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Book fairs are traditional at elementary schools. Students come with their shopping lists and teachers and parents hope that the children will engage in the transcendent experience that books can allow. Media specialist, Janet Gresham, at Calvary Christian Academy in Ormond Beach wants the students to rise above and beyond the books during her book fairs.

Gresham wants the students to think of others and this year, she had several concurrent activities surrounding her book fair. First, she had a Penny Drive contest. The enthusiasm of kindergartners who brought in over \$90.00 in pennies won them a movie and popcorn party in the media center. Gresham used all the penny money to purchase much coveted bus passes for the Domestic Abuse Council's residents.

"The church is very mission oriented; and therefore, the Academy is too. I like the opportunity to give back to the community. The Domestic Abuse Council is able to bless children in our community with safety and shelter and this service we provide is a great teaching tool for our kids," Gresham said.

Each day Gresham requested the students and teachers bring in different necessary items for the emergency shelter, such as diapers and wipes one day and body wash the next. She offered incentives to the teachers too. One fifth grade teacher, Katy Hill, earned \$150.00 to spend at the book fair for the classroom. Gresham feels the program is a win-win for the students, teachers, school, and the community.

"Last year we had nearly 400 individuals at the shelter. The need for everyday staples is constant for us. It just brightens my day when we have children in our community who think about what kind of services we provide and who join together to make a difference in a stranger's life, Cheryl Fuller, CEO of the Domestic Abuse Council said

To learn more about Domestic Abuse Council go to www.domesticabusecouncil.com. The Domestic Abuse Hotline is 1-800-500-1119.

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