

April, May,
June
2024



Keyna Ward,
Editor

The secret to life is finding joy in ordinary things.
Ruth Reichl



CONGRATS TO THE PUTNAM COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS!

In 2017, the BOCC gave approval for the MLA to submit grant paperwork to the State of Florida in order to fund a new building for the Melrose Public Library. In October 2023, Putnam County was awarded a \$500,000 grant to be used solely for the extension of the Melrose Public Library! Thank you, Putnam County for allowing the MLA to hire a grant writer and congratulations to the County on the receipt of the grant. This will provide the Melrose community needed additional meeting and event space! We look forward to seeing the progress on the new building.

WELCOME!!



There is a new face at the Melrose Public Library. Join the MLA in welcoming Jennifer Stephenson, our new Branch Manager! Jennifer grew up in the area and has returned to be close to family and raise her own family here. When you stop by the library be sure to welcome Jennifer to the community.



Have you noticed our beautiful, new check out desk in the library?? It was conceived and constructed by a local master craftsman who donated his labor. The desk was funded by donations in memory of Dore Rotundo. An engraved plaque will be placed on the desk and will read, "In Memory of our Dear Friend and Gifted Architect, Dore Rotundo" along with "Conceived and Constructed by a Melrose Master Craftsman. 2024"



HIDDEN HISTORY OF FLORIDA

April 26, 2024 2 p.m. Speaker, Dr. Jim Clark



Beginning in 1565 with the founding of St. Augustine, Florida has been making history; but much of it is hidden. In his entertaining presentation Dr. Clark traces the little-known facts of Florida, including the story of the state flag, the origin of Florida's largest grocery store chain, Coca-Cola billionaires, and the origin of cars on the beach with over thirty unique and fast-paced stories. This presentation is based on the book *Hidden History of Florida*. Jim Clark is a Senior Lecturer at the University of Central Florida where he has taught history since 1987. He is the author of nine books on Florida history and the editor of a three volume anthology of Florida literature.

"Funding for this program was provided through a grant from Florida Humanities with funds from the National Endowment for the Humanities. Any views, findings, conclusions or recommendations expressed in this program do not necessarily represent those of Florida Humanities or the National Endowment for the Humanities."

AIR LAYERING CLASS

Air-layering is a way to propagate or breed plants by natural processes from the parent stock. Dr. Craig Tisher, Professor Emeritus and Director of Wilmont Gardens on UF campus will give a class on air-layering plants on April 20th at 9:30 at the home of Kathi Warren, 321 Wynnwood Ave. Bring your clippers and other supplies will be provided. To attend, please sign up at the library or call Kathi Warren at 353-682-5522. Please bring a lawn chair.



SPRING USED BOOK SALE



Come one, come all to the MLA's spring book sale. The dates of the sale are May 21-25 during normal library hours. There will be many fiction, non-fiction and children's books to choose from. Come out and browse to your heart's content and you will find some wonderful reads. See you there!

MOTHER'S DAY EVENT

Looking for something cute for Mother's Day? On May 11, 2024, at 10:00 a.m. at the library, the MLA will host a free event for adults and children where you can make a small flower arrangement for that special lady or for yourself!! Please join us.





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

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Tuesdays	Story Time Ages 0-5	10:30 a.m.
Thursdays	Game Time	3:00 p.m.
April 19	Book Club <i>The Pioneers</i> by David McCullough	10:30 a.m.
April 25	Hidden History of Florida	2:00 p.m.
April 30	Air Layering plants at home of Kathi Warren	9:30 a.m.
	IFAS Garden Workshop (day lillies)	5 p.m.
May 11	Mother's Day event	10 a.m.
May 17	Book Club <i>My Antonia</i> by Willa Cather	10:30 a.m.
May 21 - 25	Used Book Sale	Normal Library hours
May 28	IFAS Garden Workshop (growing herbs)	5 p.m.
June 21	Book Club <i>Striptease</i> by Carl Hiassen	10:30 a.m.



IFAS GARDENING SPRING PRESENTATIONS

April 30 Day Lillies
 May 28 Growing Herbs
 June 25 Bees



Julio Perez will be at the library on on the dates listed above from 5:00 - 7:00 p.m. with more fascinating presentations. From 5:00 - 6:00, Julio will host a plant clinic, so bring your plant questions and problems with you to ask for solutions. From 6:00 - 7:00, Julio will discuss the topics on the dates listed. Come to the library and learn about these interesting topics.

MELROSE LIBRARY BOOK CLUB

The Melrose Book Club meets the third Friday of each month at 10:30 a.m. at the library. Below are the titles that will be discussed over the next three months:

- April 19 *The Pioneers* by David McCullough
- May 17 *My Antonia* by Willa Cather
- June 21 *Striptease* by Carl Hiassen



PONY PACK

What is Pony Pack, you ask? It is a program that sends food home on the weekends with children in need at Melrose Elementary School. The Melrose Library Association also makes sure the children have an age appropriate book in their back pack once a month. If you would like to make a donation to MLA Pony Pack for the purchase of books, please send it to Melrose Library Association, P.O. Box 54, Melrose, FL 32666. Please let us know the donation is for Pony Pack. Thank you!



HEY! IT'S MEMBERSHIP AND DONATION TIME 2024

Now is the time to renew your membership or you can become a member of the Melrose Library Association! You may also consider supporting your library and its programs with a donation.

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

PHONE _____ EMAIL _____

INDIVIDUAL (\$10) _____ FAMILY (\$15) _____ DONATION _____

Please take this form, along with your payment, to the Melrose Library front desk or mail it to Melrose Library Association, PO Box 54, Melrose, FL 32666