“Whatever the job you are asked to do at whatever level, do a good job because your reputation is your resume.” Madeleine Albright

LIBRARY EXPANSION AND RENOVATION

After months of hard work and attention to detail, the library expansion and renovation project is complete! The final walkthrough is occurring on April 1st. This brand new addition of 500 square feet complements the existing library and also maintains the history of the original building. When you walk through the doors during the dedication on May 21st, you will be walking through the original building’s front door opening. Please pay particular attention to the existing exterior brick wall and the bronze plaque that commemorates the original 1984 construction. We are thankful for the partnership with our architect, Howard McLean, and his keen eye for detail as well as the professional work done by Blackwater Construction Services. The MLA deeply appreciates the support of our Melrose Community and the Putnam County Board of County Commissioners. Your donations and the County's contribution made this addition possible.

CAMELLIA SALE 2022

Many thanks to everyone who came out to our Camellia Sale fundraiser in January. You made it a huge success. It was a cold and blustery day but the community was there to buy beautiful Camellias and have a tasty pastry or muffin or two. The book sale also did very well. Heartfelt thanks to the volunteers who braved the cold to help out. Your tireless work made the Camellia sale a great fundraiser. All proceeds from the sale will be used to improve our library. Watch in a future newsletter for word on the Camellia Sale and Breakfast 2023!

MESSAGE FROM CALLIE THOMPSON

Recently, this message was on the MLA Facebook messenger and we wanted to share it with all of you. Many thanks to Callie for your donation.

“Hello wonderful library! I grew up in Melrose and spent many a happy summer checking out books from the Melrose library. I owe quite a bit of my education to the great books I found there as a kid. To return the favor, and hopefully broaden the horizons of other kiddos like me who are currently growing up in Melrose, I ordered a few books and am having them sent as a donation to the library. Please enjoy them! I see good education and information as a way to make kids who are a little different (like I was) feel safe, and make other kids more compassionate and aware. A win win experience for all. Thank you for being a great resource for the community!”

SEED PROGRAM

The Putnam County seed library, at the Melrose Public Library is waiting for you to come by and choose some seeds to plant in your garden. When you come in, you can check out some seeds, grow them and then return seeds to the library after your harvest. Home gardens can be grown in pots, containers, raised beds, or mixed with landscape plants or in traditional vegetable gardens. When your harvest is complete, pick up an envelope from the library and put your seeds inside. Fill out the outside of the envelope and return it to your library branch. Seeds are labeled easy, moderate and advanced as well as for spring or fall planting. Vegetables, fruit, herbs and flower seeds are available.

SNACKS IN THE STACKS

Join the Melrose Library Association for Snacks in the Stacks at the Melrose Public Library to celebrate the grand opening of their new addition, the Camellia Room on May 21, 2022 at 3 p.m. Come enjoy food, drink and friendship while supporting the fundraising efforts for further improvements to the library. We have a donor who has generously offered to match up to $5000 in donations. Bring your check books and wallets to bid on and buy art and art prints including the original oil painting by Oona Lewis featured to the left. All purchases and donations will be used for support and renovation of the Melrose Public Library.
CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays: Tax prep with Mr. Sterling from 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. through April. Call the library to find out how to make an appointment.

Tuesdays
- Story time, Ages 0-5 and 6-11: 10:30-12:00
- April 7 & 21: Movie Time
- April 12: Story Time & Egg Hunt
- April 14 & 28: Family Games
- April 22: Book Club (The Golden Hour) by Beatriz Williams

April 14 & 28
- April 24: Family Games

April 22
- April 24: Book Bingo

May 5 & 19
- May 12: Family Games

May 20
- May 21: Snacks in the Stacks (grand opening)

May 22
- May 26: Fire Truck Tour

**June events have not yet been scheduled. The summer reading program will begin in June. This year’s theme is “Oceans of Opportunity.”

Questions about library programs? Please, call the Melrose Public Library at 352-475-1237.

DONATIONS TO THE MLA 2022

The Melrose Library Association continues to work to improve our library and community. Donations to the MLA will help us to continue this work. Please consider donating to the general fund or building fund. Send your donation, made payable to the Melrose Library Association to P.O. Box 54, Melrose, FL 32666 Thank you!

NAME________________________________________
ADDRESS____________________________________

DONATION AMOUNT_________________________
BUILDING FUND________ GENERAL FUND______

MEMBERSHIP DRIVE 2022

Consider becoming a member of the MLA or renewing your membership. Thank you for supporting your library. Much appreciation to those that have already sent their membership forms to us. If there is a star by your name on your mailing label, our records show you have not paid your membership.

NAME________________________________________
ADDRESS____________________________________

PHONE_________________________ EMAIL_____________________

INDIVIDUAL ($10)_____________ FAMILY ($15)________

This form, along with your payment, can be taken to the Melrose Library front desk or mail it to
Melrose Library Association, PO Box 54, Melrose, FL 32666

From every mountainside, let freedom ring.
Martin Luther King, Jr.