

ESL News for the Week of Monday, January 16th

Story #1

Airport Pig

LiLou is the first known airport therapy pig in the United States. The San Francisco International Airport recently welcomed the much loved pig to help relax and calm people down who are nervous about flying. The Airport has many trained animals who help nervous passengers. This group of animals is called "The War Brigade". The airports says that LiLou likes to wear ballerina skirts, also called tutus, and a captain's hat. LiLou also has red nail polish on her toe-nails. The employees at the Airport say that LiLou surprises and delights airport guests and passengers with her wonderful personality, cute costumes and her painted nails. LiLou also loves performing tricks for people. When nervous passengers meet LiLou, they are so surprised to see this friendly, funny little pig that they become more relaxed and enjoy watching and touching her. She loves being touched by people. So that people know they can touch her, LiLou wears a sweater that says "Pet Me!!" San Fransisco SPCA (which is the Society for the Protection of Cruelty to Animals) has more than 300 dog, cat and rabbit volunteer teams, but LiLou is their first pig. She also visits senior centres and hospitals to cheer people up. You can watch Lilou the pig on her Instagram account @lilou_spf

Story #2

Happy to be Alive after Crossing the Canadian Border

On December 24th Seidu Mohammad and his friend took a bus from Minneapolis U.S.A. to Grand Forks North Dakota, U.S.A. They then took a taxi to somewhere near the Emerson border which would allow them to enter Canada. They began walking toward the Canadian border. The two men from Ghana (aged 24 and 34), spent more than seven hours walking outside in extremely deep snow. The snow at times was up to their hips. Mohammed's fingers froze from frostbite and the doctors said they will now have to be amputated. Mohammed said that his eyelids and ears were also frozen. Although he will lose his fingers, he is grateful that frostbite didn't affect his feet and that he will still be able to walk. His friend

was also taken to the hospital with less serious injuries. Mohammed was wearing 3 jackets and gloves and thought he would be warm enough. On the day they started walking, the temperature in southern Manitoba dropped to -20C. Skin can freeze within 30 minutes at that temperature. There was also a very strong wind gusting at 33km/hr. With a wind so strong and cold, the outside temperature feels a lot colder. They knew they had to keep walking. If they gave up before they got to the Canadian Border, they would be arrested in the United States, then be deported to Ghana. Mohammed cannot go back to Ghana because of his sexual orientation. After 7 hours of walking and their face, fingers and toes starting to freeze, they knew that their life was in danger. So that they wouldn't freeze to death, they started walking along Highway 75, just north of Letellier, Manitoba. They were hoping someone would pick them up. After many cars passed but didn't stop, an older man driving a truck saw them and stopped to help. The truck driver called 911 and an ambulance rushed the men to the Winnipeg Health Sciences Centre. The driver who helped the 2 men, does not want his name in the newspapers. He wishes to remain anonymous. The doctors told Mohammed that the truck driver saved his life and that of his friend. Although he has lost his fingers to frostbite, Mohammed is grateful to be alive and in Canada. They have both filed a refugee claim. They hope that the Canadian Government will allow them to remain in Canada.

Story #3

19-year-old Inventor

Ann Makosinski, is a 19-year old 2nd year UBC student. She has also been very busy speaking with people around the world. Ann is trying let the world know about her two inventions: a flashlight powered by a person's body heat, and a coffee mug that can charge your cell-phone. U.S. business magazine "Forbes" put Ann's name on the list of The Best 30 Young Inventors in the category of energy. Every year, Forbes Business magazine lists 600 of the world's youngest and best inventors. There are 20 different categories, with 30 names in each. 15,000 people apply, hoping to be a winner in their area of expertise. Ann will now be able to go to the "Forbes under 30 Convention" where she will be able to talk

about and sell her product to businesses. Ann was born in Victoria B.C. Three years ago, she won a \$US 25,000 scholarship from “Google” for inventing her flashlight. A year ago she won a \$50,000 clean-energy grant from “Shell Canada” for her phone-charger invention. At UBC, Ann is taking English literature which is a surprise to a lot of people. Her courses this year include several English literature classes, film and two science courses. Ann said, “My interests outside of school are a little bit different to my interests inside of school. I am trying to figure out how to put them together to make a career for myself when I am older.”

Story #4

Surgery Clinic Raided in Delta

Delta Police have raided a cosmetic procedure clinic in the home of a basement in Delta. The cosmetic procedures were performed by a fake doctor. She has no license to practice medicine with the College of Physicians and Surgeons, and is not listed publicly on any world-wide database. On Dec. 20th, the police and 8 investigators searched a private home a woman shares with her husband and children in a quiet neighbourhood in North Delta. Investigators removed more than a dozen bankers boxes and at least one large Mac computer plus surgical instruments and drugs used for operations. In the basement of the home, they found a business licence and cosmetic posters. The posters were written in Chinese only. They promised to “combat aging”, by lightening skin colour, and improving skin firmness” amongst many other things. Investigators also found customer transactions between \$300 – \$5,000. In British Columbia, plastic surgeons require about 15 years of studying and training. Their operating rooms must be inspected regularly by The Canadian Society of Plastic Surgeons. The inspectors check to see how the instruments are sterilized, the education and training of the staff and the types of equipment you have in case of emergency resuscitation - if a patient’s breathing becomes irregular or even stops during the operation. Zhuo Li only has training in esthetics and permanent make-up application (tattoos).

Investigators believe that Zhuo Li. (who also uses the name “Subrina”) performed facial injections, eyelifts and facial implants. Some women like to change the shape of their face with facial implants. In Canada, only qualified medical professionals are allowed to do this type of work. Zhuo Li’s home business was called “Sabrina Permanent Make-up Studio Inc.” Some of Zhuo Li’s customers later complained to their doctors about nose implants and eyelid lift surgery done at her house. Because Zhou did not have the equipment needed to sterilize the instruments used on her patients, they were complaining about infections. The doctors then informed the Government about her illegal business. The Canadian courts have temporarily restrained Li from providing any service that must be performed by a doctor, including Botox injections and surgery. Zhuo may not be able to open this type of business again. The court is seeking a permanent injunction. It is advisable that any patients of “Subrina Permanent Make-up Studio Inc.” visit their family doctor to get tested for HIV and hepatitis.