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NEWS RELEASE

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Alabama Family That Helped Katrina Victims And Others Receives New Home From ABC-TV's *Extreme Makeover: Home Edition* and Heritage Homes Team

MOBILE, AL., February 1, 2008 – Value homebuilder Heritage Homes joined ABC-TV's *Extreme Makeover: Home Edition* today to help one deserving Mobile family receive a new home. The new home will be completely built in a week's time through the teamwork of *Extreme Makeover: Home Edition* and Heritage Homes, its building and landscaping team and the Mobile community.

This morning, the Gaudet Family received the "door knock" from *Extreme Makeover: Home Edition's* Ty Pennington and the Design Team informing them that they have been selected to receive an extreme home makeover. The Gaudets will move out of their severely distressed home, and in just seven days the team of designers, volunteer contractors and workers will demolish the old home and build a new Heritage Homes value home.

Frank Lott, III, president of Heritage Homes, said that he and the building and landscaping team were inspired to build the new home for the Gaudets by the family's selfless dedication to helping others despite their own hardships.

"When we learned about what this family does for others in spite of the challenges they face themselves we knew immediately that we wanted to help," Lott said. "And we knew the contractors and suppliers we work with would want to join us in giving them a new home."

Steve and Lydia Gaudet's 50-year-old home has been battered by Hurricane Katrina, a small home fire and eight children. With a leaky roof, a disastrous bathroom, a crumbling kitchen and sinking load bearing wall, the family home is in need of extensive repairs.

"Though the Gaudet's home has been ignored," Lott said, "their sense of community involvement has never faltered." And, this family's involvement reached a new level after the birth of the Gaudet's youngest son, who has Down Syndrome.

Lott said the Gaudets share a true passion for making sure that everyone in their community has access to programming and resources that can better a person's life. It is that passion which inspired Lydia to take a permanent position with Goodwill Easter Seals of the Gulf Coast as the volunteer coordinator. At Easter Seals, she teaches free parenting classes, with an emphasis on parenting special needs children. Lydia also heads a literacy program, teaching adults to read. The whole family shares this passion of community involvement by working with United Cerebral Palsy, Down Syndrome Society of Mobile, and Camp Smile- a camp for disabled youth and adults.

Steve Gaudet explained the caring and commitment to community which he and Lydia have instilled in their children in an interview when they were being considered for the new home: "First of all, in a family, you take care of each other. But family is not just our immediate group. Family is the community, family is the nation, family is everyone, and you have to give of yourself in order to have 'family'."

"After Hurricane Katrina, Lydia helped with disaster relief," Lott said. "The family's boys helped clean up neighborhood yards. The Gaudets have always put others first, which explains the neglected condition of their own home."

Without the crew of ABC -TV's *Extreme Makeover: Home Edition* and the commitment to build a value home by Heritage Homes, the Gaudet's home has seemingly reached a point beyond repair. But these working partners and many hundreds of volunteers will tackle a weeklong labor of love and community commitment to help this family get the home of their dreams.

Heritage Homes designs and builds homes for this unique region of the country using their signature value process. The company has offices and models in Mobile, AL and Pensacola, FL. The Heritage Homes team delivers more value, believing every family is special and needs full value in their home by providing opportunities for home buyers to contribute some of their time to the process. It is no wonder that Heritage Homes was selected to build a value home for this deserving family.

*****About ABC-TV's Extreme Home Makeover Edition*****

"Extreme Makeover: Home Edition," which has won back-to-back Emmy Awards as Best Reality Program (non-competitive), is in its 5th season on ABC. The program is produced by Endemol USA, a division of Endemol Holding. Denise Cramsey is the executive producer; and David Goldberg is the president of Endemol USA.

*****Media Note*****

Media are welcome near the site for the duration of the build and must check in at the media tent. A Location Press ID is required. News releases and other media materials about the build will be available via www.heritagehomesfamily.com, onsite, and through the listed media contacts. For more information about the show/designers, contact Rachel Kielborn at rachel880@gmail.com.

*****Media Park & Ride*****

Media, VIP, and spectators are to park on the south side of Bel Air Mall, in Mobile, Alabama. Take Airport Boulevard exit (Exit 3) off I-65 in Mobile. Drive east, past Bel Air Mall on the right and turn right on Bel Air Blvd at the intersection (Wendy's & Goodyear Tire Store). Continue south on Bel Air Blvd past Shoe Station on the right, until you reach Bel Air Mall Dr. on the right. Turn right and look for signs of shuttle parking for the project. It is the parking lot that is behind the Target/JC Penney stores. A shuttle will take media to and from the building site.