

## Librarian's Shelf by Kelli Keyes

### Finding new ways to bless others at the library!

Merry Christmas, everyone! The day is here and gone already! You have probably been busy working, cooking, shopping, wrapping, visiting, and practicing with your children for Christmas programs like I have been. I hope all is well for everyone this time of the year. I understand this time of the year can be a financial stress, especially in these times.

There is something the whole family can do for FREE and that's visit the Columbus Library. With a library card a patron can check out 40 books at a time! That should cover the whole family! Or if movies are what they want, each patron can check out 10 DVDs for a week. If that is not enough time for you, you can call the library and have your movies renewed for another week. This might be an idea for some quiet time!

The library also has to watch its spending, which can be a problem for patrons who wish we had a larger DVD selection. Movies are a very popular check out. Here's an idea that would help both you and the library. We could help you clean out your closets and shelves and you could help us add to our library movie collection. We not only take book donations at the library, we take DVDs, music CDs, or audio books that you would like to be rid of. These will be new selections for someone else!

So in January, when you are trying to make room for all your new stuff, you could donate your used media to the library. Items that we can't use on our shelves, usually because of duplicates, will go to the library book sale. These will then be sold and that money will be used for new library materials. This is a wonderful way to help the library! If you would like, we can also give you a donation receipt for tax purposes.

While you're at the library, I would highly recommend a new book, "Twice Loved" by Wanda E. Brunstetter. "Twice Loved" is an extraordinary book about a widow and her little girl, set in the era right after World War II. She lost her beloved husband to the war and is struggling to find a job to support herself and her small daughter. Her accounting job was taken over by one of the returning soldiers. This story will warm your heart and keep you in the holiday spirit! Wanda E. Brunstetter also includes war time recipes and crafts at the end of her book. This beloved author of over 63 books is known for her Amish stories, so this is a little different from her norm. You don't want to miss it!

I also thoroughly enjoyed "Christmas Jars", an inspiring and surprising read about the life of an orphaned girl, the mother who raised her, and how the kindness and selflessness of another family brought the orphaned girl back to her roots. A truly amazing story! This book is also available in large print for those who prefer it. I've just discovered there is a second book to this one; I will have to read "Christmas Jars Reunion", too! See ya at the library! Merry Christmas, Happy New Year, and God Bless!