

# Among Friends

*The Friends of West Palm Beach Public Library Newsletter*

SEPTEMBER 2009

*Dear Friends,*

It is my great honor to introduce you to our first issue of *Among Friends*, the newsletter of the FRIENDS of the West Palm Beach Public Library. The months of work that have gone into the creation of the FRIENDS can only be described as inspiring. The idea to reconstitute a FRIENDS organization that would support the programs of the Library came about from a group of dedicated people, some long-time residents and library supporters and some new to our downtown library. These people came together at a time when FRIENDS have never been

more important. Our new state of the art Library makes me proud to be a resident, so much vibrancy and excitement within those walls. It can only get better and better with the help of dedicated citizens such as you. I welcome you to the FRIENDS and to all that we can become!

The last nine months have been exciting ones. As with new any organization, the ideas can only become reality with the hard work of people. Your FRIENDS volunteer board of 15 has been working tirelessly to create the programs, activities and the foundation of this group. We have created a logo, adopted reconstituted Articles of Incorporation and Bylaws, established membership levels, designed materials and posters – and we have had time for programs! Our June kickoff event, in partnership with the Downtown Development Authority, was a satellite broadcast from the 92nd Street Y in New York City and was a fabulous success with over 90 people attending. We celebrated the summer reading theme with two

## Welcome Friends



*FRIENDS Board Members from left to right: back row: Elisabeth Bastion, Sylvia Moffett, Kat Jackson, Peter Brandenburg, Barbara Andrea, Ada Brinas, Faith Schullstrom, front row: Mary Brandenburg, Dorothy Jacks, Heather Brasseur and Adriana Gregory. Absent: Patricia Casdorff and Al LaSorte.*

programs about Space, a fantastic presentation on Galileo by our own board member Al LaSorte and an evening on clutter, a different sort of space, with Laura Johnston.

We have lined up an exciting group of programs for the Fall, they are detailed in this newsletter and on our website, [www.friendswpblibrary.org](http://www.friendswpblibrary.org). Our membership is already over 150 strong and growing each day. I hope you will think about getting involved, we will be having a volunteer meeting in October to explain opportunities to you – I hope you will attend and we can get to know each other better. My love of libraries is what motivated me to volunteer for this task, I know that you must have that same love, please join us for programs and encourage your friends to become FRIENDS. We can't wait to see you soon.

**Dorothy Jacks, *President***

*Friends of the West Palm Beach Public Library*



**Fall 92Y Programs.**

**FRIENDS \$5 Non-members \$10**

In the Library Auditorium

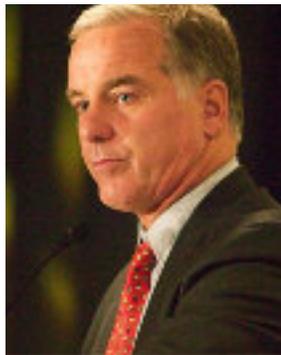
Registration Encouraged. [www.friendswpblibrary.org](http://www.friendswpblibrary.org)

**Howard Dean**

**“Where the Progressive Movement Goes From Here”**

**Thursday, Sep 24 8:00 P.M.**

Former Vermont Governor Howard Dean discusses his new book, *Howard Dean’s Prescription for Real Healthcare Reform: How We Can Achieve Affordable Medical Care for Every American and Make Our Jobs Safer*, and the future of the Progressive movement in America. He is an independent consultant focused on health care, early childhood development, alternative energy and the expansion of grass roots politics around the world. Dean served as the chair of the Democratic National Committee from 2005 to 2009 and ran for the 2004 Democratic presidential nomination.



**Jeffrey Sachs with Howard Gardner**

**“How to Change the World”**

**Wednesday, Oct 14 7:45 P.M.**

Harvard University Professor Howard Gardner conducts a one-on-one interview with Jeffrey Sachs based on the simple inquiry: What can we learn from what you have achieved? Sachs talks about his work in helping to understand and eradicate extreme poverty. Sachs is the director of the Earth Institute at Columbia University and a special advisor to UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon. He was director of the UN Millennium Project and advisor on the Millennium Development Goals Report, the internationally accepted goals to reduce extreme poverty, disease and hunger by the year 2015.



**So You Think You Can Tell a Ghost Story**

**A Special Evening for Ages 15+**

**Thursday, Oct. 29th. 6:00 P.M.**

**A storytelling contest followed by a video of**

**Dan and Peter Aykroyd’s Discussion:**

**“Ghosts and Other Creepy Things”**

**NOTE:** *The movie “Ghostbusters” will be shown for free Monday, October 26th in the Library’s Auditorium at 6:00 PM.*

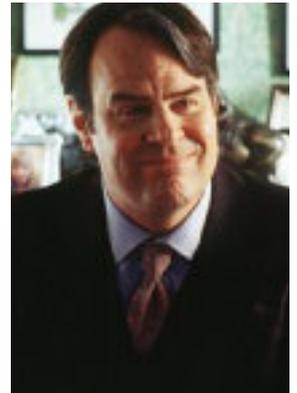
Do you have a tall tale or a haunted howl to tell?

This is your chance, wear your best costume and bring your ghost story for a two-part evening of spooky entertainment! First, a celebrity panel of judges and the audience will rate live presentations of ghost stories with prizes for the best. Then a video presentation: *Ghosts and Other Creepy Things*

– a conversation with Dan and Peter Aykroyd who will talk about the inspiration for the hit movie *Ghostbusters* and will introduce famous mediums and the world of Spiritualism.

Storyteller registration and rules are available at: [www.friendswpblibrary.org](http://www.friendswpblibrary.org)

Storytellers attend for free.



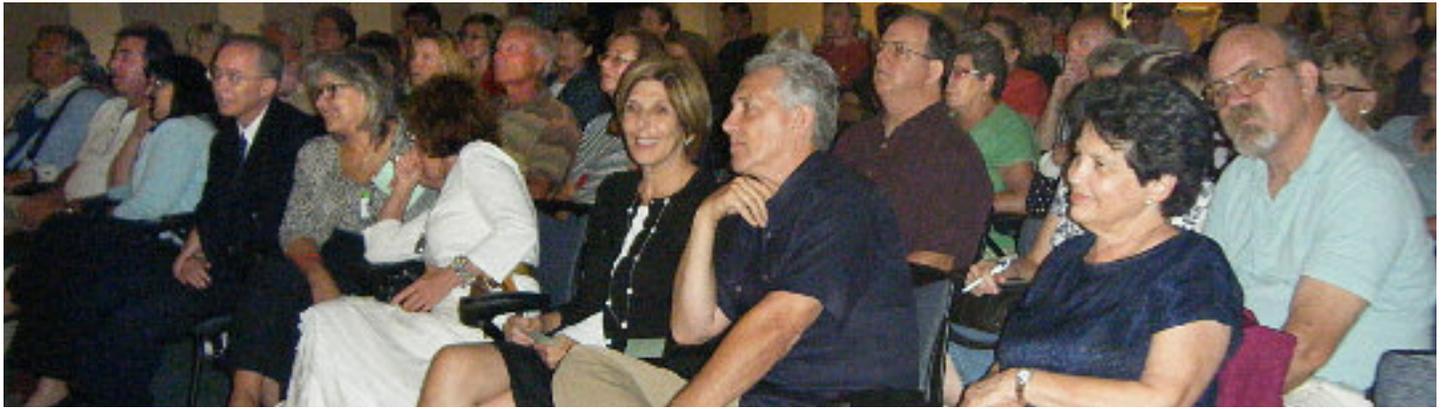
**Mitch Albom**

**“Have a Little Faith”**

**Wednesday, Nov 4 7:45 P.M.**

Writer and broadcaster Mitch Albom, the author of *Tuesdays with Morrie* (the best-selling memoir of all time with more than 14 million copies sold), *The Five People You Meet in Heaven* and *For One More Day*, has become an inspiration to millions of people around the world. His forthcoming book is *Have a Little Faith: A True Story of a Last Request*. Albom is a columnist for the Detroit Free Press and the host of two radio shows that are broadcast in 38 states. \*Note: Classic Bookshop of Palm Beach will be present to allow you to purchase Albom’s books.





## Al Gore Launches Satellite Lecture Series

*Audience watching Al Gore including Library Director Chris Murray, Commissioner Molly Douglas, Commissioner Jeri Muoio, and Mayor Lois Frankel*

On June 3rd, The FRIENDS of the West Palm Beach Public Library (FRIENDS) hosted its first live satellite broadcast from New York's 92 Street Y. "This new library, with its ability to host dynamic, educational satellite lectures is an important addition to our cultural offerings Downtown, enabling us to engage in community-building forums," said Dorothy Jacks, president of the FRIENDS of the Library. 92Y LIVE satellite lectures are viewed live, and members of the local audience can submit questions to the speakers.

A "Forum on Sustainable Global Enterprise," featured Al Gore, chairman of Generation Investment Management LLP; Cornell University's Stuart L. Hart, an authority on the implications of sustainable development and environmentalism for business strategy; H. Fisk Johnson, chairman and CEO of the board of S.C. Johnson & Son; and Ratan N. Tata, chairman of Tata Sons Limited, the holding company of the Tata Group, India's largest conglomerate. The discussion on sustainability was the culmination of a three-day Cornell Global Forum where 100 pioneers sought innovative ways to transform business and the environment, while exploring the intersection between clean technology and business development at the "Base of the Pyramid," the socioeconomic designation of the world's four and-a-half billion poor. The goal - to create profitable businesses that raise the quality of life for the world's poor, respect cultural diversity, and conserve the ecological integrity of the planet.

### About the 92nd Street Y

Founded in 1874 by a group of visionary Jewish leaders, the 92nd Street Y has grown into a wide-ranging cultural and community center serving people of all races, faiths and backgrounds. The 92nd Street Y's mission is to enrich the lives of the over 300,000 people who visit each

year- both in person and through Live from NY's 92nd Street Y! The Y's satellite broadcast program is now in its fourth year. This program uses satellite technology to simultaneously broadcast the Y's renowned educational and cultural programming to community organizations across America. Committed to making its programs available to everyone, the 92nd Street Y awards over \$1 million in scholarships annually and reaches out to 6,000 public school children each year through subsidized arts education programs. For more information go to [www.92Y.org](http://www.92Y.org)

### About the Downtown Development Authority

A green-themed celebration sponsored by Downtown Development Authority (DDA) took place in the CityCenter Courtyard which paralleled the 92Y LIVE presentation and was free and open to the public. Featuring environmentally friendly vendors selling food, beverages and an array of products, some of the other highlights included live music, green-themed story time, green vendors, and West Palm Beach water tests. "By providing local residents a venue to access green-friendly products and learn how to minimize their carbon footprint, this event is reflective of the many ways Downtown West Palm Beach is becoming a leader in environmentally friendly initiatives," said Melissa Wohlust, executive director of the DDA.

The West Palm Beach DDA is an independent taxing district created in 1967 by a special act of the Florida Legislature. Its mission is to promote and enhance a safe, vibrant Downtown for our residents, businesses and visitors through the strategic development of economic, social and cultural opportunities.

*FRIENDS thanks go to West Palm Beach City TV 18's Jim Clark and his crew for their invaluable technical support.*



FRIENDS Board Members Faith Schullstrom and Barbara Andrea helping at our first 92Y LIVE program on June 3, 2009.



FRIENDS Board's Tour of the Library under construction. Taken on February 13, 2009: Pictured in the Great Hall, left to right: Dorothy Jacks, Al LaSorte, Barbara Andrea, Heather Brasseur, Peter Brandenburg, Sylvia Moffett, and Library Director Chris Murray.

## **The Opening of KidSpace!**

The photo below was taken by Kathy Smith on April 18, 2009 during the Library's Opening of KidSpace. Lots of families celebrated with the book characters Nate the Great, Curious George and Puddle and Toot - pictured here. This program was sponsored by FRIENDS.

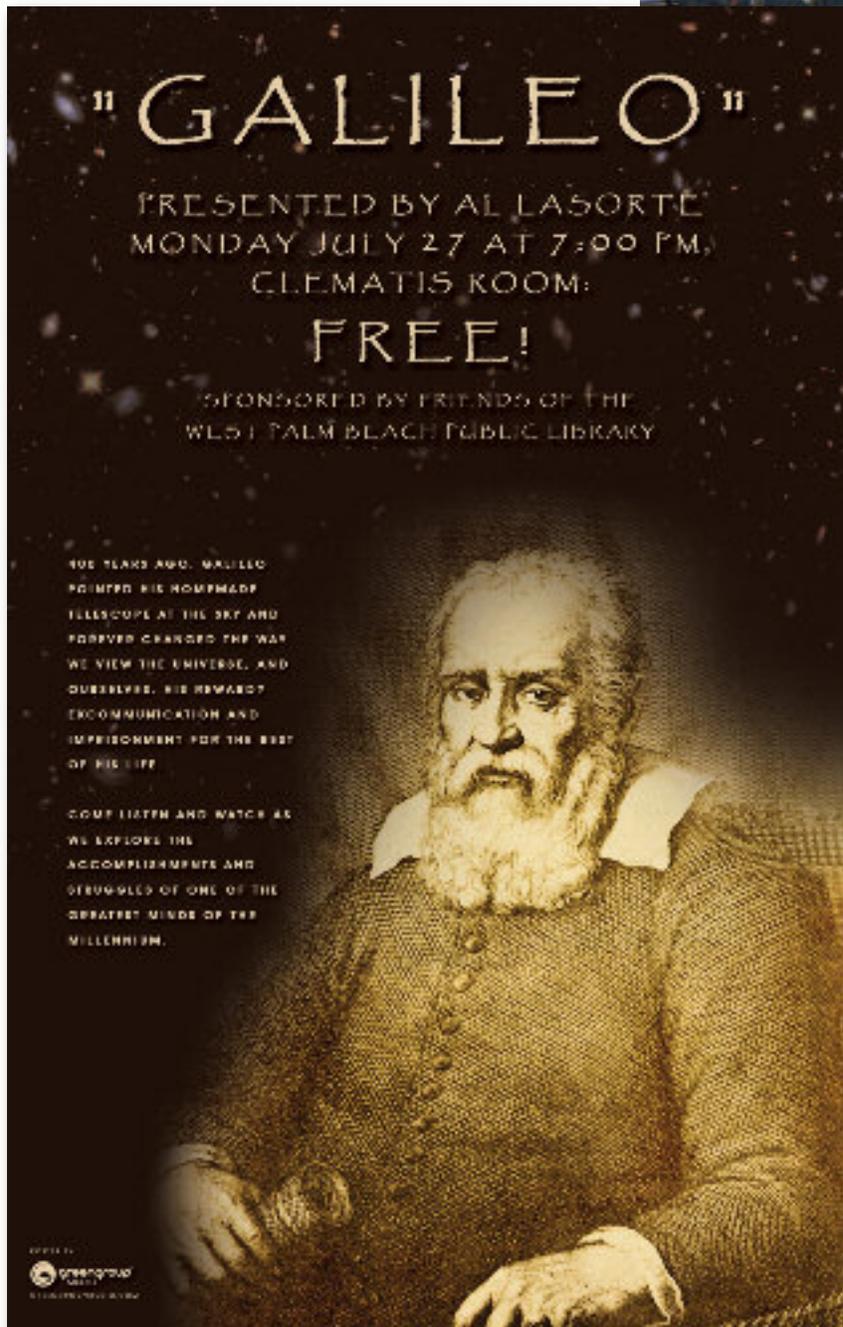
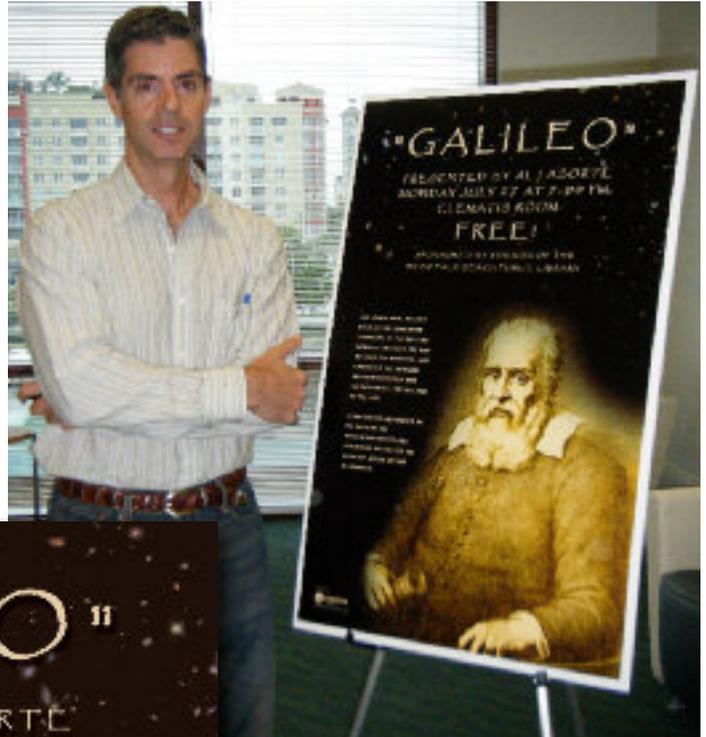


# Galileo

On July 27, 2009 FRIENDS Board Member Al LaSorte presented Galileo to a capacity crowd, celebrating the 400th anniversary of Galileo's birth.

Through Al's wonderfully illustrated presentation, the audience explored the accomplishments and struggles of one of the greatest minds of the millennium.

*Thanks go to FRIENDS member Allen Borza for creating the poster. His company is: [aborza@greengroupstudio.com](mailto:aborza@greengroupstudio.com)*



## FRIENDS Host Free Program On How To Organize Our Houses August 19th

*Elisabeth Bastion*

Laura Johnston, Professional Organizer, "How To Make the Best Use of the Space You Have," spared no words when she told her audience the plain facts of disorganized households. Step by step – with color slides – she showed how she had to learn to organize space and how we too must be ruthless if we expect to clean up all that clutter.

Room by room, we saw how we could choose between save or discard, learn to use containers, how to hide ugly stuff in kitchens and closets and entrance halls. She meant garages, too. Much note taking went on, and we left her program in the West Palm Beach Library auditorium much wiser, some of us even inspired to immediate action.

*Owner of Clear Desk Organizing, Inc.,  
Laura can be reached at  
cleardesk@bellsouth.net or on the web  
at www.cleardeskorganizing.com.  
Her telephone number is  
561-254-7055.*

*Thanks to to FRIENDS member  
Kat Jackson for creating the poster.  
She is a Junior at Dreyfoos School of  
the Arts.*

A poster for the program "How to Make the Best Use of the Space You Have" presented by Laura Johnston. The poster features a drawing of two white birds perched on a wooden birdhouse. The text on the poster includes the title, the presenter's name, the date and time of the event, and a detailed description of Laura Johnston's background and experience. The event is free and sponsored by the Friends of the West Palm Beach Library.

**How to Make the Best Use of the Space You Have**  
presented by  
**Laura Johnston,**  
a member of the National Association of Professional Organizers and The National Study Group on Chronic Disorganization.  
**Wednesday,  
August 19 2009**  
in the 3rd Floor  
**FREE Auditorium**  
FREE, sponsored by the  
Friends of the West  
Palm Beach Library  
**at 6:00 pm**  
register online  
[www.friendswpblibrary.org](http://www.friendswpblibrary.org)  
Laura Johnston, professional organizer and owner of Clear Desk Organizing Inc. has personal experience living comfortably in small spaces. A native Palm Beacher, Laura Johnston moved back to Florida six years ago. As a single person, Laura lived in a 400 square foot studio apartment in Manhattan for five years. More recently, her family of four relocated to Palm Beach and they lived in a 750 square foot apartment. Laura can teach you how to make better use of your space by decluttering and organizing your home to enjoy your space to the fullest.

# Friday Night Jazz! at the Library

5:30 - 7:30 P.M. in the 3rd Floor Auditorium

Admission: \$2 for FRIENDS members \$5 for non-members

Registration encouraged. Go to [www.friendswpblibrary.org](http://www.friendswpblibrary.org)

**November 6: PBCB Faculty Jazz Band**

(keyboard, bass, drums, guitar, trumpet, sax & possibly trombone)

**December 4: Susan Merritt Trio with guest vibraphonist, Nathan Skinner**

(keyboard, bass, drums, vibes)

**January 8: Patti Wicks Trio**

(keyboard/vocals, bass, drums)

**February 5: Jim Hayward Quartet**

(keyboard, bass, drums, sax)

**March 5: Jim Ryan Quartet**

(keyboard, bass, drums & trumpet - sax or guitar TBD)

**April 9: Adriana Samargia Quartet featuring JP Soars and the Red Hots**

(guitar and diddly bo, drums, vocals, piano, bass)



Wine and water will be available for purchase.  
FRIENDS membership will be available at the door  
or forms can be picked up at the Library desk.

# Space: Designing The West Palm Beach Public Library: Space = Place For People.

**Wednesday October 21 6 P.M. In the Auditorium (FREE)**

*Space is the realm in which all material objects are located and all events occur.*

Please join the architect, Song + Associates, for a deeper understanding of how the West Palm Beach Public Library space became a place for people.



411 Clematis Street, West Palm Beach, FL 33401

