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Published: 07:48 AM, Thu Jun 23, 2011

## Fayetteville family will be chosen for ABC's 'Extreme Makeover: Home Edition'

By Andrew Barksdale  
Staff writer

ABC's "Extreme Makeover: Home Edition" is coming to Fayetteville next month to rebuild one lucky family a dream house.

Producers of the popular reality television series are scheduled to announce July 14 which family, among five Fayetteville area finalists, will be chosen for a home renovation.

The weeklong building blitz will start on the same day and involve volunteers and donated labor and materials from local companies, said Chip Smith, president and chief executive officer of Blue Ridge Log Cabins of South Carolina.

Blue Ridge was chosen by "Extreme Makeover" to design and build the house for an episode to air this fall during the show's ninth season. ABC will choose the family.

Smith, his team and Tony Chavonne made the announcement Wednesday upstairs in the Market House.

No producers or spokesmen for the show attended the news conference.

It will be Blue Ridge's first such project and Fayetteville's first spotlight on the show.

"We are really excited about coming to Fayetteville and bringing something we think will be truly remarkable, amazing and the word you will hear a lot about: 'extreme,'" Smith said.

Chavonne said producers quietly visited Fayetteville months ago, meeting with families, city officials and others, "just to get a feel for the community itself."

Each episode features a family that has gone through difficult times and gets a new home. In some cases, the home is razed and rebuilt on site. When it's over, the family is surprised with the results.

Smith said he could not say anything about the five finalists, including whether they are military-related or people affected by the April 16 tornadoes that ripped through the region.

The company brought along a banner designed for the show that said, "Heroes, hearts & hardhats."

Diane Korman, the show's senior producer, said in a telephone interview that the show receives between 1,000 and 3,000 letters a week nominating families to be on the show and has about 10 million viewers each week.

"Fayetteville is a big community with a big heart with lots of community support," Korman said.

She said the five finalists are aware they are contenders, but they won't know until July 14 who has been chosen.

The show has been to North Carolina three times before - in Martin County, Charlotte and the Raleigh-Durham area.

Staff writer Andrew Barksdale can be reached at [barksdalea@fayobserver.com](mailto:barksdalea@fayobserver.com) or 486-3565.

**More info**

**BUILD SCHEDULE**

July 7: Pep rally for all volunteers, Crown Coliseum, 5-7 p.m.

July 14: Family is notified

July 21: House reveal

**HOW TO VOLUNTEER**

Visit [blueridgelogcabins.com](http://blueridgelogcabins.com) or [joinextreme.com](http://joinextreme.com), or contact Carolyn Moore with Blue Ridge Log Cabins at [extreme@blueridgelogcabins.com](mailto:extreme@blueridgelogcabins.com).

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To donate goods, services or cash: [blueridgelogcabins.com](http://blueridgelogcabins.com)

To sponsor: Contact Beverly Roseman with Blue Ridge Log Cabins at (800) 348-5888 or [extreme@blueridgelogcabins.com](mailto:extreme@blueridgelogcabins.com).

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