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NEWS RELEASE

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NOTE: Media is invited to attend this event. Speakers are expected to start at 5 p.m. We invite your coverage.

First Homes celebrates rehab program with Kutzky Park party

Rochester Area Foundation's First Homes initiative will host a Neighborhood Gathering this week in Rochester.

Heritage Homes, a new housing rehabilitation program established by First Homes, is hosting the community event from 4:30 to 7:30 p.m. Wednesday, Aug. 25, at Kutzky Park, Second Street and 13th Avenue NW, Rochester.

First Homes officials will be on hand to tell residents of the Kutzky Park neighborhood and other areas near to downtown about the organization's efforts to rehabilitate homes and sell them as starter homes for working families.

Speaking at the program will be Rochester native Timothy E. Marx, commissioner of the Minnesota Housing Finance Agency. Also speaking will be Rochester City Council President John Hunziker, a First Homes board member, and Rochester City Councilwoman Marcia Marcoux.

Local musician Jake Donze will perform and there will be free refreshments for those who attend.

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First Homes is working to build 875 new starter homes for working families in a 30-mile radius of Rochester. In addition to the new rehab program near to downtown Rochester, First Homes has helped build single-family homes and rental units in Byron, Chatfield, Dover, Grand Meadow, Hayfield, Kasson, Pine Island, Plainview, Rochester, St. Charles and Spring Valley.

For more information on First Homes, call (507) 287-7117 or visit <http://www.FirstHomes.org> on the Web.