

Carter/Pedigo Trail Story Walk™



- **Richfield Village**
- **Type:**
 - Health & fitness
 - Socializing
 - Education & safety
 - Nature
 - Culture & history
- **Description:** The story boards are the design of our service department sign man, Randy Shero. They were an idea of Richfield Librarian Diane Nagy who suggested we put them on the trail.
- **Year Started 2012**

Summit County



Friends of Richfield
Library



Carter/Pedigo Trail Story Walk™ : Richfield Librarian, Diane Nagy approached me with the idea of the Story Boards™ she saw in a Library circular. We discussed it with our in house sign man, Randy Shero and asked if he could construct something for us. He designed it and we proceeded to ask the Richfield Friends of the Library for a donation to construct them. They gave us \$500 and we did it ! We came pretty close to our budget and installed 16 boards. The Richfield Library changes the Story Walk™ board once a month on a regular basis.

In conjunction with the Library the Parks and Recreation Department will participate approximately two times a year one being October to do a scary walk, something related to the story on the boards. This year the Revere schools are having the children write poetry and twenty of the best will make it into the boards. We are hoping to also do a fall leave identification in conjunction with the boards.

Name Richfield Village Parks and Recreation, Ruth Jocek, Director

Phone # 330-659-5818

E-mail address recreationdept@richfieldvillageohio.org

Carter/Pedigo Trail Story Walk™



- **Participants:** This project is designed to accommodate anyone who walks the trail. The Recreation department or the Richfield Library may hold special events in conjunction with the different books that
- **Staff & volunteers:** Our project is maintained by the Richfield Village Service Department and the Story Boards by Ms Diane Nagy of the Richfield Library.
- **Location:** The trail is located between Broadview Rd (Rt. 176) and Brecksville Rd. (Rt. 21). There is an entrance from the parking lot of the Richfield Library and one behind the Richfield Town Hall.
- The Trails are composed of stone trails and a section of the trail is natural (dirt & grass). It is in a heavily wooded area, over hill and dales.....
- **Program frequency:** The Story Boards are changed on a monthly basis and are determined in cooperation with the Rec. Dept and the Library. We try to do "holiday" or nature related books as well as involving the Revere schools in some of the project (this month is poetry form the schools).

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Carter/Pedigo Trail Story Walk™ One of the major considerations for this project was the amount of Story Boards to construct. You must remember that in the size that ours are we can place two pages of a book in them. When you decide on a book which must not be copied, you must buy two books to get all the pages. We also have a large kiosk that allows us to add additional pages if needed. You don't want the Boards to be too close together because the purpose is to get the readers to walk! Our boards are secured into the ground with concrete.

As noted before the construction took \$500, this does not include the in-house labor to construct or install. Construction was done off site and then assembly was done on the trail. There was a lot of carrying done because of the "rough" terrain, bridges and steps, most of the pieces had to be carried in along with the cement bags to secure the posts.

This project is accessible from our local library parking lot and is used by many residents as well as other walkers and hikers as the word spreads.

Carter/Pedigo Trail Story Walk™



Unique! Boy is it unique! We have flat trails, Trails over creeks , and even trails overlooking ravines

Benefits, Goals and Results: The trail is 1.3 miles. The Carter/Pedigo trail has been open just three years and there is not a minute in the day that you won't find a hiker or a group of hikers on the trail. Since the Story Walk has gone in you can always find a family, Girl Scouts or other groups reading the boards.

Transferability: The Story Board could be constructed on any other trail system and made to be used for any other type of program be it exercise, information about nature or even use as a mile counter.

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Carter/Pedigo Trail Story Walk™ The benefits of this trail are many. They provide “family” inexpensive activities to do as well as invite non-community people to our community. They come to walk and enjoy the trail and find the Story Walk as an added benefit. The Story Boards interest everyone, you can't help but to be drawn to them, the most are simple to read and are fun.

We hear that many hiking groups plan their hikes on the Carter/Pedigo trail on purpose, not only because of the wonderful hike it provides but because it is fun.

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- We have provided a variety of seating arrangements throughout the trail. Some being tables or a series of barn stone ledges to sit upon and even a small pavilion to get out of the rain.

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Carter/Pedigo Trail Story Walk™ Our biggest sense of what people say comes from the Library which is located at the Trail Head of the Carter/Pedigo Trail. When people are done walking some of them stop in the Library (maybe to use their bathrooms) but to share the awe that they have experienced.

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After careful consideration about vandalism we came up with the construction of the boards with this great design. They are child height., water proof and you must use a special tool to open the plexiglass to get into it.

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The best part of this program is the cooperation between the Richfield Library and the Village of Richfield. The generous donation of the Friends of the Library, (\$500) and the great idea of Ms. Diane Nagy, Richfield's children's Librarian made this project possible. Our service department sign man, Randi Shero, whose creative thinking made the design possible.

Our suggestion is that you place enough signs as not to limit the size of the book. Most books are about 30-40 pages. Secure the posts in so that they cannot be tipped over or pulled out. And make sure they are as water proof as possible.

The possibilities are endless. We now cater to the young person but we can easily change the theme to do only nature books about what's in the park or about the wildlife or even wild flowers.

After the construction of the project the most important person is a dedicated person to be on the lookout for the right books, and the dedication to change the Story Boards all year long, in snow, rain or even the heat of summer. This we credit to Ms. Nagy!