

KANSAS HOUSING



RESOURCES CORPORATION



Officials from KHRC and the City of Wamego celebrate National Homeownership Month with First Time Homebuyers Josh and Sara Wildin.

KANSAS HOUSING CELEBRATES JUNE HOMEOWNERSHIP MONTH

--Wamego Teacher Achieves the American Dream through First Time Homebuyer Program--

WAMEGO, KS – In honor of National Homeownership Month, officials from Kansas Housing Resources Corporation (KHRC) and the City of Wamego celebrated First Time Homebuyer Josh Wildin’s entry into the homeownership market. During a ceremony this week in Wamego, officials presented Josh and his family with a proclamation signed by Governor Sam Brownback and helped plant a Royal Purple Smokebush in the family’s front yard.



KHRC Executive Director Dennis L. Mesa and Mayor of Wamego Bill Ditto celebrate homeownership month with Josh, Sara, Makenzie and Eva Wildin.



Officials from KHRC, the City of Wamego, Kaw Valley State Bank and Valley Scapes, LLC help First Time Homebuyer Josh Wildin plant a Royal Purple Smokebush.

“Homeownership has encouraged thousands of Kansans to take pride in their neighborhoods and play an active role in their communities,” said Dennis L. Mesa, KHRC’s Executive Director. “We wish Josh and Sara many years of wonderful memories with friends and family in their new home.”

View the Governor’s proclamation [here](#).

Wamego Mayor William Ditto presented the Wildin family with a bouquet of Sunflowers, the official state flower of Kansas. “We take a lot of pride in our city, particularly in homeownership that occurs here,” said Ditto. “We welcome Josh and Sara to Wamego and appreciate the important role Josh serves in our schools, teaching our students.”

A choir teacher at both Wamego’s Middle and High Schools, Josh and his wife Sara have two daughters, seven-year-old Makenzie and 14-month-old Eva. “After living in an apartment for four years, having the opportunity to purchase a home was wonderful,” said Wildin. “We have a big yard which is great for the kids. My parents built a huge sandbox and soon we’ll put in a play set,” Josh added.

Wamego Homeownership Event, page 2

Lanny Bosse, President of Kaw Valley State Bank, said they're proud to partner with Kansas Housing's homeownership programs. "Our goal is to help people achieve the American dream of homeownership," said Bosse. "The First Time Homebuyer Program gives lenders yet another tool in their toolbox to find housing solutions for working families."



Photo: Kaw Valley State Bank President Lanny Bosse, Mortgage Loan Officer Misty Vinduska and Realtor Colleen Weilert celebrate National Homeownership Month with the Wildin Family.

Representatives from Unified School District 320, the Wamego Chamber of Commerce and McPeak & Pugh Real Estate also attended this week's homeownership ceremony. Valley Scapes, LLC, a residential and commercial landscaping firm out of St. Mary's, provided labor costs involved in the shrub planting for free.



Left: The Wildin family with their Corgi named Crockett. Middle: A first ever for KHRC, Patrick Werick plays the bagpipes during the tree planting ceremony. Right: Valley Scapes Owner Joe Syrokosz and Account Manager Patrick Werick.

Over the past year, KHRC's First Time Homebuyer Program has helped 97 Kansas families purchase homes in 17 counties. The program has provided \$1.5 million in down payment assistance, leveraging nearly \$7.9 million in first mortgage funds. The average sales price was \$96,182. The average down payment assistance was \$15,000. Income-eligible households that have not owned a home in the past three years may apply for the program.

Kansas Housing Resources Corporation is a public corporation that finances and develops affordable housing opportunities for low and moderate-income individuals and families. For more information about housing-related programs administered by KHRC, please visit www.kshousingcorp.org.