



Date: August 7, 2009
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NEWS ADVISORY

ASTROS FAN, MHMRA CLIENT LELAND KAPS TAKES THE MOUND FOR ASTROS TONIGHT

WHO: Harris County Judge Ed Emmett
Leland Kaps
Houston Astros player

WHAT: Ceremonial First Pitch

WHEN: 6:56 p.m. today, Friday, August 7, 2009

WHERE: Minute Maid Park
501 Crawford St.
Houston, TX 77002

Harris County Judge Ed Emmett has given the honor of throwing out the first pitch at tonight's key matchup between the Houston Astros and their intra-division rivals Milwaukee Brewers to die-hard Astros fan Leland Kaps, a 48-year-old client of Harris County's Mental Health and Mental Retardation Authority.

Kaps, an MHMRA client with intellectual and developmental disabilities, is thrilled at the opportunity to take the field at Minute Maid Park with his Astros idols. Kaps will be joined at the ballpark by his brother and sister and their families, and Emmett has arranged for seating for approximately 50 other MHMRA clients and friends.

MHMRA officials say that Kaps, who shares an apartment with two other MHMRA clients as part of a community-based residential program, has decorated his room with numerous Astros posters, jerseys, bobble heads and videos. Kaps used to attend Astros games with his father, who died several years ago, and is a die-hard Craig Biggio fan.

Kaps will be available for interviews before or after the first pitch. Members of the media may call Rob Acord with the Astros at 281-382-5039 if interested.