



**Reading is the key that opens many doors to many good things in life.**  
**Justice Ruth Bader Ginsberg**

### FIRST BOOK HOUSE INSTALLED

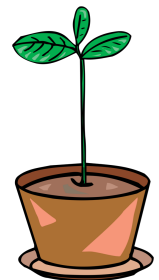
On a hot August Saturday morning, the first Melrose Library Association sponsored Book House was installed at St. John's Missionary Baptist Church in Melrose. It is located on CR 219 northeast of SR 26. The book house has books for all ages and interests. The premise of the book house is to take a book, enjoy it and then bring it back and select another book to enjoy. Take a book and leave a book! Soon, there will be a second book house installed at the Melrose Beach Park. As new book houses are installed, we will let you know the locations. Enjoy!!



Pictured left to right, Joe Rush, Keyna Ward, Pat Ward, Maggie Blizzard, Corbin Polhill, Virginia Walkup, Kathi Warren and Lettie Anderson.

### SEEDS OF PROMISE SEED LIBRARY

Seed libraries have been around for a long time, both informally through community seed exchanges and formally through organizations. The concept is simple; patrons check out seeds from the library, grow them and return seeds back to the library after harvest. Home gardens can be grown in pots, containers, raised beds, mixed with landscape plants or in traditional gardens. Currently, the Putnam County seed library is housed in the Melrose Public Library and can be accessed by all library patrons. Patrons at any branch may request seeds. The seeds will be sent to your branch for pick up. When your harvest is complete, and your seeds have been saved, share some of your seeds with the library. Put the seeds in an envelope from the library, fill out the outside of the envelope and return to your library branch. The seeds will be returned to the Melrose branch and readied for distribution. Seeds are labeled easy, moderate and advanced. The seed packets are also labeled for spring or fall planting. Vegetables, fruit, herbs and flower seeds are available. The libraries have books, DVDs, and online resources to make your growing experience successful. Fall garden seed packs are available on October 5. Packets will contain 3 easy to grow fall vegetable seeds in each pack. Please, one seed pack per family.



### Library Expansion and Renovation Update

The library expansion and renovation planning process continues to move forward in a positive manner. Over the last two months, site preparation began with the removal of three trees, and on September 24<sup>th</sup> the bid was issued to start the bidding process. The tentative schedule for the next few weeks include: the Pre-Bid Meeting on October 9<sup>th</sup>; Bid Proposal submissions by October 21<sup>st</sup>; the County Intent to Award on October 26<sup>th</sup>; and, a Protest Period from October 26<sup>th</sup>-29<sup>th</sup>. The final step, the Bid Award, is contingent on acceptance and approval by the Putnam County Board of County Commissioners, tentatively scheduled for November 10<sup>th</sup>. We deeply appreciate the support of Putnam County and our community as this important project moves forward!



### Commemorative Bricks at the Library

The MLA Commemorative Brick Project is an on going project to remember a special person or event. These bricks may be purchased to recognize a special day, achievement, as memorials for a loved one, or to recognize someone special. Three lines of 11 letters, spaces and punctuation will fit on one brick. The minimum donation is \$75 per brick. The bricks can then be placed along the library sidewalk or in the butterfly garden area. Order forms are located at the library.



Melrose Library Association  
 P.O. Box 54  
 Melrose, FL 32666

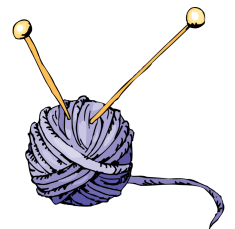
**All in-person public library programs have been cancelled until further notice in response to the virus COVID-19. Library programs will be virtual (online only) until further notice.**

**Looking for something fun and interesting to do?**

Check out the Putnam County Library System website ([funinputnam.com](http://funinputnam.com)) for loads of online opportunities! Go to the website and click on Virtual Programs in the menu near the top of the page. There, you will find such wonderful things as online story time for all ages and the Harry Potter virtual S.T.E.A.M. book club. Also available is Home Ec @ Home. Grab-and-go bags are available at the library

that corresponds with videos that teach life skills like sewing and crochet. Videos for learning ancient board games is another interesting thing you can encounter on the website.

The Putnam County Library System and Creative Bug present online video classes for those of you who enjoy arts and crafts. Thousands of videos are available for everything from sewing, crochet and cake decorating to hand lettering, drawing, painting and more! Check it out!!



**Downtown Melrose 2020-2030  
 “Our Future” Digital Collection**

During these times, we are impressed with our patrons and community members who have been our community’s heart. We want to know about your experiences in 2020 and how it has impacted your vision of our future. The library would like to recognize the unique and challenging times that we are passing through by organizing a digital documentary type program and decade time capsule.

Downtown Melrose will be on line this year and you can submit visual files (photo or scanned art work) or video (including short documentaries) or audio files (spoken oral history, a song or poetry reading.) This project will be a representation of the Melrose experience in 2020 as well as our hope for the future. Submissions will be accepted through November 6 and can be done online. All submissions will be considered for the Melrose time capsule. The capsule will be sealed on December 31, 2020, and after 10 years, it will be opened for all to see how Melrose spent the year of 2020. If you have any questions, please call the library at 352-475-1237.



It has been recommended by a health professional that the library purchase an air purifier. A donation has been made toward that goal, but there is a gap in what we have and what we need to get the type air purifier recommended. If you would like to make a monetary donation, please fill out the form below and send it, along with your donation, to Melrose Library Association, P.O. Box 54, Melrose, FL 32666. Any donations in excess of the amount needed will go into the general fund. Thank you.

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Amount: \_\_\_\$25 \_\_\_ \$30 \_\_\_ \$50