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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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City to Hold Grand Opening for Community Center

Historic Location at Alice Keith Park Will House Police Substation

The City of Beaumont will hold a grand-opening dedication ceremony for the newly constructed community center at Alice Keith Park on Thursday, Sept. 24. The public is invited.

This event will mark the addition of the center to the park, as well as a new parking lot, restrooms and playground equipment. The center also houses the new South Park police substation. Beaumont Mayor Becky Ames and Councilman Jamie D. Smith, Ward 4, will be keynote speakers.

Land for the historic park, located at the corner of Highland Avenue and Lavaca Street, was donated by Alice Keith in 1931. The city later created the park and named it after Ms. Keith. During construction of the new center, the city retained the original 1930's Art Deco bandstand as the building's façade. The bandstand served as the entrance to the park's original pool.

"We are very excited that this new center is now available, and I am particularly pleased that we were able to keep an important architectural feature from the park's history, its original bandstand, while still providing an attractive, modern facility for our citizens to use and enjoy," said Claudie Hawkins, Director of Event Facilities and Libraries for the City of Beaumont.

For more information on parks and facilities in the city of Beaumont, visit www.beaumont-tx-complex.com.

WHAT: Dedication Ceremony: Alice Keith Park Community Center and South Park Police Substation

WHEN: Thursday, Sept. 24, 2009 at 5 p.m.

WHERE: Alice Keith Park, 4075 Highland Avenue

SPEAKERS: Mayor Becky Ames and Councilman Jamie D. Smith

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