

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Ferndale Library Hosts Ribbon Cutting for new Story Trail

At Martin Road Park

Saturday, November 12

1:00 pm - 3:00 pm

All Ages

More info: fadl.org/story-trail

Ferndale Youth Librarians Hosts Ribbon-Cutting for New Story Trail at Martin Road Park

FERNDALE, Mich. (October 26, 2022)-- Families can interact with an outdoor picture book on Saturday, November 12, when Ferndale Library's Youth Services & the City of Ferndale cohost a special ribbon cutting for a new Story Trail at Martin Road Park.

Recently, Ferndale's Youth Librarians partnered with the Ferndale Department of Public Works and Ferndale Parks and Recreation to coordinate the installation of 20 colorful and engaging signposts along a paved trail, each containing sequential pages (and pictures) from *I Got the School Spirit* by Connie Schofield-Morrison (illustrated by Frank Morrison). Each sign is set about 50 feet apart, and as kids and families progress from one set of pages to the next, they are provided with various movements, and activities, such as *buzz like a bee...count the clouds...or zig-zag to the next sign*. The trail starts at the northwest corner of Martin Road Park and continues along the paved path, ending near the Curling Club.

A Story Trail is a great way to encourage the exploration of outdoor spaces and grow a love of reading through stories. Families can enjoy the outdoors together as they continue along the trail, reading a picture book and completing the interactive prompts on each child-height panel. The Martin Road Park Story Trail's layout and activities are designed to be enjoyed by everyone, and it provides a fun new outlet for child-caregiver interaction around a book. Plus, families can visit the Story Trail at their convenience—it is always accessible during Martin Road Park's open hours: 8 am - 10 pm / seven days a week.

To celebrate this new Story Trail and the civic partnership that made it a reality, the Ferndale Library is inviting kids of all ages and their caregivers to a special ribbon-cutting event on Saturday, November 12, at 1:00 pm. Youth Librarians will offer refreshments under the pavilion on the south side of the park (off Orchard Ave.)

"The Story Trail is one more exciting way we strive to connect outside of the building with the community," said librarian Everett Pine, Head of FADL Youth Services. "Whether you start at the beginning and read the book start to finish or start at the end and follow the interactive prompts to the trailhead, families, and friends of all ages will have something to enjoy."

"The library has a long, mutually beneficial history of working with Parks and Recreation for all types of children's programming," said Jordan Wright, FADL's Assistant Director. "And the new Story Trail at Martin Road Park continues that partnership. It's a great opportunity to add a little something special to one of Ferndale's favorite parks and to increase the library's visibility in the community. We are especially grateful for all of DPW's hard work getting the story trail installed."

Connie Schofield-Morrison's *I Got The School Spirit* is the first book to be featured at the Story Trail, but the intent is to feature several picture books throughout the year. For updates on the upcoming unveiling, you can follow Ferndale's Youth Librarians on Facebook @ferndalekids

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