Dear READERS,

We are grateful to the ILC that has offered help to many thousands of immigrants to learn and improve English and achieve their goals. ILC is a guide to success.

What do you want when you come to the U.S? Did you have a hard time to find better jobs or to communicate? We had our own goals when we came here and we think the first thing to start is to learn the language. We also get a lot of things more than the language like: the cultures, jobs, friendships, love…in this school. We really appreciate what the school and the teachers have done for us. We’ll try harder to be a part of the United States.

The new elected president Mr. Barrack Obama is the first black president in America. On behalf of all immigrants in America we would like to tell him “Dear President Obama, we are grateful to be immigrants to this country. We see you as a good sign of a better situation for all immigrants. We dream of living together without racism as one family, working hard to make this country stronger.
Directors and staff

Diane Portnoy, Director and Co-Founder of The ILC
Interviewed by Hanane Hafir

Diane said that 2009 is a difficult year. It’s a challenge this year to raise money. This year the ILC was able to start another ESL class, but there are about 750 students on the waiting list. Diane hopes that next year will be better for raising money to educate more students. There are currently 459 students attending the school.

She said her goals are to keep the school going and to help immigrants. She loves this school because even though we have students from 93 countries from all over the world, but we live and treat each other just like a big family.

Sandy Bornstein
Interviewed by Quynh-Anh

Sandy is Diane’s daughter. She was a teacher at the ILC a few years ago. Now she works part-time. She does a lot of special projects with Diane and fundraising events. She also helps design the new website for the school.

She enjoys working here and is also busy with her 2 children. She admires and respects the students because she knows that it’s hard for them to leave their countries, cultures, friends, and family to come to the U.S.

Marcia Hohn,
Director of Public Education
Interviewed by Quynh-Anh

There is a lot of wrong information about immigrants such as they take all the jobs, do not pay taxes, crimes…Marcia is the one who explains and shows people the positive ways that the immigrants can help this country.

The ILC hired people from a university to do the research that immigrants are workers, consumers and business owners. Marcia and her department worked with people in government, business owners, and teachers to help answer the misinformation and explain why immigrants are important to the U.S.

It’s a hard job with a lot of work to do, but Marcia really enjoys her work. She loves to meet interesting people from different countries. She wants people to get the right information about immigrants.
Directors and staff (continued)

Kathy Smith  
Director of Development  Interviewed by Fatima

Kathy said most of the money comes from foundations, corporations, individuals, ILC golf tournament, and autumn benefit. About 20% comes from the government.

She collects the funds from the golf tournament every June. She said the funds this year are less than last year because most of the companies are having economic problems. The reason the school is still working because the ILC saves money in the bank to pay the teachers, bills and rent. She reads newspapers, magazines and searches the Internet to find the people who want to donate for the school. For example, IBM donated computers to our computer lab.

Holly Jones  
School Counselor  Interviewed by Quynh-Anh

Holly has worked here for 10 years. She registers new students and helps them in all the classes to find jobs, training programs, see doctors, even help them with personal problems.

She feels very rewarded and successful when her advice works out. She’s very happy when students come back to thank her and tell her about their successful life. They also share the hard time they have had when they came to U.S alone, and when they face the difficult time in their lives.

Something new this year at the ILC

Susan Haley, Senior Conversation Class  Interviewed by Quynh-Anh

Mystic Valley Elder Services (MVES) helped us open this new class. It’s the beginning conversation class for people who are older than 60. The class helps them to be independent in the future. There are 3 volunteers in her class: Dan Bridges, Roz Raish, Liz Ahearn. Susan gets excited when the students tell her how they practice English with their grandchildren, and when they cook or dance.

Doreen Eramian  
ESL B1

The new class began in September 2008. The school has a big waiting list, so when there was empty space Diane Portnoy expanded the school to include an additional Beginning English classroom because we have so many level 1 students waiting. It has helped to shorten the wait time for students.

Marianne Pesce, Administrative assistant,  Interviewed by Hanane Hafir

Marianne has worked in the school for 7 years. She performs many jobs at the ILC. She said many students have left school to go to college or get a new job. This year we have a new class that helps a lot of students on the waiting list. We always have extra help from 50 volunteers. The ILC has a party for volunteers every year to show them how the school appreciates their work and Diane gives them a certificate at the party.
Word Search Puzzle by ESL1

Find the words listed below. Words appear straight across, backward, up, down and diagonally. (Check your answers on page 12)

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Survey of the morning students by ESL2

Monday through Friday, between 9 and 12 noon, the ILC educates 164 students from 25 countries.

There is 1 student from Algeria.
There are 2 students from Belarus.
There are 17 students from Brazil.
There is 1 student from Cameroon
There is 1 student from Chile.
There are 34 students from China.
There are 2 students from Colombia.
There is 1 student from Democratic Republic of Congo.
There are 3 students from Dominican Republic.
There are 14 students from El Salvador.
There are 3 students from Ethiopia.
There are 2 students from Guatemala.
There are 48 students from Haiti.
There is 1 student from Honduras.
There is 1 student from Iraq.
There is 1 student from Italy.
There is 1 student from Japan.
There are 13 students from Morocco.
There is 1 student from Pakistan.
There are 3 students from Russia.
There is 1 student from Saudi Arabia.
There is 1 student from Taiwan.
There are 2 students from Turkey.
There is 1 student from Venezuela.
There are 10 students from Vietnam.

The above information does not include the 275 students who attend the ILC in the afternoon. They come from the countries listed above and, Afghanistan, Albania, Burma, Cape Verde, Ecuador, Egypt, Hong Kong, India, Iran, Korea, Lebanon, Mexico, Oman, Peru, Romania, Somalia, South Korea, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Tibet, Ukraine, and Yemen.
Ideas for Practicing English by ESL3

**- Ask questions**

Don’t be shy. Get out of your house and talk to people. Practice English with anyone, anywhere, anytime.

**Listen to music**

- On the radio, on tapes, CD’s or on your IPod. Choose music that has a slow band so you can learn the words and sing.
- Read your dictations out loud for ten minutes to develop your English “mouth muscles.”
- 1-2-3-4: write two or three sentences using four new words every day.
- Use flash cards and review them in your free time and at night. Review old flashcards a week later. Say each word out loud and write it from memory. Make a picture of new words in your head.
- Talk to people in bus lines. Make “small talk.” Take advantage of any situation to talk. Talk about the weather.

**Talk to neighbors and co-workers in English.**

- Write a few important words from each paragraph in the margin of the story or article. Then read this outline to understand the story.
- Start an English conversation group and meet in the library or other places.
- Talk to the parents of your child’s friends.
- Practice interrupting your friends and asking them to repeat or to give you more information. Make it a game.

**Watch favorite T.V. channels.**

- Watch cartoons and children’s shows.
- Look at the speakers. Repeat the words.
- Watch the advertisements for health products and other things.
- Read ads and coupons in the newspaper. Read menus and signs.
- Write down new words and bring them to class.
- Read the ads in the pictures when you are sitting on the subway.
- Use the computer in English.
- E-mail your friends in English.
- Read stories in English.
April 2, 2009 was a special day at our school. Morning students organized this day to celebrate our countries and cultures. All the school was invited and we also had children and other guests. Students made posters in every room to show famous places in their countries. We couldn't stop walking around to the rooms for food, music, dancing, and more! It was a great day!

The food on that day was colorful and tasty. ← The left shows an ESL 4 student making Chinese dumplings. ↓ Below shows food from El Salvador. Their famous food is "pupusa." We could also try food from many other countries, for example, Haiti (chicken and plantains), Japan (sushi), Turkey (dolma, baklava), Peru (potatoes), and many others.

This is a man from Haiti dancing with a woman from Chile. We could meet new friends from many countries and have fun together.

This shows a traditional ceremony of marriage in Turkey. The woman covers her face and other women walk around her and sing with candles and sweets. → We also saw Chinese jump rope, African drumming, and ladies from Algeria and Morocco paint henna on their hands in a beautiful design.

This picture shows beautiful clothes. Some students from Sri Lanka and India helped other students and teachers try on their traditional dresses in many colors. Everybody wanted to take a lot of pictures to remember this wonderful day.
Parenting from different countries by Family Literacy 1 & 2

Belarus: When a woman is pregnant she stops working 2.5 months before the baby is born and stays home for three years after the baby is born. She receives benefits from the government.

Brazil: Right after a baby is born, she is bathed immediately unlike in the U.S. where you wait a week before bathing a newborn. In Brazil, we believe the baby will be more relaxed, sleep well and smell sweet.

Chile: When a baby is born, we pin a special medal attached to a cloth on the baby’s clothes so everybody can see and visit the newborn without anything bad happening to the baby. It is believed that this special medal gives the baby protection from anything bad that could possibly happen to the baby.

China: In the U.S., the bride’s family pays for the wedding. In China, it’s the groom’s family that pays for the wedding. Married couples can have only one child. Since about 1974, for Chinese New Year, children wear new clothes and get “lucky money” from adults.

El Salvador: Most families are larger than American families. The typical Salvadoran family has about six children.

Ethiopia: Parents in Ethiopia are much stricter than American parents. Spanking is permitted and is considered normal. In the U.S., parents are not allowed to spank their children. People may call 911 if they see you spanking your child.

Haiti: When a mother gives birth, she needs to take a bath with an infusion of special leaves for a few weeks. That will make her feel better.

Ivory Coast: In Ivory Coast, you should stay home for forty days after giving birth. You wear a beautiful cloth and you thank those that gave you gifts.

Morocco: In Morocco, parents don’t agree that children can live separately from them. In the U.S., adult children can move out of the house and live independently.

The Democratic Republic of Congo: When a baby is born, the maternal grandmother comes to wash her daughter’s body in warm water for a minimum of two weeks.

The Dominican Republic: More children are hungry in The Dominican Republic than are in the United States.

Vietnam: When kids get the seasonal flu, parents keep the children home and make them a cup of ginger juice and rice soup. Parents give their sick children special oil massages and herbal medicine. In the U.S., the parents bring the children to the doctor.

Turkey: In Turkey, families usually have only one or two children.
Our Wonderful Literacy Volunteers by Literacy Class

The students of the ESOL Literacy Class want to thank our many wonderful volunteers in 2008-2009. We interviewed many of these volunteers and we would like to tell you about them.

Our community volunteers come from many walks of life: Pam DeGroot has run a YWCA, taught preschool, worked with teens to teach them leadership, and volunteers for a hospice. Pam volunteers here because she likes to meet people from different places. Ron Hamburger is a retired dermatologist. He enjoys bird watching, making jewelry and volunteering at the ILC. Nancy Nelson was a high school chemistry teacher for 11 years and a research scientist at the National Institutes of Health for 15 years. Johanna Segarich is a music professor at Middlesex Community College. She teaches music and used to be an opera singer. She speaks French, Italian, German, and a little Spanish. Sue Dosick was a high school art teacher for 35 years. She enjoys working with immigrants because they have interesting stories and customs and because they all want to learn. She loves international food. Deb Cicero, a former lawyer and business owner, is a volunteer because she feels she has been given much in life and she wants to give something back. The students at the ILC are an inspiration to her because they are so motivated and work so hard. Alison D’Armario taught high school English for 12 years. She is now Education Director at the Salem Witch Museum and writes articles for the Topsfield local newspaper. She likes to volunteer because she loves the students very much and admires their determination. Ardella Montgomery has taught university and high school English. She volunteers here because she likes the students. She also likes to dance. Norma Staples is a proud mother. Her son just graduated from college – tenth in his class. Norma volunteers for a thrift store and a soup kitchen. She enjoys volunteering here because she likes to help people. Praghyalok Vhickhu, a Buddhist monk from Nepal, has lived and studied in Nepal, Sri Lanka, Canada, and England, and the U.S. He has a Master’s Degree in Education and he teaches Buddhism. He likes to volunteer here so he can practice his profession as a teacher. Elder Amburn, Elder Phipps, Elder Forsey, Elder Densley, Elder McCandless, Sister Potter, Sister Washburn, Sister Elsey, Sister Skinner, Sister Hansen, Sister Potter, Sister Bennett, Sister Ostler, Sister Gutierrez and Sister Mudrow are missionaries from the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. Sister Ostler, from Utah, likes being a missionary and enjoys helping people to learn English. Sister Gutierrez, from Mexico, is 24 years old and went to college for two and half years. Sister Mudrow, from Utah, loves to be a missionary and she likes to help people at this school. Genevive Lalanne is 19 years old and plans to study nursing.

Our recent student volunteers come from many countries: Belarus, Brazil, Egypt, El Salvador, China, Haiti, India, Morocco, Pakistan, Peru, Russia, Saudi Arabia, Thailand, Turkey, Ukraine, Vietnam and other countries. Sufana Alfarouqi was a kindergarten teacher in Saudi Arabia and plans to study Early Childhood Education in the U.S. Jacquelin Pierre Louis sings professionally in a choir and studied computer science in Haiti. He wants a career in communication coding and programming. Chou Nguyen worked as a chef for 15 years. She lives a simple life and helps other people. Zhanna Stalbo lives with her husband in Boston where she enjoys the libraries and free concerts. Dany Paulo likes this country because it respects human rights and has economic opportunities. He wants a career in hospital administration and likes to help people. Schilov St. Louis is 20 years old. He works at Logan Airport. Other Literacy Class volunteers include Margarita Rojevskaya, Elza Koen, Alexandra Franco, Tannu Dugal, Quynh-Anh Fucci, Jin Tian Yu, Xue Feng Liang, Esther Tello, Hanh Nguyen, Pilantana Moonchanha, Jin Jing Zou, Marie Rosenie Leon, David Sydney, Martine Sylvain, Lubna Ashad, Olena Savystska, Madeleine Moros, Raisa Abdeen, Adelina Drummond, Sadida Rashid, Rosa Monroy and Rong Zhu Xie. Our newest volunteers are Tita Zamora, Roxana Vaquerano, Yu Ci Huang, Hanane Messaoud, Wilner Malachie, Andree Charles, Murielle Ladonis, Marie-Lourdes Brizard and Mei Xia Liu. And our Conversation Class peer tutors are Nerilise Michel, Roza Harelk, Rosa Cappuccio, Shazia Ghafter, Marie Favard, Wen Bi Chen and Roxana Vaquerano. Thank you to all our volunteers!
Folks Beliefs from around the World by Theatre Class

Pregnancy and Babies:

In Russia if a pregnant woman looks at a fire or an ugly person, her baby will be deformed. If you don't give a pregnant woman something she asks for, a mouse will come chew up everything in your house. If she doesn't talk about her pregnancy often, her baby's speech will be delayed. In Haiti if a woman talks about her pregnancy in the first few months, her baby may be born deformed. If she steals during her pregnancy, her child will be a thief. If she cuts her son's hair in the first year, his speech will be delayed. In many countries, pregnant women are cautioned not to sit on the ground because it's bad for their babies. It's bad luck to praise a baby in China; if you say a baby is healthy or smart, it will be sick or foolish. If you praise the baby's appetite, it will stop eating. If you use scissors on a bed while pregnant, you will have a miscarriage.

Health:

In China, green jade bracelets and red string are good luck. If you fall down wearing a jade bracelet and the bracelet breaks, you won't be hurt. Babies are given special safety symbols either to wear as jewelry, or written on paper to be kept with them. Wearing pearls will help you feel calm. In Peru dressing your child in a red or black shirt will help cure a cold. To stop a child's hiccups use a moist, red thread on the forehead in Peru or any color of thread on the forehead in Haiti. Children must not leave their toys outside at night because an evil person can cast a spell on the toys to make the children sick.

Animals:

Crows are bad luck in China, Colombia and Haiti. Witches take the form of crows in Cameroon and Haiti, but you can send them away with incense in Haiti. Owls are bad luck in Colombia. In Russia a bird at your window means someone will die. In China a black butterfly is a dead person returning. In Haiti, chickens running around the street at night are witches. If you tell anyone you saw them you'll get sick.

Money and Dreams

In China, dreaming about money is bad luck; it means you will have no money. But dreaming about a coffin is good luck; it means you will receive money. A dream about rain is also good luck, and an itchy palm means you will receive money. In Peru if someone has a bad dream and talks about it before noon, the dream will come true. In Haiti, after a bad dream you must rinse your mouth with hot water and spit into the toilet, then flush.

Bad Luck:

In Russia a person crossing your path with an empty bucket is very bad luck. Don't take a trip or a test on that day. In China, if the first person you talk to in the morning doesn't hear you or answer you, you will have bad luck that day. In Peru and Russia, getting out of bed with your left foot will bring bad luck. In Cameroon, China, Colombia, Haiti and Pakistan: if your left eye twitches you will have bad luck; if your right eye twitches it's good luck. In Peru never go on a trip or get married on Tuesday the 13th. Never whistle inside the house in Russia; it means you will have no money. In Peru and the U.S., when you hear about something bad you can protect yourself by knocking three times on wood. Don't break a comb in China or a mirror in China or the U.S. Don't walk under a ladder in Colombia, El Salvador, Peru or the U.S. A hat left upside down on a table is bad luck in Haiti, a bag left on the floor is bad luck in Peru, and the number 13 is bad luck in the U.S.

Salt: Salt on the floor is bad luck in Peru and Colombia, but throwing salt over your shoulder protects you from bad luck in China and the U.S. In Haiti, Peru and Colombia never give or sell salt at night, and never give someone just a little salt. In Peru, some stores won't sell salt at night.
Good Manners and Good Hygiene by the Student Editors

The cleanliness is very important for you and your family so you should keep the public places such as: school, driveway, public transportation, parks, beaches, and library clean.

Here are some easy steps you can practice

✓ Wash your hands after you use a restroom
✓ Don’t write graffiti or paint on walls
✓ Throw trash in the trashcan not on the street or sidewalk
✓ Don’t spit on the street or sidewalk
✓ Keep the park clean, don’t pick the flowers
✓ Keep your body clean
✓ Keep your teeth clean.

✓ Learn and practice good hygiene. Don’t keep the bad habit that you usually do

Being clean is important for everybody. That’s how we keep the entire environment clean and you will have good health.

Word Search Solution