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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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BEAUTIFY BEAUMONT, INC., TO HONOR FOUNDER

Dedication Ceremony will Designate Rose Garden as Maree Calcote Greenway

Beautify Beaumont, Inc. will hold a ribbon-cutting ceremony for the Maree Calcote Greenway on Tuesday, Nov. 10, at 10:45 a.m. The greenway, which consists of two 100-foot rose gardens located in the median at the intersection of Kennedy Drive and Phelan Boulevard, is named for the group's founder. A public ceremony will take place in the Rogers Park Community Center at 11:30 a.m.

Guest speakers include former Beaumont Mayor Evelyn Lord, Mayor Becky Ames, and the Rev. A. Dean Calcote, husband of the late Maree Calcote. The installation of the rose beds is the first of several Beautify Beaumont projects planned since the group was reorganized shortly after Hurricane Rita in 2007.

"It seemed only fitting that our first project should honor Maree," said Laurie Leister, Beautify Beaumont President. "Maree is responsible for dozens of landscaped areas in our community. She worked tirelessly to make Beaumont more attractive. We want to memorialize her efforts for generations to come."

The Jefferson County AgriLife Agency and the Jefferson County Master Gardeners donated 40 Earth Kind roses to the project. Other Beaumont organizations, including Forkner Irrigation and Lawn, McManus Company, R. D. Martin Electric and M & D Supply, as well as the City of Beaumont and area citizens, partnered with Beautify Beaumont on this project.

Calcote, who died in 2006, helped establish Beautify Beaumont, Inc. as the city's first nonprofit "green" organization in 1987. The mission of the organization is to "fund the design and construction of beautification projects, including landscaping and tree renewal for public areas."

Donations to Beautify Beaumont, Inc. can be mailed to: Beautify Beaumont, Inc., 2395 Gladys St., Beaumont, TX 77702. For more information, visit www.beautifybeaumont.org.