

Librarian's Shelf by Kelli Keyes

### Seasons Readings!

Are you tired of Christmas shopping and worried about spending all your money? One place you can relax for free and enjoy some down time is the Columbus Public Library. Not only that, but you can take advantage of our "Food 4 Fines" program if you hurry. The last day for us to receive food for fines is December 21<sup>st</sup>. This is a win-win program. Bring in at least 3 cans of food for each account that you want to erase the fines on and all fines will be forgiven. So if you have late books that you are scared to return because of the fear of those late fees, worry no more. Bring in your late books or DVD's and three cans of food and all fines will be forgiven! Everyone should take advantage of this offer. All the food donated will go to the Platte County Food Pantry. Last summer we tried this for the first time under our new director and we netted three hundred pounds of canned food for the Food Pantry! Amazing! With that great response, we thought we should try the "Food 4 Fines" deal right before the Holidays. We hope to increase our food donation for the Christmas season. Please, do keep in mind that this offer does not cover damaged or lost books. The library will have to replace those items, so we cannot forgive fees for missing or broken items.

If you are looking to purchase an electronic device of some kind and wondered if you would be able to check out e-books and e-audios from our digital library the answer is a resounding "Yes"! You will need a library card number to check out e-books online. If you don't qualify for our regular library card by living, working, or attending school in Platte County that's okay. We have a computer card available for digital use only. To receive this card, all you need is an ID. With a computer card you can access all the resources in our digital library from anywhere, except for ancestry.com. (This website is accessible only in our library.) So with the power of your digital library card you can download six different audios or books at a time and you can put three items on hold, among the many other online resource advantages. No late fees will ever be charged on your digital accounts because the items return themselves. The difference between a regular library card and a computer card is that the computer card cannot check out physical items. A computer card is also free!

Be sure to check our calendar on our library webpage at <http://www.columbusne.us/library> to see all the events provided by the library. In January on Saturday the 23<sup>rd</sup> we are having a "Healthy Lifestyle" class with registered nurse Joan Plummer. To those of you who made New Year's resolutions to eat healthier or were told by your doctor to lose some weight, this would be the perfect class to attend. No registration is needed and it's completely free. So remember, if you are interested in knowing what classes we are providing and when they occur, check out our library calendar, call us at 402-564-7116, or watch for the posters in the library when you visit. Refreshments are normally provided at our adult library programs and for the Healthy Life Style class we will have an assortment of healthy snacks that our presenter approves! Thank you for your support of the Columbus Library and Merry Christmas!