



Local Businessman to Pay Extreme Recipient's Taxes

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Erie's Extreme Makeover recipient is now officially up to date on her tax payments, thanks to a special gift from a local businessman.

For Clara Ward, a brand new \$104,200 dollar home, courtesy Extreme Makeover: Home Edition, was the gift of a lifetime. In order to live there for the long-haul, something had to be done about her back taxes from her now demolished home on E. 21st St.

When local businessman Nick Scott, Sr. was asked if he had any ideas on how to make sure Clara Ward's delinquent taxes were paid, he said he knew exactly what to do.

"I thought to myself, I know how to do it, I'll just write a check," said Nick Scott, Sr., President Scott Enterprises.

Scott met Ward at the Erie County Tax Office, Friday and paid her 2007 and 2008 taxes, which up until now, were delinquent. A check for \$3,297.48 did the trick.

Scott said, "I'm happy to do it. I think she deserves some help, she's such a selfless person, it's amazing when you get to know her."

Ward says, now that she's relieved of this debt she can move on and care for the city's youth that are part of her development program.

"I was taking my money and buying food and stuff for the kids. And now with him being so generous and taking care of that for me, I don't have to worry about that and I don't have to be afraid that something's gonna happen," said Clara Ward, EMHE Recipient.

"I hope it sets an example for others in our community and there are a lot of generous people in our community to step forward when the opportunity arises to help people less fortunate than ourselves," added Scott.

Clara Ward's story has touched the hearts of many. Scott's heart is just one of them.

"Really touched me, there's no question about it, amazing, she's an amazing person and she deserves some help," added a teary-eyed Scott.

Now, this payment only got Ward's tax bills up to date. As for the future, Clara says her and her son are setting up an escrow account for future tax bills.

Ward says, "I don't want anybody to worry that we're going to get behind again."