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## Jamaica Family Gets New Home From TV Show

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Crews were hard at work, halfway through on Thursday afternoon. Winston Peter's home had been partially destroyed by a fire. (Christopher Henderson)

When John Zammataro sat down to rest in the shade of a half finished house at 90 22 155th St. in Jamaica last Thursday afternoon, he had been working for almost two days straight.

The house behind him had not existed less than 48 hours before, but it would be completed by the end of the weekend, as the latest project for the ABC television show "Extreme Makeover: Home Edition."

"It's getting done in a hurry," said Zammataro, a framer for DeBlasio Capo Design Builders. "Every trade is here: roofers, electricians, builders, plumbers. We're all working at once."

Starting Tuesday, Zammataro worked for 32 hours straight before taking a four hour nap. He was part of the team charged with framing the house—finishing a job in two days that normally takes two to three weeks.

The project started on Monday with the demolition of the house owned by Winston Peter and his family. A fire had ripped through the house in 2004, but the Peters' insurance company refused to house them elsewhere after six months. The family moved back in and reached out to the TV show that travels around the country building entire homes within a week for struggling families.

The show selected the family and contacted Sal Ferro, the president and part owner of Alure, a Long Island construction company, to assemble a team. Ferro agreed to help, as his company had on three previous Extreme Makeover Home Edition projects in the New York area.

"It's good thing to do in general as a human being, It's a strong bonding exercise that brings our team together for one common goal. It paints our industry in a positive light."

Most of Ferro's crew is volunteer. "We're making a difference, there's no other way for me to explain it. We're in a position where we are very fortunate we have homes and families," he added.

Alison Rou, a spokeswoman for ABC, said the network has not decided when the Peter family episode will air, but it will be broadcast before the season ends in June.

The Peters' house is the second "Extreme Makeover Home Edition" has built in Queens. Lucy Ali's house in South Ozone Park was rebuilt after a contractor ran out on her, leaving a gigantic hole in the roof. Ali came by the Jamaica site this week with a home cooked meal for the workers.

A steady crowd of onlookers gathered behind a barricade to watch the crews dressed in bright blue shirts rush to complete the project. The gathering let out a cheer when show host Ty Pennington emerged from the house with a camera crew. Pennington stopped briefly in front of his fans before retreating to a restricted area.

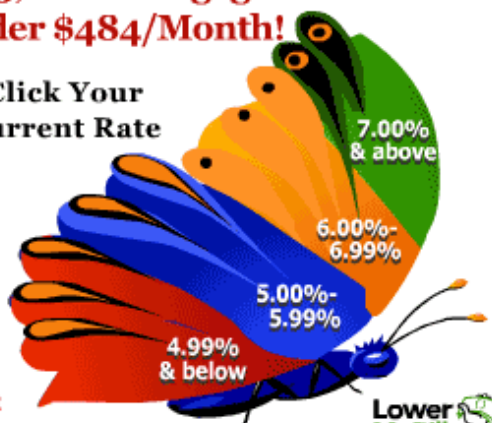
Among the crowd was Lee Lightbourne, who took time during his lunch break to visit the set. "It's fun for the neighborhood that something happening here is going to be shown somewhere else," he said.

This episode was aired on Sunday May 7, 2006. It was the fourth time Alure has partnered with Extreme Makeover: Home Edition to change a family's life.

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