

January,
February,
March 2025



THE MELROSE Library Association

THE M.L.A.

Keyna Ward,
Editor

New Years Day. A fresh start. A new chapter waiting to be written. Sarah Ban



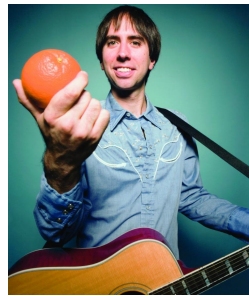
HAPPY
NEW YEAR
from the
MELROSE LIBRARY
ASSOCIATION
BOARD



2025 CAMELLIA SALE AND BREAKFAST CANCELED

Loch Laurel Nursery in Valdosta, GA supplies the Camellia plants for our Camellia Sale and Breakfast. Due to damage from Hurricane Helene at Loch Laurel, we will not be able to have our annual sale. Hopefully, we will be able to resume our sale and breakfast in 2026. Watch this newsletter in late 2025 for more information.

A MUSICAL JOURNEY THROUGH FLORIDA



Chris Kahl, a Florida folk musician and storyteller will take us on a historical journey through our state. The songs will cover historical events, characters and folklore. Chris will provide in-depth storytelling about Ponce de Leon's voyage in 1513, Henry Flagler's building of the Florida East Coast Railway, our unique ecosystems and more. Chris is a graduate of Rollins College. He wrote and recorded two Florida-themed albums: *Orange Blossom Memories* and *Sunshine Kid*. Please join the MLA for this entertaining and informative presentation on February 27th at 2 p.m. at the Melrose library. Light refreshments will be served after the performance.



"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."

SANDRA DAY O'CONNOR as presented by Barbara Oberlander



Please join the Melrose Library Association on March 20th at 2 p.m. in welcoming Dr. Barbara Oberlander as she presents the life and accomplishments of Sandra Day O'Connor, the first female associate justice of the U.S. Supreme Court. Ms. O'Connor was also the first woman to lead a state senate and the first woman to have her name attached to a law school. Barbara Oberlander has been very active in community efforts to heighten awareness of women's roles in American life, both working with the Gainesville Commission on the Status of Women, Inc and offering numerous public presentations on outstanding women.

NEW BUILDING PROGRESSING



Members of the MLA Board met with senior Putnam County officials in November to discuss the way ahead for the \$500,000 State Public Library Construction Grant that was awarded to Putnam County in October 2023. The State recently approved a grant modification for the approximately 1,500 square foot all-purpose facility. Putnam County has contracted with CRG Architects to complete the

final architectural plans and once the plans are approved, a competitive bid process will take place and the contract will be awarded. The new facility will be located on the north side of the existing library and will provide additional meeting space to accommodate large lectures, book sales and community functions. Many thanks to the State for providing the funding and Putnam County for the superb support to the Melrose Community! Members and Putnam County officials attending the meeting pictured at left are Pat Ward, Kathi Warren, Maggie Blizzard, Laurie Parker, Julianne Young, Stella Brown and Virginia Walkup.



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

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Tuesdays	Story Time and Stay and Play Ages 0-5	10:30 a.m.
Wednesdays	Relax and Color	All Day
Wednesdays Jan & Feb	Scrapbook Group	10:30 a.m.
Thursdays	Family Game Time	4:00 p.m.
Fridays	Story Time and Stay and Play Ages 6-11	10:30 a.m.
1st and 3rd Fridays	STEM	4:00 p.m.
Jan 17	Book Club: <i>Maltese Falcon</i>	10:30 a.m.
Jan 4	Family Movie	10:00 a.m.
Jan 11	Bingo for Books	10:30 a.m.
Jan 18	Basket Weaving	9:30 a.m.
1st and 3rd Saturdays	Family Movie (February and March)	10:00 a.m.
2nd Saturday	Bingo for Books (February and March)	10:00 a.m.

BOOK DONATIONS NEEDED!

Do you have gently used books around the house that you would like to donate to the MLA to be sold at the next used book sale? The next sale will be held at the library on May 20-24, 2025. Please bring in clean, gently used books to the library during normal library hours. Proceeds from our used book sales benefit the library through improvements and programs.



FREE TAX PREPARATION



Do you need help filing your taxes? Free tax preparation is available at the Melrose Public Library beginning Feb 5th and running through May 1st on Wednesdays and Thursdays from 10:00 a.m. to 4 p.m. You must have an appointment and you can call 904-614-6688 to set up an appointment.

MELROSE LIBRARY BOOK CLUB

The Melrose Library book club meets on the third Friday of every month. Come out and enjoy conversation and comraderie while discussing the latest read. Below are the titles and authors for the first three months of 2025. Contact the library at 352-475-1237 to reserve your copy.



- January 7, *The Maltese Falcon* by Dasheill Hammett (One Book, One Putnam selection)
- February 21, *The Last Thing He Told Me* by Laura Dave
- March 21, *The Book Woman of Troublesome Creek* by Kim Richardson

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL and/or DONATIONS 2025

It's time to renew your membership for the Melrose Library Association! Not a member? Consider becoming one and support your library and its programs. Also, the MLA continues to work to improve our library and community. Donations will help us continue this work. Donations can be made to our general fund or to the Pony Pack program which sends books home with children in need in conjunction with the Trinity Episcopal Church monthly food program. Send memberships and donations, made payable to Melrose Library Association, to P.O. Box 54, Melrose, FL 32666.

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

PHONE _____ EMAIL _____

Membership: Individual (\$10) _____ Family (\$15) _____ **Donations:** General Fund _____ Pony Pack _____