

That was So Easy

A Walking Trip with Callie – Wednesday, 6/19/2018

Our youngest granddaughter, Callie, spent a couple of days with us this week. She was not feeling well and so couldn't go to school.

Callie will be five years old on 6/20/2018. She is a very good girl and very, very patient with her grandparents.

Yesterday, I told her that I needed to be at the office for a while in the morning to get some work done. I also promised that we could go to the library when I was finished as well as take a walk around town to see all the beautiful flowers.

She was OK with that but a bit concerned because of all the trucks and machines that are around our office. I assured her that there would be no problems.

About 10:30 AM I told her we could start our adventure.

Of course, our office is located directly across the street from the library but it's not easy right now to get to the library from here.

Our walk started by going down Franklin Street by Sheila's and Estabrook's. I told Callie that our goal was to walk to that man standing at the edge of the road with that 'Stop/Slow' sign in his hand.

We made our way to him but the traffic was heading North by him at that moment so his sign was showing the traffic to be "Slow". I told Callie that we would just stand there for a moment until the cars had passed and he would make sure that we crossed safely.

When the man saw us, he changed his sign to 'Stop' and let Callie and I cross the street so we didn't have to wait.

When we reached the other side, Callie said to me, "**That was So Easy.**"

Our next stop was the library. We walked as far up Franklin St. towards the library as we could and then just cut around the building to get to the door from the other way. Callie said that she hoped that no one minded that we walked under their trees and over their grass. I thought it was probably OK.

Our library visit was great and she found a couple of books and a short video to read and watch later in the day.

It was now time for our walk up Park Street to see the beautiful flowers. Our first stop was in the yard of the house next to the library. It was so beautiful and peaceful – a small brook & bridge; even a waterfall. All this just a short distance from the excavation, machines and traffic. You would never know it.



We continued up Park Street to Marble Street and then back down, Park, to the center of town. We went by so many homes that had such beautiful flowers and interesting gardens in their front yards. There were, of course, flowers and

flowering trees of all kinds and there was even a garden that had a small house, a gnome, a turtle, a fairy, a troll and even a seashell. Everything was great and just a short distance from all of the construction. You would never have known it.

Our next stop was at the Brandon Inn, just across the street from our office. Callie needed to have a rock in the rocking chair, of course. We had to have a picture of both views.



Callie and I made our way by all the stores on Park Street to Center Street. We made a short stop at Brandon Artist Guild and enjoyed their displays, especially the books illustrated by Ashley Wolff. Callie was familiar with them from school and at home. She finds them particularly interesting as she will be starting Kindergarten this coming Fall.

We continued down Center Street until we reached the cross walk in front of Carr's. I really wanted to check out the crane and the park next to the Neshobe River but Callie didn't think it was such a great idea. That crane was huge. Then again, I told her that we needed to check out to see if the bricks with our names were still in the park.

As we stood at the cross walk, traffic in both directions stopped so that we could cross the road. There wasn't even anyone there with one of those signs – 'Stop/Slow". When we reached the other side. Callie said, "**That was So Easy.**"

Well, our bricks were still in place, a little dusty but still just fine.

It was really interesting to seeing what was going on under the bridge. A couple of men were walking on a platform that extended through one of the tunnels under the bridge. They were carrying sandbags. We had no idea what they were doing with them. There was even a boat on the grass by the naming bricks. The workers must have used it as well. Being next to that big crane wasn't nearly as scary as Callie originally thought.

After leaving Green Park, we continued up the street to the Congregational Church. Once again there was a man with that 'Stop/Slow' sign standing there. Once again he stopped traffic in both direction so that we could cross. Callie, once again, was so impressed. "**That was So Easy.**"

We had just one more stop to make and when finished, I told Callie that we needed to get back to the office, but wasn't sure how we should try and get there. She pointed out that there was one of those men with that 'Stop/Slow' sign near the Brandon Inn. Maybe we should try there.

Sounded fine with me so we walk to him. He asked us where we wanted to go and I told him to the office across the street through all of their machines and excavations. He told us to just wait there a minute. He then walked out into the traffic area and stopped everything in order to let us cross.

We both thanked him and then Callie added, "**That was Really So Easy.**"

We were both really, really impressed with how gracious and helpful the Casella workers are and how really patient all of the people are, who are passing through our area right now.