



# Parish of Ascension

## Department of Communications

### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### Ascension Veterans Memorial Park was Awarded a \$13,000 Grant from The Home Depot Foundation for Park Refurbishment

**Gonzales, LA** - Ascension Veterans Memorial Park is proud to announce that it has been awarded a generous \$13,000 grant from The Home Depot Foundation to refurbish the park ahead of its annual Veterans Day program on November 11, 2024.

The grant application was spearheaded by Park Committee Chair and longtime supporter Retired Major Shelby Ballard, with the assistance of Nikisha Washington, Rental Facilities Manager and 18-year Army Veteran, and 18-year The Home Depot Rental Associate Mr. Edward Aviles. Both Washington and Aviles work at 5708 - The First Home Depot Rental facility at 36326 E Hwy 30, Geismar. Much to his delight, Major Ballard received notification of the grant award just two weeks after applying.

The grant will fund significant improvements at the park, including power washing, planting new shrubs, painting, and general cleanup. These enhancements will not only revitalize the park but also enhance its beauty and appeal. The Home Depot will be providing essential tools and materials such as mulch, shrubs, limestone, power washers, and paint. In addition to supplying materials, The Home Depot will also send a team of painters and volunteers to assist with the power washing and painting.

"We are extremely grateful for this support from The Home Depot Foundation," said Major Ballard. "Their generosity will help ensure that Ascension Veterans Memorial Park looks its best for this year's Veterans Day program, a cherished tradition in our community."

Community volunteers are not just needed, but they are the heart of this refurbishment effort. Their contribution will be invaluable in helping beautify the park and honoring the veterans who have served our country. Those interested in joining this meaningful project are encouraged to step forward and be a part of this community-driven initiative. The Veterans Day event will open to the public at 11 a.m. on Monday, November 11, 2024, at Ascension Veterans Memorial Park. The entire community is invited to attend and pay tribute to our veterans.

Volunteers who wish to assist in the park cleanup and beautification project alongside The Home Depot team are asked to contact Major Shelby Ballard at [ttsballard@eatel.net](mailto:ttsballard@eatel.net).