

Living on Tipperary Hill

Last week, during his usual daily walk through one of Tipperary Hill's many parks, John Moulton and his spaniel Annabel ran across some other recent transplants to the area. The couple, who recently moved to Syracuse from Rochester and settled in Tipp Hill, had much to say about their new locale.

"They just kept talking about how much friendlier the people were here versus Rochester," said Mr. Moulton. "They seemed fairly amazed at the difference."

John Moulton considers himself a transplant of sorts even though he is a native of Central New York. Raised in Cortland, he moved out to California and lived there for 17 years until family obligations brought him back to the Northeast. After living with his sister for a few years, John decided that it was time to begin searching for a home of his own that fit all of his needs.

Legally blind, Mr. Moulton required specific living arrangements that included close proximity to his work, easy access to downtown and surrounding areas and someplace his enthusiastic spaniel could comfortably call home. He narrowed his house search to the area surrounding Coleman's Restaurant where he works. He was excited to learn that he would then be eligible for a Tipp Hill Purchase & Rehab Grant* offered through the Syracuse Neighborhood Initiative.

"My realtor told me about this great program that offered money for my down payment and for fixing things up," said Mr. Moulton. "The Tipp Hill grant made it easier for me to get a better house and to take care of what needed to be taken care of."

The Purchase & Rehab Grant provided through Home HeadQuarters offers new homebuyers in the Tipperary Hill area up to \$3,000 for down payment or closing cost assistance and up to \$4,500 for property improvements. Other Syracuse Neighborhood Initiative programs offered in Tipp Hill include Home Improvement Loans for both homeowners and investor-owners, and mini-grants for exterior "curb appeal" home repairs. The Purchase & Rehab Grant that Mr. Moulton took advantage of is available to buyers purchasing one- to three-family homes, which is how John Moulton surprisingly found himself not only a new homeowner, but a new landlord as well.

"I didn't expect to be the owner of a two-family home," said Mr. Moulton, "but it has worked out nice, with good tenants and a house that doesn't require too many repairs."

Now that he is settled in his new home, John Moulton is thinking about his future projects. He plans on checking into a Tipp Hill Home Improvement Loan so he can get the outside of his house painted and complete some other improvements.

Mr. Moulton delights in many aspects of Tipp Hill and Syracuse. He and Annabel enjoy hiking in all of the many parks that are within walking distance of his home including Burnet Park, which is just up the street. He likes the fact that Syracuse offers such affordable living and that the

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homes in his neighborhood are well kept. He was surprised to note that many Tipp Hill homes offer huge back lots that could easily accommodate many things such as a swimming pool or garden. Many major thoroughfares and bus routes are easily accessible to him and downtown is only minutes away. He partakes of the many fine restaurants nearby and rides his bicycle to shops and other places of interest. But most of all, John

*Eligible property must be previously vacant for one year or previously used as rental property.

Moulton enjoys the benefits of living in a pleasant and clean neighborhood enriched by good neighbors.

"I'll tell you this," said Mr. Moulton. "After living in LA for a long time, you certainly appreciate the friendliness of the people here. People are more willing to help you out in Syracuse and Tipperary Hill—they're just good people to deal with."



For more information about the Tipperary Hill Neighborhood Program and programs in other neighborhoods, contact

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