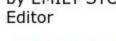
Sunday, August 15, 2021

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Local author teaches kids unusual WWII facts

August 11, 2021

by EMILY STOLL







Sember has dedicated this book to her "Grampa," Private First Class Raymond McWhorter, who earned multiple medals serving in Central Europe for three years during WWII. McWhorter was a member of the 287th QM Refrigeration Company. Photo courtesy of Brette Sember

Throughout our lives, most of us pick up the broad strokes of history, but many fascinating details are known to only the most devoted of researchers and history buffs."WWII Battle Trivia for Kids: Fascinating Facts about the Biggest Battles, Invasions, and Victories of World War II," by lifelong Clarence resident Brette Sember, aims to share some of WWII's most interesting and least-known facts in a kid-friendly format.

"I wanted to find things that people didn't know a lot about," Sember said. "We all know kind of the big story of WWII, Hitler, and Pearl Harbor. The details are what really brings it to life."

After a brief introduction providing an overview of the war and a twopage timeline of major events, the book takes an easily digestible Q&A format aimed at kids age 10 and older. It is intended to make it easy for them to pick up the book and read as much or as little as they want before taking a break - no multiday marathon reading required. According to Sember, "The idea is that kids will keep coming back to it because they're interested and excited in what they're reading."

Sember has dedicated the book to her grandfather, who was a large part of why she started researching the war to begin with.

"My grandfather fought in WWII, and he died when I was 16," she said, "so I never really had a chance to talk to him about his experiences in depth as an adult, and I always kind of wondered what he experienced, where he went, and really what it was like to serve in the war." Though she wished for more stories of his time serving, she recalled that he was really struck by seeing Paris, such an enormous city, forced to go dark.

Her research into his individual experience hit a brick wall when she discovered that a building fire destroyed his service records, but she continued to learn about the overall experience soldiers had in the war, gathering so many fascinating facts along the way that the research never felt like work to her.

"I was fascinated by the acts of bravery and the amazing missions that happened and just the sheer brutality of some of it," she said, "and I really thought that this would be a great topic to share with kids to offer some of the

strange that people would think they came from the latest blockbuster film rather than a history book. Decks of cards, for example, were modified to fall apart and reveal a hidden map when soaked in water, leading POWs to

"One of the super cool things was that Monopoly games were altered to include maps and weapons, so the games

similarly interesting tidbits, such as a battle fought against nobody, how many horses Germany used invading the

would be distributed to prisoners of war that were being held by the Germans. ... The games were altered to

include maps so if the prisoners escaped, they could follow the map," Sember said. Her book is chock-full of

diamonds from under the Nazis' noses, Dr. Seuss' role in the war and much more. The book doesn't shy away

from tragedies – Sember is open about the number of deaths, and her opening sentence describes WWII as the deadliest war in the history of humankind – but the tone is kept light and engaging enough that even the most skittish of children can be excited to learn. Though the Holocaust is beyond the scope of the book, which focuses

Sember has published over 40 books during more than 20 years of writing, and "WWII Battle Trivia for Kids" was her pandemic venture, written over the summer and fall of 2020. Though much of her work is for adults, she has also written other books for children, like an American Girl quiz book and "The Everything Kids' Money Book." She

also ghostwrites and coaches other writers, finding great enjoyment in the opportunity to help people get their

For her next book, Sember is working on a sequel to "WWII Battle Trivia for Kids" focusing on some other exciting

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"WWII Battle Trivia for Kids" can be purchased online at many retailers' websites, including Amazon. For some

purchase options, visit www.simonandschuster.com/books/ WWII-Battle- Trivia- for-Kids/ Brette-

scheduled for Aug. 25

To learn more about the author and her other work, visit Brette <u>Sember.com</u>.

Soviet Union, who "Lady Death" was, why the London Zoo's snakes were killed, how a British agent stole

on battles, Sember's introduction also takes a moment to say how great a tragedy the Holocaust was and

encourages readers to learn more about it.

words, stories or information out to the world.

aspects of WWII – spies, codes and encryption.

Sember/9781646041824.

More From Local News

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really cool facts that people don't really know." She shared that some of the true stories of the war seem so

freedom. Other POWs escaped with a little help from Rich Uncle Pennybags, the Monopoly man.

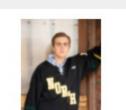


"WWII Battle Trivia for Kids" is designed to teach kids about interesting and rarely known details of the war, and author Brette Sember chose a questionand answer format to make the book easy to pick up and put down at will - no marathon-reading required. Photo courtesy of Brette Sember

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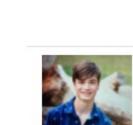
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(WILLIAMSVILLE)

KENNEDY SHS (CHEEKTOWAGA-Henry Acton Braun WILLIAMSVILLE NORTH HS



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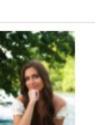
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Delivery truck versus building on Transit Road

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responded to a neighbor dispute on

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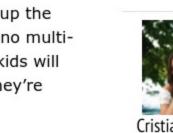


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Night a big success











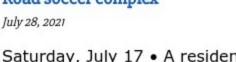






August 4, 2021

Saturday, July 24 • Deputies Shimerville Road. A female reported that a neighbor was messing around with her mailbox and she was looking for...











4 Taste of Clarence and Cruise





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