

Battle of the Books and Books by Kathryn Tatnall Youth Services Librarian

The Traverse des Sioux Library Cooperative will host its Tween and Teen Battle of the books on August 6, 2022 at the St. Peter Community Center. Book Battle is now accepting applications. You can apply at the New Ulm Public Library or on our website at www.newulmlibrary.org. Just scroll down on the library's front page and click on the poster for the event in your age range. You have until May 27 at noon to apply and space is limited. Tweens (ages 9-12) and teens (ages 13 -18) who are accepted will receive four books to keep. You will be notified when your books arrive at the library for pick-up. Read the books through June and July. You will be placed on a team according to where you live. Those teams will compete in a trivia game based on the books that have been given out at the beginning of June. Each team member of the winning tween and teen team will receive a \$25 gift Amazon gift card. There will be fun activities and door prizes as well. The tweens program will take place from 10 am until 11:30 am. The teens program will begin at 12:30 pm and end around 2 pm. The St. Peters Community Center is located at 600 S 5th St. in St. Peter. Spectators are welcome.

Even if your child isn't old enough for Battle of the Books, we can offer them plenty of reading material. I have yet to recommend any book written by a TV personality but two such books are new to the library this month and both of them touched me. *Nana Loves You More* by host of The Tonight Show, Jimmy Fallon, is a touching tribute to grandmothers. I was four pages in when I grabbed for a tissue. I just could not help remembering my mother with my children when they were little. Every time she said goodbye to them, whether in person or on the phone, she would always say "I love you more!"

I'm not Scared, You're Scared by Seth Meyers, who hosts the TV show Late Night with Seth Meyers, is a light-hearted look at anxiety and how it affects our lives. It is the story about Bear, who suffers from anxiety. It's hard to have friends when you are afraid to do anything, but Bear has one, Rabbit. At Rabbit's insistence they go on an adventure together one day. This story made me think of my youngest who suffered from debilitating anxiety and spent much of her younger life at home afraid. She, like Bear, had to learn that bravery isn't the absence of fear, it's doing something you're afraid of anyway.

Please ask at the children's desk if there is something you're looking for and can't find right away; we're here to help. Check out our monthly calendar of programming too. We offer a variety of activities for all ages, from story time to book club for teens. You can find more information on our website at www.newulmlibrary.org on the Library Events page.

The library is located at 17 N. Broadway and is open to the public Monday to Thursday 9:30 a.m.-8 p.m. and Friday and Saturday 9:30 a.m.-5 p.m.

