The Great Good Place Has Opened:
Where Molehills Turn to Mountains!

I gave a tour of the library today and while the Skylab is excellent and buzzes with bumblebee excitement, I had to tell a now-thanks-to-me-disillusioned new college student that, no, you can’t get on the library roof. You used to could in the 70s, I heard. But not today. No. Now they got us wearing seatbelts and chewing nicotine lozenges. Even places for Conversation Unfiltered are disappearing. You can’t talk politics, feminism, and Nico (or Neko) in a strip mall, Loiterers. You just can’t.

Enter the Great Good Place on the 2nd floor. Named after a book by Dr. Ray Oldenburg (one of UWF’s very own retired faculty members), the Great Good Place is a space where you can eat, discuss, be merry, and argue civilly without using Google to answer the debate. I mean, come on. What good is an argument if you can’t be embarrassed the next day when you find out that no, Florida isn’t really the 2nd largest state like you adamantly repeated; you just got nostalgic for clay pits and mosquitoes in a New York bar and exaggerated. To yourself, even. (Oh my goodness, I just looked it up and it ranks 22nd! Either the 2 just stuck in my head or there was some Florida Pride Propaganda going on in 4th grade social studies. I’m-a go with that last one. Ahem.)

Dr. Ray Oldenburg’s lovely haiku is engraved on the glass and sums up our intent for the space well:

Here we can gather
Mid the circle of friendship
And learn all the more.

So, bring your lunch, a friend (or make one there!), and enjoy the GGP.* It’s got microwaves!

*And please don’t fret over where the Library Serials staff went. We didn’t put them in a So-So Bad Place. They’ve got phat offices Complete with Windows!

Stick It to The Man! Read a Banned Book!

Rebel by reading? Absolutely! It beats making it onto the TV show, Cops (I think?). Where’s the world without The Chocolate War, Catcher in the Rye, and My Name is Asher Lev? (“Not in economic turmoil?” you say? That’s a funny one, chap.) Anyway, I shudder to think. Surprisingly, books are still being banned around the Land of the Free. So, free your mind…or read something naughty. Up to you. Banned Books Week is Sept.24th-Oct.1st. Look for displays and check one out!