



July 12, 2022

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

StoryWalk® Coming to Jackson Parish

The Jackson Parish Library, in collaboration with the LSU AgCenter, the Town of Chatham, and numerous volunteers around the community, will launch a permanent StoryWalk® in Chatham, LA this month. The StoryWalk® will be located around the walking track in front of the Chatham branch of the Jackson Parish Library. This project is made possible with the support of Mayor Gregory Harris and the Town of Chatham, members of the Chatham Baptist Church and the Chatham Community Church, Brian Hurt and the L.P. Saw Shop, Laurie Brown and Pardue Builders, Mark Thomas and the Jonesboro Pack 523 Cub Scouts, Lewis Chatham and the Jackson Parish Police Jury, and Wilda Smith and the Jackson Parish Chamber of Commerce. The Chatham track was pressure washed clean by Danny Peel of the Ward 3 Fire Protection District and was painted with various designs by the Weston High School 4-H and Beta Clubs led by Lisa Nunn.

StoryWalk® is a movement and literacy boosting project that places an illustrated children's book, taken apart and displayed page by page, along a walking route in your community. StoryWalk® will be a free activity for Jackson Parish residents to enjoy with 20 "reading stations" around the quarter-mile walking track in Chatham. The stories can be changed out periodically for various programs or to promote different interests. This new attraction will mix exercise and reading to help promote health and literacy.

The first installment of Chatham's new StoryWalk® will be "Because I am a Queen" by Jaydria Taylor. Ms. Taylor, a resident of Jackson Parish and student at Southern University, "brings an inspiring and empowering message to young girls in her debut children's book. This day in the life of a little girl is brought to life with vibrant color illustrations and is designed to promote positive values, etiquette, kindness, and gratitude."

The community will get together for a ribbon cutting and blessing of the StoryWalk® on Thursday, July 14, 2022 at 1:00 p.m.

For more information about the Jackson Parish Library, please visit www.jacksonparishlib.org. For more information about The StoryWalk® Project, please visit <https://www.kellogghubbard.org/storywalk>.

"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."

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