

TERI'S UPDATE

COMPLETE WITH AN UPDATED LOOK!

It's June. It doesn't feel like June. I wouldn't be surprised to wake up one morning to snow – that's how much like June it doesn't feel. But at 826 Seattle we know it's June because it's our wild wrap-up-the-school-year time of year. We chug along through the year, always on the edge of too-busy-to-manage and then the end of the year happens and the whirlwind of celebrations begin and we start looking at that previous time as kick-back time.

HERE'S WHAT WE *AND YOU* CAN LOOK FORWARD TO IN JUNE

June 7: 1:00 – 3:00 Publication Party for our third comic book publication: "happiness?" Comic book artists David Lasky and Jessixa Bagley have teamed up (with the help of the Mayor's Office of Arts and Culture) to instruct workshops for 8 – 17 years olds on making comics. My favorite line in the book was in Ben Spring Foley-Martin's "About the Author": "I practice drawing three hours a day (during math, language arts, and social studies in school)." (How many great comic book artists developed their skills during math, language arts and social studies classes at school?) Come by 826 Seattle and celebrate the publication of this book! You will have an opportunity to purchase copies of "happiness?" and have your books signed by the artists. You might even have an opportunity to meet Ben Spring Foley-Martin and ask him how his math, language arts and social studies grades were this year....in case you are wondering. Where: 826 Seattle

June 8: 2:00 – 4:00 Guitar Hero competition. This is your golden opportunity to put all those carefully honed air guitar skills on public display as our Youth Advisory Board puts their collective fun and fundraising skills to the test with this competition. For those of you who don't know what Guitar Hero is....think karaoke/think guitar....and then think about winning some darn great prizes if you manage to outplay the competition.....which, I'll be honest, could be pretty stiff....or, in fact, not that stiff. We just don't know. This is our first Guitar Hero competition. Where: 826 Seattle

June 12: 1:00 – 3:00 – Publishing party for "Having Them Here". These essays on family were written by a collection of 6th graders from Hamilton International Middle School. I got to manage this book project while Norma was on maternity leave; one of the most satisfying things I did this year. We have one story about a family wedding in Jamaica and another about a mother breaking up a fight in a water line in Ethiopia, and everything between. This event, and this book, is a reminder to all of us about how many important stories there are out there waiting in the hearts of our 12 year olds. When was the last time you attended a book publishing party in the middle of the day during the week at a public school when the authors were pre-teens? Please do come. Where: Hamilton Middle School

June 12: 4:00 – 6:00 – Tutor Idol. This is not actually open to the public but I thought if I wrote about it, those of you not in our tutor ranks might want to consider joining up so you, too can have an opportunity to join in this annual event next year. We have discovered that in addition to abilities around the subject areas of reading, writing and arithmetic, many of our tutors and students have some very unexpected talents. Did you know Doug Woodbury, our math tutor extraordinaire, can juggle three balls while naming all of the presidents in order? Or that Alex Allred can play the didgeridoo? Or that Daniel Fekudo can clasp his hands behind his back and, without unclasping them, wiggle his arms up and over his head and then down in front of himself so his arms end up in front. Witnessing these marvels is enough for anyone to sign up for tutoring just so they can attend Tutor Idol. (I, for one, am still aching from my defeat last year. As some of you know, I am the owner of four domestic ducks whose behavior I've studied intensely. As a result I've developed what I consider a pretty compelling sound impersonation of ducks taking off from a pond. I couldn't believe I got outvoted last year but, just to show you what a good sport I can be, I'd be happy to show it to anyone upon request). Where: 826 Seattle

Upcoming Oscar Wildes games: Don't miss your chance to cheer for our first-ever softball team in the following games:

Mon, June 16, 9:15 vs. the NW Eyeballers (a team of optometrists?)

Thu, June 26, 6:15 vs. Head Hunters (a team of bounty hunters?)

Where: All games at West Queen Anne Playfield <http://www.seattle.gov/Parks/park_detail.asp?id=330> 150 W Blaine St.

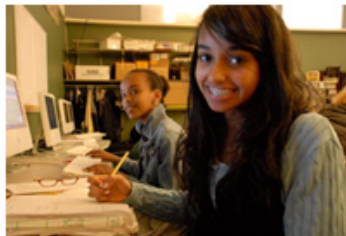
June 20th 8:00-10:00 PM Greenwood Space Travel Supply Co. and 826 Seattle join forces with Neptune Coffee to bring you the fourth installment of the "Great Moments in Astrophysics" event series: **Neptune Coffee Trivia Night – Space Edition.** The contest takes place at Neptune Coffee, located directly across the street from 826 Seattle at 8415 Greenwood Ave. N. There is a \$5.00 minimum donation to participate (all proceeds benefit 826 Seattle), and prizes include coffee cards, beer cards, a copy of Comet by Carl Sagan, and whatever we can dig out of the far reaches of our warehouse.

Where: Neptune Coffee Shop (across from 826 Seattle)

OTHER WORTHY NEWS

- Our summer youth workshops are posted on the website. They occur throughout the month of July. In August 826 Seattle will quiet down a bit with major clean up, painting and our store remodel – thanks to our friends from DDB and our friends from Merck who have signed on to help us as part of their corporate community giving. Where: 826 Seattle.
- Sometime over the summer we plan to host our first 100 Hour Club dinner for any volunteers who over the course of the past year gave 100 or more hours to help us. Yes, it is white table cloths and candles and gifts and (not the cheapest) wine and a neighborhood restaurant catering the event with staff tucking napkins onto volunteers (well, maybe not....) but you get the picture. This event will mark the beginning of our new and improved Volunteer Appreciation and Training Annual Plan which all volunteers will find out about in a future volunteer update.
- There are still a few tickets (and we mean a few) left for John Jacobs on July 22 in our adult How To Write Like I Do series. John is part of the team from The Film School coming over. Here's his bio: JOHN JACOBSEN'S career has encompassed direction, writing and production of feature films, films for television, short films, commercials, television shows and documentaries. He has worked with such stars as Bill Pullman, Sandra Bullock, Eli Wallach, Peter Boyle, among others. Around the Fire, which he directed, won top prize at the Giffoni Film Festival, and his short films also have received awards at the Aspen Film Festival and the Houston International Film Festival. Jacobsen has also directed more than 20 stage productions regionally and in New York, worked as an assistant on Broadway to legendary director Hal Prince, and sold seven screenplays.
For details on getting your ticket: <http://www.826seattle.org/writelikeido/schedule.html>
- For those of you who haven't yet had an opportunity to visit our Greenwood Space Travel Supply Co. you can experience the store thanks to KUOW's Dave Beck and 826 Seattle's own real rocket scientist and true blue volunteer, Tim Lloyd, as Tim leads Dave on a radio tour of the store. <http://www.kuow.org/defaultProgram.asp?ID=14962>
- Keep your eye on your email account for our spring fundraising drive coming up in a couple of weeks (right before summer). Try to resist any temptation to write us a check now because you probably will wish you had waited for our "Reduce Your Carbon Footprint" email campaign in which we are committed to using (almost) no paper and very little postage money (which translates to post office trucks driving around more). We think we have to send your tax letter on real paper. We aren't sure. But, that said, we commit to those notes being sent on recycled paper....but not just any paper. We just happen to have some photocopies of early manuscript pages from the works of famous writers. We thought our tax letters, if they had to be on paper, could at least come on recycled copies of old manuscript pages. We've recycled them in a different way. You will get an opportunity to see real edits from a real author... AND....get your tax deductible letter for your files. If we can't go entirely paperless, we can at least dual purpose (is that a verb?) the paper. By the way, we're not kidding. If you don't believe us – make a donation – and see what sort of 'recycled' paper your tax letter comes on.

PICTURES OF SOME OF THE STUDENTS WE WORKED WITH THIS SPRING



That's it for now. Happy early summer...if it ever gets here,
- Teri