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EXTREME MAKEOVER: HOME EDITION HELPS A FATHER WITH CANCER AND HIS WIFE REBUILD THEIR HURRICANE-DAMAGED HOME FOR THEIR SPECIAL-NEEDS CHILDREN ADOPTED FROM CHINA

Tallahassee, Fla. – In keeping with the show's call to honor everyday heroes across America, *Extreme Makeover: Home Edition* travels to Tallahassee, Florida on February 20, 2009 to tell the Kadzis Family, which includes a father with cancer and five physically challenged children adopted from China, that their hurricane-damaged home will be rebuilt and modified in seven days to meet their special needs.

Extraordinary compassion led George Kadzis, a prison dentist, and Barbara Kadzis, a lifelong teacher who herself was adopted, to open their hearts and home to special-needs children adopted from orphanages in China. The Kadzis family faces major challenges in their cramped, hurricane-damaged home. It is especially difficult to navigate for daughter Melody, whom was born blind. The other adopted brothers and sisters also have significant physical challenges. Julia is deaf, Martin's right arm and hand are deformed, and Phoenix and Celeste are now having their cleft palates repaired. Aileen lost her birth father to cancer and her birth mother fled after his death.

Because Barbara and George Kadzis couldn't speak fluent Chinese, and several of their adopted children could barely communicate in any fashion, the family turned to the universal language of music as an instrument to heal, communicate and transform. Chris, Barbara and George's biological son, and Martin play the guitar and piano; Aileen plays the flute; Melody plays the zither, and Julia dances like she's listening to every note, despite her inability to hear.

In addition, George is now battling brain cancer and his diagnoses has taken time and energy away from his desire to modify his family's home. Now it is up to Ty and his designers to take over and make a better home to accommodate the children's special needs and create a peaceful space for George.

While Ty and the designers, the local builder MyddeltonParker Builders, and hundreds of volunteers and workers are rebuilding their home, the Kadzis family will go on vacation to Disneyworld.

The design team for this episode of *Extreme Makeover: Home Edition* will feature team leader Ty Pennington and designers Michael Moloney, Paige Hemmis and John Littlefield.

(MORE)

The location address for the Kadzis family is 8233 Queen Anna Drive, Tallahassee, FL 32317.

For more information regarding *ABC's Extreme Makeover: Home Edition* Tallahassee project, please contact Julie Roberts at (202) 445-3404.

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ABOUT EMHE

ABC's Extreme Makeover: Home Edition, which has won back-to-back Emmy Awards as Best Reality Program (non-competitive), is in its sixth season. The program is produced by Endemol USA, a division of Endemol Holding. Anthony Dominici is the executive producer, and David Goldberg is the president of Endemol USA. The show airs on Sundays (8 p.m. to 9 p.m. EST), on the *ABC Television Network*.

Extreme Makeover: Home Edition is broadcast with Spanish subtitles via secondary closed captioning. A TV parental guideline will be posted closer to airdate.

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ABOUT MYDDELTONPARKER BUILDERS

MyddeltonParker Builders, founded in Tallahassee in 2003 by Owners Jake Myddelton and John Parker, both natives of Tallahassee, specializes in custom and semi-custom homes, residential remodeling and commercial projects. MyddeltonParker Builders is dedicated to making the construction process an enjoyable customer experience, while fusing together craftsmanship and cutting edge design.

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