

For immediate release

October 6, 2020

Contact: Aric Bishop, Director, 641.782.6507, aricbishop@gmail.com

Friends of the Library, Green Valley State Park DNR and High Lakes Outdoor Alliance partner to bring together a Story Walk in Creston

Creston, IA – The Friends of the Creston, Iowa Public Library, Green Valley State Park DNR and High Lakes Outdoor Alliance partner together for the construction of a semi-permanent Story walk at Green Valley State Park.

The Story walk would be one mile along the walking trail with about thirty stops. There would be one story per season which will feature children's nature stories with diverse characters. The pages for the walk will be laminated with two pages; one on each side of a wooden holder with plexiglass to protect the pages. The story walk will hopefully encourage community members to promote literacy, healthy lifestyle choices and practice mindfulness while in nature.

The Friends of the Library donated \$1,000 toward the project with the remaining, and additional unforeseen expenses, being funded by the High Lakes Outdoor Alliance. Construction of the holders for the story walk will be constructed by Jason Hyde, Park Ranger, and Daniel Stull, Park Technician. Tessa Hull, a Library Capital Campaign Member and Union County resident, approached the Friends of the Library Board at their September 21, 2020 meeting to propose the idea of creation and partnership of the story walk concept.

StoryWalk® is an innovative and delightful way for children — and adults! — to enjoy reading and the outdoors at the same time. Laminated pages from a children's book are attached to wooden stakes, which are installed along an outdoor path. As you stroll down the trail, you're directed to the next page in the story.

The StoryWalk® Project was created by Anne Ferguson of Montpelier, VT and developed in collaboration with the Kellogg-Hubbard Library. Storywalk® is a registered service mark owned by Ms. Ferguson.” All usage of the Storywalk® mark must comply with these guidelines, and must be limited to use in connection with educational, noncommercial projects consistent with the StoryWalk® Project mission to promote literacy.

StoryWalks® have been installed in 50 states and 12 countries including: Germany, Canada, England, Bermuda, Russia, Malaysia, Pakistan and South Korea! They are always received with appreciation.

For more information, please visit the Gibson Memorial Library website at: www.creston.lib.ia.us or the Friends of the Creston, Iowa Public Library Facebook page.

###