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**NEW LIBRARY GARDEN ENCOURAGES CONNECTIONS WITH NATURE**  
***Eleanor E. Murphy Public Library unveils Learning Garden at ribbon cutting event***

HUNTSVILLE (Mar. 15, 2017) – Eleanor E. Murphy Public Library is celebrating 50 years of service to South Huntsville this year with a very special addition. Mayor Tommy Battle, City Council President Jennie Robinson, and Madison County Commissioner Phil Riddick will join patrons from the local community in a ribbon cutting ceremony on April 11 at 10 a.m., at the Murphy Library, 7910 Charlotte Drive in Huntsville.

“As part of the Huntsville-Madison County Public Library system, our mission at Eleanor E. Murphy Public Library includes empowering people to connect with our community and the world,” said branch manager Annie Phillips. “We are happy to provide an unconventional space at our library for people to connect to nature and each other. It’s a lovely place to read, relax, learn, and enjoy the view.”

Seeing the Learning Garden come to fruition has truly been a community effort. Murphy Library was awarded a grant in early 2015 by the Huntsville Library Foundation for the proposed garden. Volunteers from the Home Depot, located at 10012 South Memorial Parkway, helped remove the existing cracked concrete behind the library, and then helped level the ground in that area. The City of Huntsville provided a new patio floor. Finally, members of the Eleanor E. Murphy Friends of the Library helped transplant new young annuals and perennials that were nurtured by the first and second grade classes from neighboring Roger B. Chaffee Elementary School.

“The fact that this garden space had cooperation from so many volunteers and community partners of all ages just makes it that much more special,” Phillips added.

The ribbon cutting event is open to the public. A light reception provided by the Eleanor E. Murphy Friends of the Library will follow.

**About Huntsville-Madison County Public Library**

**This is the public’s library.** Huntsville-Madison County Public Library (HMCPL) is a nonprofit 12-branch system that serves all of Madison County, Ala. For 200 years, the library has been dedicated to enriching the educational, recreational and cultural lives of communities in Madison County through materials, information and programs that foster a lifelong love of learning. In addition to the collection of over 500,000 items, HMCPL also provides outreach services, a BookMobile and BookBike, online services, training, an extensive

digital collection, public-use computers, free Wi-fi, meeting spaces and much more. For more information about HMCPL and its services, please visit [hmcpl.org](http://hmcpl.org).

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