This Sunday morning (April 2nd) at 2:00 AM, Daylight Savings Time will be starting. That means you have to set your clocks ahead one hour. The easiest way to remember how to set your clocks is "spring forward, fall back." That is, on the first Sunday of April in the spring, you set your clocks forward one hour to begin Daylight Savings Time, and on the last Sunday of October in the fall, you set them back one hour to end it. **Please don't forget to set your clocks, or you will be an hour late to all of your classes on Monday.** You may be wondering why we have this thing called Daylight Savings Time. While many countries throughout the world follow this time shift custom, many others do not. What exactly is the reasoning behind it? Well, the original purpose is to make the best use of daylight. Many people enjoy having an extra hour of sunlight to get some extra outdoor work (or play) done in the afternoon. There is also some evidence that Daylight Savings Time saves energy. In the summer, the extra hour of daylight in the evening cuts down slightly on the amount of energy used for lighting, while the sun still rises very early in the morning producing a similar effect. In the winter, when the actual hours of daylight are shorter, the extra hour in the morning allows more people to wake up after the sun rises in the morning, thus eliminating the need to turn on extra lights. In addition, there is also a correlation between daylight and traffic accidents, so during Daylight Savings Time, people are less likely to get in accidents because they can drive home from work in the daylight. There is some opposition to Daylight Savings Time, especially from those who have to get up at dawn regardless of the time, and even in the U.S. some states do not observe it. You be the judge. Is it worth it, or just a hassle? At any rate, you'll have to cope with the hassle if you want to be on the same schedule as everyone else.

**The Weekend Trip**

This Saturday, April 1st, we are holding our second Volunteer Day of the spring term. This is your chance to help out the community while practicing your English in a real-life environment. Below is a description of the volunteer activities going on this weekend.

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

St. Francis Homeless Shelter – Help prepare and serve meals for homeless people: bake bread, make salads, cook rice, meat, potatoes, and make gallons of juice! Help set up tables, clean up and wash dishes. Great way to practice English and meet people! We will meet at the Norman Hall Garage at 1pm and return around 4pm.

Habitat for Humanity — Help build a house with Habitat for Humanity. Habitat is a non-profit organization that wants to help end homelessness and poverty housing around the world. We will be doing actual building construction for a low-income family! Wear clothes that can get dirty. We will meet at the Norman Hall Garage at 9am and return around 12noon.

Nursing Home – Speak with elderly people who do not have their families nearby...brighten up their day! You can go on walks and share stories. This is excellent English practice! We will
meet at the Norman Hall Garage at 1:30pm and return around 4pm.

**Dudley Farms**— We will help on the project that concentrates on the removal of an exotic plant named ardesia. Dudley Farms will provide water, gloves and the equipment used to remove the plant (shovels, etc). (Wear jeans and clothes that can get dirty). You will also get a chance to see a tour of this beautiful historic park. We will meet at the Norman Hall Garage at 9:30am and return around 1pm.

**Spring Arts Festival Kids’ Art**— Located in Downtown Gainesville, the Arts festival is a weekend event of arts, entertainment and FUN! We will be volunteering in the children’s area which they call the Kid’s Art Jungle. We will help the kids and families with hands-on crafts, from making mosaics to painting faces. We will meet at the NRN Garage at 11am and return around 3pm.

Have a great day, everyone!

### Next Weekend

Next weekend, on Saturday, April 8th, we headed to beautiful **Historic St. Augustine**. This is a van trip, so you must purchase your $20 transportation pass from The Outfitter at the Reitz Union this Friday, March 31st. Meet at the NRN Garage at 12:50, and we will walk you over to get your transportation pass. More details will be on the Activities Board and in next week’s *Weekly*.

### Student Voices Deadline

It’s *ELI Student Voices* time, everyone! Steve wants us to let you know that the deadline for submissions for this semester will be on Friday, April 14th. You can give your submissions to your teacher, to Steve directly, or you may place them in Steve’s mailbox (marked *Flocks*) in the ELI Main Office, Room 315. Let’s see what you can come up with!

### Birthdays

The following are ELI birthdays from March 31-April 6:

**Students:**
April 2: Hatem Alhazmi
April 3: Abdulhalil Alsualman
April 3: Ibrahim Habadi

**Staff:**
None this week!

Happy Birthday, one and all!

### Manners and Culture

**Q:** Why do all the clubs close at 2am?

**A:** Well, the official reason is that it’s supposed to get people off the streets earlier. In practice, there’s a lot of debate as to just how effective this is. Some people feel that it really doesn’t matter what time the bars close—you’re just as likely to have drunk people on the road no matter what. Gainesville is not the only place in Florida with 2am closing times; even places as large as Orlando also do this!

**Q:** Why do students in the US call teachers by their first names? In my country, this is impolite.

**A:** Most of us don’t. It really depends in most cases on the personal preferences of the professors. In a regular university class, we usually use “Doctor” or “Professor” plus the person’s last name. Or, if they don’t have a PhD degree, we might use “Mr.” or “Ms”. At the ELI, though, we are a little less formal—on purpose. We try to foster a more conversational environment in order to get students talking more.

### Quote of the Week

Hope begins in the dark, the stubborn hope that if you just show up and try to do the right thing, the dawn will come. You wait and watch and work: You don't give up.

*Anne Lamott*