



Intensive English Institute

HANGING OUT AT THE UNION



Enjoying the mild weather on the patio, *Ayumi Okubo, Hiroko Hollis and Mocha*



Sleeping on the sofa in the lounge, *Hsian Wang and Benjamin Li*

The Illini Union is a favorite **hangout** for many IEI students. But are you taking advantage of all the different ways to relax?

You have probably found the **Rec Room's** bowling, billiards and arcade. Have you strolled past the latest exhibit in the **Art Gallery**?

I'm sure you have grabbed a bite to eat in the **Food Court** in the basement, but have you found the **Ballroom**, where you can enjoy a quieter buffet lunch?

And everyone has met with friends in the **Courtyard Café** during the day. Have you experienced a free concert there in the evening?

And don't forget about **Oasis** in the basement of the Union. You can play Wii, take a rest in the Relaxation Room, or purchase a massage at BodyWork Associates.



Meeting a convopartner in the Courtyard Café, *Megan Diamond and Patrick Tchassem*



Stopping for some extra cash, *Young Joon Ha*

Upcoming IEI Events

Don't miss these great events coming up soon!

For more upcoming events, see <http://www.iei.uiuc.edu/calendar.htm>



IEI Valentine's Day Party

Friday, February 13th, 7:00 PM

Cosmo Club, 307 E. John Street, Champaign

Join the fun with a "look-alike" contest, swing dance lessons, music, romantic movies, secret crush graffiti, snacks, and a chocolate fountain!

- **Convopartner Coffee Hour**

Tuesday, February 17th, 5:00 – 7:00 PM

Asian American Cultural Center, across from the IEI

Every third Tuesday of the month we'll gather for coffee and conversation. You can bring your Convopartner, you can come alone, or bring a friend.

- **Volunteer! Wesley Food Pantry TRAINING**

Wednesday, February 18th, 7:00 PM

Wesley Foundation, at the corner of Green St and Goodwin Ave, Urbana
Training is required for 1st time volunteers. Meet at the IEI at 6:40 to walk there together)

- **Volunteer! Wesley Food Pantry**

Thursday, February 19th, 4:00 PM

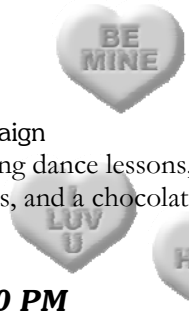
Wesley Foundation, at the corner of Green St and Goodwin Ave, Urbana
Distribute donated food to help in-need families in Champaign-Urbana. We'll meet at the IEI at 3:40 to walk there together, or you can walk over after your classes.

- **Volunteer! Meadowbrook Park Clean-Up Day**

Saturday, February 28th, 8:30 – 11:00 AM

Meet at the IEI at 8:30. Transportation will be provided.

Do some outdoor chores to help preserve the prairie in Illinois. Gloves and tools will be provided.



Are you superstitious?



A **superstition** is a belief, not based on reason or knowledge, that good or bad luck will result from certain actions. Good luck might result from seeing a **rainbow, three butterflies together, or a shooting star**. Bad luck might result from a **black cat** crossing your path, **breaking a mirror, or walking under a ladder**. But the most widespread superstition in the United States is **Friday the 13th**. (That is **THIS FRIDAY**). Some people believe so strongly in this superstition that they will stay at home all day on Friday the 13th, others will just be more careful around cats, mirrors and ladders.

What are some other ways that **fear of the number thirteen** is demonstrated? More than 80% of high-rises don't have a 13th floor. Hospitals and hotels often have no room number 13. Many airports skip the 13th gate, and airplanes have no 13th aisle. Many cities do not have a 13th Street or a 13th Avenue.

<http://www.corsinet.com/trivia/scary.html>

EXPLAINER: A **prairie** is an area of land with mostly grasses and herbs, and few or no trees. Most prairie lands in the U.S. have been lost to farming, industry and commerce. Illinois once had 22 million acres of prairie. Now it has only 2,000 acres.
(www.wikipedia.com)

More Events On Campus

Cosmo Club Trivia Night, Thurs, Feb. 19, 7:30 PM
Cosmo Club, 307 E. John Street, Champaign, FREE
Meet people from around the world, learn about other cultures, and win prizes!!!

Illinites: The Final Frontier, Fri, Feb. 20, 9:00 PM -1:00 AM
Illini Union, FREE
Oxygen bar, space-themed photo booth, laser tag space arena, flight simulator, psychic and astrology readings, and free astronaut ice cream! There will also be discounts on Cosmic Bowling and Sbarro Pizza.

Bulgarian Coffee Hour, Thurs, Feb. 26, 7:30 PM
Cosmo Club, FREE
Everyone is welcome at this informal gathering. Meet people, relax, and enjoy treats from Bulgaria!

Worldfest, Sat, Feb. 28, 12:30-4:00 PM
Spurlock Museum, 600 S. Gregory, Urbana, \$5
Performance arts from around the world and hands-on activities for everyone, including Polish music and dance by the Lira Ensemble; Chinese Silk-and-Bamboo Ensemble, Mande Drumming Ensemble, and world folktales with Kim Sheahan.

Are you planning your Spring Break?

Spring Break is from Saturday, March 21st to Sunday, March 29th. The campus will become very quiet at this time, as many students return home to their families, volunteer their time in poor areas of the U.S., or take vacations in warmer parts of the country. Would you like to travel during Spring Break, too? Start planning now, so you can shop around for the cheapest prices! Popular destinations include: New York City, Niagara Falls, Las Vegas, Los Angeles, the Grand Canyon, and Miami.



But if you would like to see another part of the Western Hemisphere, the Campus Recreation Center is working with Northwest Voyageurs company to arrange **Adventure Travel in Costa Rica** at a special price for students. This trip will give you the opportunity to view hundreds of bird and animal species of Costa Rica, including quetzals, toucans, spider monkeys, sloth, ring-tailed coatimundi, leatherback turtles, and a variety of colorful frogs and lizards. You'll enjoy this amazing ecology by foot, bike, raft, kayak, snorkel, and horseback. The cost of this 9-day tour is \$1799, not including your flights. If you are interested in this trip, you must sign up by this Sunday, February 15th. Learn more at http://www.campusrec.uiuc.edu/outdoor/nwv_adventure_trips.html

Free Events at Krannert

Thurs, Feb 19
Free Wine Tasting, 5 PM

Tues, Feb 24
Day of the Drum

Free Concert, 12pm
Two groups present with frame drum, steel drums, piano and chant (Latin, Jazz)

Free Concert, 5 PM
The group Dahui (means "crazy") performs djembe and dunun drums (West African)

Free Concert, 9:30 PM
Rocky Maffit Group performs with world sounds and poetic lyrics

Thurs, Feb 26
Free Wine Tasting, 5pm



Monday, February 16th is President's Day!
Celebrate with this American presidential trivia quiz!



- What does Presidents' Day celebrate?
 - George Washington's birthday
 - Abraham Lincoln's birthday
 - Barack Obama's birthday
 - All of the U.S. presidents
- What is the name of the president's office?
 - At the Round Table
 - The Oval Office
 - The Square Study
 - The Triangle Corner
- What was President Lincoln's occupation before he became president?
 - tailor
 - cook
 - poet
 - lawyer



- What airplane does the president use?
 - Air Force One
 - American Flyer
 - President's Plane
 - Marine One
- Which of the following is a common nickname for the U.S. flag?
 - O' Beautiful
 - Stars and Stripes
 - Wavy blue
 - Red, White and Blue
- What was George Washington's profession before he became president?
 - lawyer
 - sailor
 - farmer
 - teacher



Answers: 1. D, 2. B, 3. D, 4. A, 5. B, 6. C **Note:** Presidents' Day was once celebrated as George Washington's Birthday, and then later as a remembrance of both Washington and Lincoln, who both had February birthdays. Now, we consider Presidents' Day a celebration of all men who have served as U.S. presidents.