided
21. To try to get or succeed in; seek
23. Discouragement
25. To punish



Advise, Current, Deprive, Hesitate,
 Maintain, Minimum, Objection,
 Originate, Penalize, Reliable, Aggra-
 vate, Considerable, Intentional, Inter-
 ference, Obnoxious, Abundant, Com-
 partison, Demonstrate, Exaggerate,
 Desperate, Determine, Pursue, Fusi-
 on, and Suitable

List of words:

Volume 3, Issue 1

January 2003



THE NEWSLETTER OF
FTCC'S ESL/CIVICS STUDENTS

The ESL Times

Flag Ceremony - by Janis Holden-Toruño's class

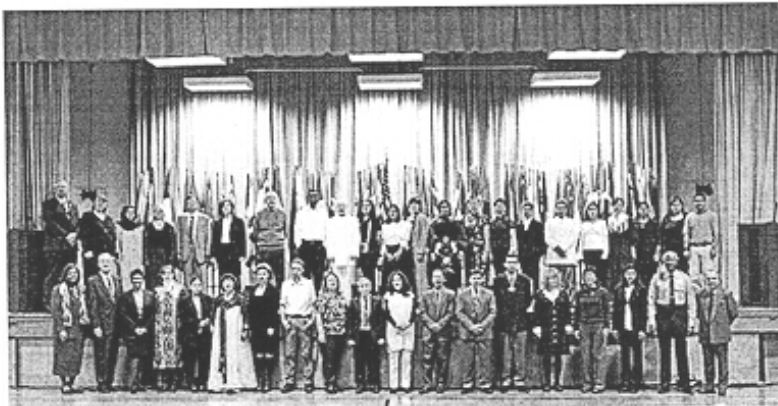
Over one year ago, the FTCC Diversity Committee was looking for a project to honor and celebrate the diversity of our students, faculty and staff. They decided to apply for a mini-grant from the FTCC Foundation so that the committee could get enough money to buy 100 flags to be displayed in the Student Center.

The mini-grant was approved and the process of identifying all of the countries represented on campus began. A large part of the work was done by the ESL Student Government Association.



Chat Hoang presenting the American Flag.

A campus-wide contest for determining the best method to display the flags was held and ESL student Nick Stefan was the winner.



A picture with all of the participants in the ceremony.

Inside this issue:

Flag Ceremony	2
About My Country	3
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Migrant Children	5
Immigration Questions	6
Martin Luther King	7

Special points of interest:

- Thanksgiving at ESL
- A Christmas Tradition
- Human Rights
- Crossword Puzzle

Flag Ceremony (Cont.)

(Continued from page 1)

When it came time for the script to be written for the flag ceremony, the ESL SGA decided which details should be included.

Volunteers worked to mount the flags on poles, label the flags, and iron them. Jan Warren of Media Services prepared a CD of inspiring music. The chosen flag bearers took part in 4 rehearsals to ensure the ceremony would run smoothly.

On December 10, 2002, the stage was ready in the Horace Sisk Gym. The flag bearers were in position, the music was ready, and the audience was seated. Charlie Grimes, Chairperson of the FTCC Diversity Committee, greeted everyone and the ceremony began.

The flag bearers came forward with grace and dignity as each flag was presented. Many of the flag bearers wore traditional clothing and that added to the beauty of the event. After the flag of Venezuela was presented there was a change in atmosphere. The first few notes of "America the Beautiful" played and many people had tear in their eyes as the American flag was presented by Chat Hoang, a Vietnamese veteran who spent 6 years in a communist "re-education" camp. Mr. Hoang is a recent citizen of the United States and it was an honor for him to carry his new country's flag—just as we were honored that he agreed to carry the flag and participate in this event.

After the playing of the "Star-Spangled Banner", Dr. Norris came forward to accept the flags on behalf of the school. He spoke about diversity and how he believes that the diversity at FTCC makes this school truly special. Later that day, Dr. Norris sent an e-mail to the members of the Diversity Committee to share with everyone who had taken part. Here is what he wrote:

"What a wonderful program! Thank you for your hard work and planning to bring this about. I truly appreciate each of you. This was one of the most significant events in the history of the College."

Larry B. Norris, President



In the audience, Dr. Norris, Mrs. Heffney, Kyoung Cooper, Maggy Johnson, Tina Stoeffler, and Young Joo Kim.

Polly Davis, the Director of Institutional Research also commented on the Ceremony. She wrote :

"I have never been as proud of this College as I was at the ceremony today, and you guys made it happen. Almost everyone there shed a few tears when the new citizen of the US (surely a Vietnam vet?) walked in



Nafiseh Sharifian presents the flag of Iran as Charlie Grimes waits to place the flag in its stand.

with the flag. The display for the flags was good looking and practical (it worked!), the folks carried the flags with such dignity; the music was oh so appropriate, and the narrators were great."

Polly Davis

Some of our ESL students were inspired to write about their experiences. Here are the comments of two students.

"The Ceremony was good, because you got to know other countries and cultures. To see the presentation of the flags was very nice. I felt very proud to present my flag--a wonderful feeling. Before the presentation, I was nervous".

Martha Ruiz

"I liked watching the ceremony; somehow it was very interesting and important to me. It was the first time that I saw many flags together. Especially seeing my country represented—that made me feel proud and happy."

Hermelinda Lavallie

About My Country - by Esther Greenwell's Class



The Korean flag and Kyong Yun with traditional clothing from this country.

When I was living in my country, I worked to help my mother.

In my country we had four seasons, spring, summer, fall, and winter. It is a beautiful country. That much I remember about it after living in the United States for the past thirty-two years.

Kyong Yun

I am from Korea. We speak Korean. We have many traditions. Of all of them, New Years is the most important. We wear costumes that are named "hanbok". We eat rice-cake soup on this day and we grow older. So we think this day is important.

Sin Jung Kong

I am from Incheon City in South Korea. My country's traditions from a long time ago said that women had a lower status than men. Females could not go to school before the Korean war. Now people have changed. I can see what's different

in this country and in South Korea by what the young people are doing. We like the western style of life these days. We all speak Korean but we start to learn basic English in middle school.

I believe Koreans have had warm hearts ever since we had the Korean War. We didn't have enough food and money before then, so we try to help each other now. South Korea has come a long way since the Korean War.

Kwang Vickers

I come from Korea. On the first day of January, we begin our new year in a traditional way. On this day Koreans make a deep bow to their parents and their oldest neighbors. Most of the people say "Happy New Year!", "Good Fortune!", and then they usually give some money.

A long time ago most of the people lived with their parents and grandparents. Some of the families had five generations living in the same house.

Mi-Suk Lee

I am from Puerto Rico. The traditions in Puerto Rico include dancing and listening to salsa, merengue, bolero, balada, rap, hip-hop, beach and sand music which are found everywhere. There are carnivals during Holy Week with parades for the



Miriam showing the Puerto Rican flag.

King and Queen, and the festival of flowers in Aibonito during the summer.

In November and December there are parties everywhere. Typical foods at the parties are pasteles, rice with pigeon peas (gandules), pernil (roast pork), pie and cake.

In Puerto Rico everybody speaks Spanish, but in the metro area they speak a little English.

Elizabeth Padilla



I am Armando Lezama. I am from Venezuela. My country is between Brazil and Colombia. We have different traditions. For example, we celebrate "Carnivals". It is a typical tradition in the season from February to March. The music is Calypso. Everybody wears typical costumes.

(Continued on page 4)

About My Country (Cont.)

(Continued from page 3)

December is a beautiful season also because the whole family cheers each other and they have a beautiful time together.

The capital of Venezuela is Caracas and we speak Spanish.

Armando Lezama



I am from Guatemala City, Guatemala. My country is next to Mexico.

We have a lot of traditions. For example, we celebrate Semana Santa (Holy Week) during Easter, Saint Valentine's Day, and have many Carnivals. In November we fly big kites, and at Christmas time we have Las Posadas which are something like elaborate nativity scenes.

My county has thirty-three different languages, but the official language is Spanish. Other languages come from the Mayan language. For example, some of the other languages are Kakchiquel,

Quekchi, Achi, Mam, Pocomam, Eutujil, and many more.

Our country has only two seasons in the year, but both seasons are mild. So, everybody calls Guatemala "El Pais de la Eterna Primavera. (The country of eternal Spring)

A lot of people wear our traditional clothes. These clothes have a lot of pretty colors and the colors are hand-dyed. They make clothes by themselves.

Flavio Diaz

Things To Do in Fayetteville

January 20, at 7 PM at Fayetteville State University - Seabrook Auditoriu 6th Annual Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Concert. Join the FSU Choral Ensembles, Jazz Ensemble, String Ensemble, The Cumberland Cty Youth Orchestra, Teh Brothers Ensemble, and guest solisits Bass Wayne Shepperd and Soprano Valerie Johnson. Admission Fee

College fair/financial aid: Fort Bragg's School Liaison Services will have a college fair and financial-aid workshop from 6:30 to 8:30 PM.

January 23 at Tolson Youth Activi-

ties Center at Normandy Drive and Reilly Street. Cathy Everett, assistant director of financial aid for Fayetteville State University, will hold a workshop from 6:30 to 7 p.m. Several colleges will provide information about enrollment and application from 7 to 8:30 PM. The event is free and open to the public. For information, call 432-1008.

January 24, from 7 PM until 9 PM The Arts Council's Fourth Friday Downtown Fayetteville Monthly celebration of the arts. Various downtown venues come together to offer special events.

February 7, the Hispanic/Latino Center invites everyone to a Valentine's Day celebration at 6:00 PM..at Partnership for Children Building 351 Wagoner Dr. .\$.5:00 gift exchange (if you would like to participate). Drawing for a free computer for center members. For details contact 321-1492

Thanksgiving at ESL



Ho Youn Hwang said some prayers.

At the end of November, we celebrated our ESL

Thanksgiving. We started with a

prayer, and then we moved on to the delicious food prepared by our stu-



Rosa Gonzalez presented some reasons why she and her classmates are thankful.

dents and teachers. During the meal, groups of students chatted about their holiday plans. Some exchanged recipes for foods that they had never eaten before. After the meal each had a representative explain the things that their class is thankful for. At the end we concluded that most all of us are thankful for the same reasons. We are thankful for our freedom in the US, friends, family, meals, and education.



Manuela and her students watching students presenting their messages.



Esther and Antonio Kinch listening to Janis who was speaking to all of us about Thanksgiving traditions.

Migrant Children - by Marge Walter's Class

This past December many ESL students participated in a special program sponsored by FTCC. We joined other students, faculty, and staff members "adopting" children of migrant farm workers for Christmas. Many contributed gifts and money for over 600 children who were included in the program.

Each participant chose a boy or girl of a certain age, ranging from infants to 16 years old and bought them presents. After wrapping their gifts in holiday paper, we added them to the



Rosanna and Rute were two of the many ESL students that "adopted" children.

huge collection in the Early Childhood Center.

On Sunday, December 22, the gifts were delivered to Newton Grove, NC, and distributed to the excited children. All students who participated enjoyed sharing the joy of the holiday season.

The FTCC ESL Students were mentioned as major participants during the monthly "Dialogo" sponsored by the Governor's Office of Hispanic/Latino Affairs.

A Christmas Tradition—by Manuela Frantzen's Class

Christmas is a heart warming time—a time to reunite with family and other loved ones.

In our homelands we have beautiful and memorable customs—but we have all left our countries to start a new life in the US for a variety of reasons. Our families and friends are far away and the American holiday season seems quite different to some of us.

When I came to the United States, I wanted to save at least one of my own traditions: the Christmas Luncheon.

Back in Germany, when I was single, I used to invite my closest friends for a Christmas lunch. We cooked together, folded fancy napkins, laid a beautiful table with precious china, glasses, and silverware, and decorated the table and house with candles, flowers, and Christmas ornaments.

Our menu was at least a four-course meal with matching wines and other beverages.

Here in the States I couldn't invite the members of my little cooking club, but my husband and I have made friends with three wonderful couples who we wanted to have as



our guests.

This was our menu:
French Onion Soup as an appetizer.

The entrée was fruit-filled Pork tender loin with cranberry-mustard sauce served with potato, broccoli and cauliflower au gratin and homemade rolls. After that we had cinnamon ice cream and red wine plums and then an almond frangipane tart with pears and cranberries. Since everybody enjoyed the homemade cinnamon ice cream I would like to share the recipe:

Cinnamon Ice Cream

Take five egg yolks, beat to a froth, and add 4 oz of sugar (slowly, so the froth doesn't lose its texture). Add one teaspoon ground cinnamon and two tablespoons of cognac.

Beat two cups of whipping cream until stiff and fold under the egg mixture. Freeze. Put into refrigerator at least one hour before serving. Enjoy.

Immigration Questions— by Maggy Johnson

I need a job. How can I get a Social Security Card or a Work Permit?

Sin Jung Kang

That question needs to be answered on a case-by-case basis. Social Security Numbers are only available for legal residents of the United States. They need to be applied for with proper INS verification at the Social Security Office.

Proper INS verification means: The applicant is in possession of either a Temporary or Permanent Resident Alien Card. Other forms of INS verification are Naturalization Certificates, Work Permits, Student Visas, (certain restrictions apply) etc.

The applicant needs to provide the originals of the document at the time of application for a Social Security Number.

Work Permits, just like Social Security Cards, depend on the individual case. A brief answer would lead to miscommunication. Some Work Permits are based on the employer, while others are based on the pending status of the applicant. To get correct information, the interested person should contact the INS, or Maggy Johnson at 678-8481.

Martin Luther King



was born on January 15, 1929, in Atlanta, Georgia. Both his father and grandfather were ministers. His

Martin Luther King, Jr., was a great man who worked for racial equality in the United States of America. He mother was a schoolteacher who taught him how to read before he went to school. Young Martin was an excellent student in school.

After graduating from college and getting married, Dr. King became a minister and moved to Alabama. During the 1950's, Dr. King became active in the movement for civil rights and racial equality. He participated in the Montgomery, Alabama,

bus boycott and many other peaceful demonstrations that protested the unfair treatment of African-Americans. He won the Nobel Peace Prize in 1964.

Dr. King was assassinated on April 4, 1968, in Memphis, Tennessee. Commemorating the life of a tremendously important leader, we celebrate Martin Luther King Day each year in January.

Human Rights

What are human rights?

Human rights are those rights that are necessary in order for us to live as human beings. Human rights give us dignity and equality. They protect us from violence, abuse, and work against ignorance and hatred. They are inherent in all human beings and they should never be denied.

Human rights are universal. They transcend borders, cultures, political ideologies, and religious beliefs.

Most importantly, human rights are about respecting one another. They are about fulfilling our responsibility to ensure that no one's human rights are violated. For example, it is your right to be free from discrimination and it is your duty to not discriminate against others. Recognizing that human rights are only as strong as our willingness to treat one another as equals is the first step in achieving

"freedom, justice and peace in the world".

Why is the Universal Declaration of Human Rights important?

The Universal Declaration of Human Rights is a symbol of freedom, equality, and justice in the world. It was the first international agreement aimed solely at protecting and promoting human rights. Nations with diverse political, religious and cultural backgrounds joined together to make a statement against injustice and inequality. They created a stan-

dard of achievement that all nations thereafter would be morally obligated to respect.

Is the Universal Declaration of Human Rights upheld universally?

At an international level, many countries have taken steps to ensure that human rights are a priority in their states. By signing the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, a country commits itself to protecting the rights of its citizens and respecting the rights of all human beings. Many individuals and many governments, however, still fail to uphold human rights. Human rights violations are occurring in homes, in schools, and in communities. Eleanor Roosevelt, Chair of the first United Nations Human Rights Commission, once said that human rights begin "in small places, close to home".



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Fayetteville, North Carolina 28303

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advanced ESL classes on Ft. Bragg and Main Campus.

Advisor: Janis Holden-Toruño

FTCC
Basic Skills Program
English as a Second Language

Cool Games (really kewl)

ALABAMA ARRESTED ASSASSINATED ATLANTA BAPTIST BIRMINGHAM BLACK
BOYCOTT CORETTA DISCRIMINATION DREAM EBENEZER FREE HOUSING JAIL
JANUARY JUSTICE KING LUTHER MARCH MARTIN MEMPHIS MINISTER NOBEL
NONVIOLENT PATIENCE PEACE PRISONPRIZE PROTEST RACIAL RESISTANCE
RIGHTS SCOTT SEGREGATION SELMA SPEECH STRUGGLE TENNESSEE VOTE

M I E Q Y S L S G B E R P J G E S H Q O
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Installation



Rosanna speaking.

On February 18, 2003 we had our ESL/SGA Installation. The president for this semester, Connie Clay-Patrick, could not attend due to medical reasons.

So, the Vice-President spoke on behalf of the SGA.

Here is her message to all the students. "I am Rosanna Lomanto, Vice-President of the Student Government Association. I am here to represent the President, Connie Clay-Patrick, who unfortunately is unable to be here today. This is what she wants



Some of our SGA Members.

you to know.

We, the SGA from the ESL program, want to thank FTCC and the government

of North Carolina for their support and the opportunity to study English. The SGA is here to work in the interests of the students in the ESL program. We need the support and the input of all our ESL students, so please let

your SGA representative know directly what we can do better, or change.



Armado receiving his certificate from Mrs. Heffney.

We all live now in the United States of America and we are aware of the Afghanistan and Iraq situations, so whether your spouse is deployed or not, please come to class and don't lock yourself in or lock yourself out.

Don't be afraid to ask for help. We are all in the same boat even if we are from different countries.

We are proud to be SGA representatives and we promise to work in the interests of the ESL students and give our best to all."

Inside this issue:

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Special points of interest:

- To Do in Fayetteville
- INS New Web Address
- Crossword Puzzle

The Tax Process—by Rute Filipe

For some people, the American Tax System may seem a little complicated, so we hope this article makes it a little more clear. Let's take a look inside the tax system. A good way to explain how the system works is to watch one American income earner -- let's call him Joe -- as he goes through a year of the American tax process.

The tax process begins when Joe starts his new job. One of the first things he has to do when he's hired is fill out all of his tax forms, including a **W-4 form**. The W-4 form lists all of Joe's withholding allowance information, such as his number of dependents and child care expenses. The information on this form tells his employer just how much money needs to be withheld from his paycheck for federal income tax. (The IRS says that you should check this form each year, as your tax situation may change from year to year).

Once Joe is hired and given a salary, he can estimate how much he will pay in taxes for the year. Here's the formula:

1. Start by assessing **gross income**, which includes work income, interest income, pension, and annuities.
2. Subtract any **adjustments** (examples: alimony, retirement plans, interest penalty on early withdrawal of savings, tax on self-employment, moving expenses, education loan interest paid). The difference is the **adjusted gross income (AGI)**.
3. Once the AGI is calculated, there are two choices: Either subtract a **standard deduction**, or subtract **itemized deductions**, whichever is greater. Itemized deductions might include, but aren't limited to, some medical and dental expenses, charitable contributions, interest on home mortgages, state and local taxes, and casualty loss.
4. Next, subtract **personal exemptions** to end up with **taxable income**.
5. Go to the IRS tax tables if taxable income is less than \$100,000, or to the IRS tax rate schedules if it's more than \$100,000. This is where it gets a little complicated, because the United States uses a **marginal tax rate** system. There are five **tax brackets**: 15 percent, 27.5 percent, 30.5 percent, 35.5 percent, and 39.1 percent. How the tax rate works depends on income and marital status.
For those using the tax table, look for taxable income on the chart to find **gross tax liability**.
6. From your gross tax liability, subtract any **credits**. Credits may

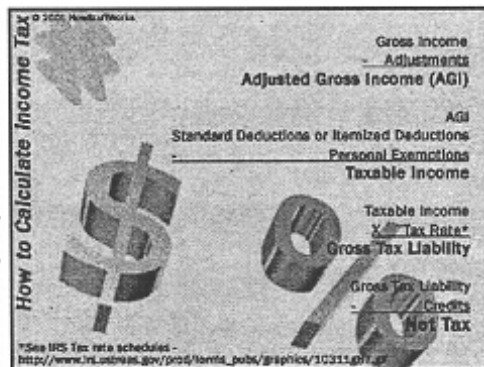
include such items as child care. The difference is the **net tax**, which is how much to pay or how much of a refund to expect.

At the end of each pay period, Joe's company takes the withheld money, along with all of withheld tax money from all of its employees, and deposits the money in a **Federal Reserve Bank**.

Moving ahead to the end of the tax year, Joe's company has to send Joe a **W-2 form** in the mail by January 31. This form details how much money Joe made during the last year and how much federal tax was withheld from his income.

At some point between the time Joe receives his W-2 and April 15, Joe will have to fill out and return his taxes. If Joe is due a tax refund, he is sent a check in the mail in the next few weeks. About 94 million taxpayers received refunds in 2000, according to the IRS. If Joe uses e-File or TeleFile, his refund can be direct-deposited into his bank account.

<http://people.howstuffworks.com/income-tax2.htm>



Knowing your rights and responsibilities as a taxpayer can help you save money all year long. So you may want to review these answers to some common tax questions be-

(Continued on page 3)

Answers to Common Tax Questions

(Continued from page 2)

fore the April 15 deadline for filing federal income-tax returns. Keep in mind that these are broad guidelines.

The recent changes and other requirements are described in the 2002 Tax Guide (Publication 17) from the IRS. You can find the publication online at www.irs.gov or fax a request for it to the IRS at 703-368-9694.

Other tax law changes include the Saver Credit, which is a tax credit for contributions to retirement plans.

What can I do if I cannot pay all the taxes I owe?

If you cannot pay, you may be able to set up a payment plan. The simplest way to do this is to include a request for an installment agreement (Form 9465) with your tax return, or call 800-829-0922. For more information, visit the IRS Web site and search for What to Do If You Can't Pay Your Tax? (Tax Topic 202).

What if I cannot file my tax return on time?

You may be able to get an automatic four-month extension if you request this by April 15. Fill out an application for an extension (Form

4868), or ask a professional such as your attorney or tax preparer to fill it out for you. You usually still have to pay your taxes by April 15, but you get more time to complete the return.

When will I get my refund if the government owes me money?

Refunds usually arrive in 6 to 8 weeks if you file a paper return and 3 to 4 weeks if you file an electronic return. In either case, you may get your refund a week sooner if you have the money deposited directly in your bank account instead of waiting for a check.

What can I do if I am worried that my refund got lost in the mail?

If you filed a paper or electronic return at least four weeks ago, you can check on the status of your refund by calling 800-829-4477 twenty-four hours a day or by visiting the Web site for the IRS and

In 2000, the average American income earner worked

50 days to pay individual income tax,

30 days to pay social insurance taxes,

16 days to pay sales taxes,

10 days to pay property taxes,

12 days to pay corporate income taxes,

3 days to pay business taxes and 2 days to pay all other taxes.



clicking on the appropriate links.

Finally, remember that if you pay your taxes late without getting an extension, you may have to pay a late-filing fee. In addition, if you owe the government money, you may have to pay interest on it. So if you cannot pay the full amount you owe, it is a good idea to pay something. Paying even a small amount shows that you are trying to meet your responsibilities and may make it easier to obtain an installment agreement for the balance.

Festival Primavera: - by Alicia Howard's class

FESTIVAL PRIMAVERA: FREE FUN IN APRIL FOR EVERYONE!

Students, how would you like to spend the whole day in a sunny park, eating *free* food, playing baseball, dancing and listening to live Spanish music?

Well, your wish has been granted. The City of Fayetteville will hold its second annual *Festival Primavera* on **Saturday, April 12th, 2003** from **1:00 P.M. until 5:00P.M.** Baseball games begin at 8:30 A.M., and you can play or watch until about 2:00 P.M. The festival takes place at Massey Hill Recreation Center, and everything is outside.

Bring your whole family—your children, your husband or wife, sisters, brothers, uncles, aunts, cousins, nieces and nephews. Your friends are

welcome, too! But you don't need to bring any money! Everything is **FREE!** Sodas, hot dogs and Spanish food will be served all day.

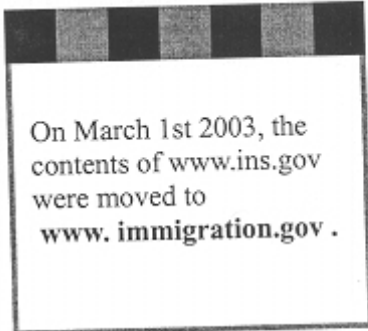
The goal for Festival Primavera is to bring English-speaking and Spanish-speaking communities in Fayetteville together as friends. But even if you don't speak Spanish, everyone is welcome!

We are planning to have the **FTCC SGA** (Student Government Association) there at a table, with your teachers. Come out and support your friends from SGA!

Please see **Alicia Howard**, ESL instructor, for maps, directions and more information. Mrs. Howard teaches ESL at Immanuel Baptist Church. You can come over during the morning break or after class at 12:00 P.M. Send e-mail messages to:

Howardalicia@cs.com.

The Festival Primavera Planning Committee is also looking for volunteers to help with baseball. If you like baseball, come see Alicia Howard now, during the month of March.



On March 1st 2003, the contents of www.ins.gov were moved to www.immigration.gov.

To Do in Fayetteville

March 28 from 7 PM until 9 PM
Arts Council of Fayetteville/
Cumberland County present Fourth Friday **Admission is Free.** Monthly celebration of the arts. Various downtown venues come together to offer special events. An evening of Celtic-Inspired Poetry and Music will be presented at 4th Friday. There will be music, poetry reading, and refreshments. This event is very popular among ESL students. We often see our teachers and students there.

The eyes of the world will be on Fayetteville from **May 16-26, 2003**, as the Festival of Flight 2003 commemorates the 100th Anniversary of the Wright brothers' first flight. We expect 500,000 people to visit our city, the exhibits at the Crown Coliseum Complex, Grannis Field Air Shows, Pope Air Force Base Open House, and many other activities.

Approximately 2,500 volunteers are needed during this event. You may obtain additional information re-

garding the Festival and volunteer online at www.festivalofflight.org. We need your help to make Fayetteville and this celebration an event to remember. To go directly to the **VOLUNTEER PAGE**, click on this link: <http://www.festivalofflight.org/volunteers.shtml>

What do people eat in different countries? - by Manuela Frantzen's class

In our class, we talked about eating habits in different countries. We all were amazed by the variety of food people eat all over the world.

Every country has different foods that are normal for people to eat. Some people eat with their hands and some eat with silverware or chop sticks. Usually every country has certain animals to be eaten.



In Kosovo, people eat a lot of fish, chicken, bread and corn and they drink a lot of milk. Italy has a region where singing birds are considered a specialty. The French are famous for eating frog legs and snails. Certain areas in Germany serve all kinds of deer, wild game, and venison.

In Peru, a lot of people live close to the ocean. The best food there is fish and seafood like shrimp, oysters, scallops, and sea anemones.



Armadillos and rabbits are eaten in Guatemala. Some people there eat cats, turtles, squirrels, and snakes. In Korea, people love dog meat soup during the summer and take antelope pills to stay healthy. Goat meat is considered good, too.



Mexicans eat a lot of chicken and beef. They love eggs, corn, and fish. In Puerto Rico everybody likes vegetables. A traditional food is rice with pigeon peas, beans, and roasted pork.

People in Botswana, Africa, love dumplings with chicken soup and a lot of meat. At lunch, they eat grasshoppers and a special kind of mouse. Deer and other animals are dried in the sun before they are eaten.

Iranians eat rice twice a day. Besides that, they like a lot of fruit and vegetables. Meat is only eaten in small portions.



The lessons about eating were quite surprising and a lot of fun. We learned a lot about each other and came to these conclusions:

What you eat does not define who you are, but to a certain degree, where you are from. The society we grew up in determines what is acceptable to eat and what is repulsive. Our eating habits and individual tastes shouldn't be a point of judgment; however they should make us



aware of our differences and diversity which are enjoyable, surprising and enriching.

Women's History Trivia

Bessie Coleman was the first African-American, and the first woman, to earn an international aviation license.

The Vietnam Memorial Wall was design by 21-year-old Maya Ying Lin.

Dr. Sally K. Ride became the first American woman to be sent into space in 1983.

Anne Bradstreet's book of poems, "The Tenth Muse Lately Sprung Up in America," was published in 1650 in England, making her the first published American woman writer.

Woodhull was the first woman presidential candidate in the United States in 1872 when she was nominated by the National Radical Reformers.

The first woman to be elected to the U.S. House of Representatives was Jeannette Rankin of Montana in 1916.

Women's History Month

Women's History Month began as a single week and as a local event. In 1978, Sonoma County, California, sponsored a women's history week to promote the teaching of women's history. The week of March 8th was selected to include International Women's Day. The activities and events that were held met with an overwhelmingly enthusiastic response, and within a few years, scores of area schools held programs for Women's History Week. Hundreds of women from the community participated by going into the schools as Community Resource Women, and an annual Real Woman Essay Contest drew hundred of entries, as did an annual women's history parades through the heart of downtown Santa Rosa, California.

In March of 1980, President



Jimmy Carter issued a Presidential Message to the



American people, encouraging the recognition and celebration of women's historic accomplishments during the week of March 8th, Women's History Week. In

1981 Congress passed a resolution making the week a national celebration, and in 1987 expanded it to the full month of March.

The Women's Center of Fayetteville

The Women's Center of Fayetteville is a non-profit organization that serves as a multi-service resource and advocacy Center, dedicated to helping women help themselves through our programs and services.

The Women's Center works with other community agencies to achieve this goal, and has a solid history of helping women and their families.

2003 Business Workshops and Training

Pre-registration is required for all workshops

To register call the Women's Center at 323-3377

Marketing for Small Businesses. If you are a small business owner or plan to be, this workshop will help you to gain a clear understanding of your product and your market. **Thursday, March 20, 2003**

Family Law Clinic. Topics open for discussion include General Family law, Divorce and Separation, Child Support, Child Custody, and others that may be appropriate. **Tuesday, March 25, 2003**

Resume Builder. Use our computers and software to develop a job-getting resume! **Wednesday, March 19, 2003**

Soldiers and Sailors Relief Act

The Soldiers' and Sailors' Civil Relief Act (SSCRA) is a federal statute passed by Congress to allow military members to suspend or postpone some civil obligations so that the military member can devote his or her full attention to military duties. The original Soldiers' and Sailors' Civil Relief Act was passed during World War I. The statute was reenacted during World War II, and was later modified during Operation Desert Storm.

The SSCRA is designed to protect active duty military members, reservists who are in active federal service, and National Guardsmen who are in active federal service. SOME of the benefits under the SSCRA extend to dependents of active duty military members as well.

Here are the benefits:

Reduced interest rate on mortgage payments.

It also can provide temporary relief from paying your mortgage. To obtain relief, a military member must show that his/her mortgage was entered into prior to beginning active duty.

Reduced interest rate on credit card debt.

To qualify for the interest rate cap the military member has to show that he or she is now on active duty, that the obligation or debt was incurred prior to entry on active duty, and that

military service materially affects the members' ability to pay. To begin the process, the military member needs to send a letter along with a copy of current military orders to the lender requesting relief under the SSCRA. The interest rate cap lasts for the duration of active duty service.

Protection from eviction if your rent is \$1,200 or less.

If you are leasing a house or apartment, the SSCRA can protect you from being evicted for a period of time, usually three months. The dwelling place must be occupied by either the active duty member or his or her dependents and the rent on the premises cannot exceed \$1200.00 a month. Additionally, the military member must show that military service materially affects his or her abil-

ity to pay rent. If a landlord continues to try to evict the military member or does actually evict the member, he or she is subject to criminal sanctions such as fines or even imprisonment. However, if you feel that you are in this situation, don't just stop paying rent and wait



three months. Talk to a legal assistance attorney.

Delay of all civil court actions, such as bankruptcy, foreclosure or divorce proceedings.

The SSCRA protects service members from court actions while the soldier is away from home.

The Soldiers and Sailors Relief Act targets essentially reservists that became on active duty, but some financial institutions may honor it although your loans/mortgages started during the soldier is active duty. For some of us, it may be worth to try. (Let us know if it worked for you.)

To learn more about these or other provisions of the Soldiers' and Sailors' Civil Relief Act, contact your unit or installation legal assistance office.

If you would like to print the Act please log on to <http://www.chinfo.navy.mil/navpalib/questions/ssrelief/usc50top.html>.



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Basic Skills Program
English as a Second Language

Cool Games (really kewl) St. Patrick's Day

X H T T N T T Z H N Y M I C V
N E T H R G R E K R B A H Z N
C T G N Y A R I A J D R U M W
L A N M E D D N N P C C A S W
Q T W I S E O I Z I H H Y E M
G U C M A I T Q T R T T V K C
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AGRICULTURE
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MISSIONARY
MONK
MUSIC
PATRICK
PINCH
POTATO
SAINT
SEVENTEENTH
SHAMROCK
SHEPHERD
SNAKES
STEW
THREE
TRADITION
TRINITY
UNITY