



NEWS from the Shelby County Mayor's Office
Lee Harris, Mayor
Vasco A. Smith, Jr., Administration Building
11th Floor, 160 North Main, Memphis, Tennessee 38103

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**SHELBY COUNTY GOVERNMENT AND CITY OF MILLINGTON TO CUT RIBBON ON
NEW MULTI-GENERATIONAL, ADA ACCESSIBLE PARK AND MEMORIALIZE
LOCAL VETERAN AND COMMUNITY LEADER**

*Mayor Lee Harris' administration and partners secured over \$1 million federal dollars to
construct new playground equipment, an ADA accessible nature trail, and other amenities in
Millington's new Discovery Nature Park.*

- WHAT:** Ribbon Cutting for Discovery Nature Park/ Naming of Nature Trail in Memory of Local Veteran and Community Leader
- WHEN:** 1:30 p.m., Friday, October 20, 2023
- WHO:** Shelby County Mayor Lee Harris, Millington Alderman Larry Dagen, Shelby County Commissioner Amber Mills, kindergarten students, senior citizens, American Legion members, and family of veteran honoree, Eugene H. Leech
- WHERE:** Millington Discovery Nature Park, 5152 Easley St., Millington, TN

Shelby County, TN – Tomorrow, Friday, October 20, Millington's senior citizen community and kindergarten students will join Shelby County Mayor Lee Harris and City of Millington leaders to cut the ribbon on a new park and memorialize local U.S. Navy veteran, and long-time Millington leader, Eugene H. Leech. The \$1.1 million, 11-acre park was constructed around Millington's Farmer's Market using federal grant funds from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). The project transformed Millington's Farmer's Market from an area of commerce used one

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day a week for six months, into a vibrant, inclusive, multi-generational recreational and green space for residents to enjoy all year long.

A key feature of the new Discovery Nature Park is the ADA accessible bike and walking nature trail that weaves through the forest along North Fork Creek. At the ribbon cutting, local leaders will officially name the trail for veteran Mr. Eugene H. Leech who passed away earlier this year. The park also features new ADA accessible restrooms and playground equipment.

Shelby County Mayor Lee Harris: “We’re proud to bring this new, inclusive park to Millington residents and memorialize the legendary Mr. Eugene Leech. Mr. Leech brought fellow veterans and Millington residents from all walks of life together, and Discovery Nature Park was built to do the same.”

Millington Alderman Larry Dagen: “Discovery Nature Park has been years in the making. We’re grateful that the partnership with Shelby County has led to the completion of a new vibrant space that will serve Millington families for generations.”

Millington Chamber of Commerce President Terry Roland: “Millington is growing and projects like the new Discovery Nature Park are exactly why. When new businesses and families come here, they are looking for amenities like this. We’re glad to see the City of Millington and Shelby County Mayor Lee Harris’ administration work together to bring this new greenspace to the heart of Millington.”

(End of Release)