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Last Updated: 8:28 am | Tuesday, November 21, 2006

Site rates Evendale as 'best'

Affordability, location, low crime rate cited

BY JANE PRENDERGAST | ENQUIRER STAFF WRITER

EVENDALE - It's good to be on top of a list of good places to live.

That's where this village, population 3,090, finds itself - one of the top 25 best and most affordable neighborhoods near a major U.S. city, according to BusinessWeek online. The Web site analyzed statistics on crime, housing prices, cost of living and schools.

"What better thing to be able to go out and say about yourself?" said Jack Cameron, assistant to the mayor. "This just firms up what we already believed."

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The village ranks higher than the national average in several key U.S. Census categories, including education. Of its residents age 25 or older, 93 percent have at least a high school diploma, compared with the national average of 80 percent.

And the median household income of just more than \$91,000 is more than double the U.S. figure.

Home to GE Aircraft Engines, the village takes no property taxes from residents. Its median home price, according to the Web site, is \$220,500. The study followed a book, "Best Places to Raise Your Family: The Top 100 Affordable Communities in the U.S." in which Evendale also was noted.

The designation can't really help Evendale grow - the village is built out. But Cameron said it should

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The winning suburbs had to be within an hour's drive from a major city. Among the others chosen:

Sugarland, Texas

Castle Rock, Colo.

Lake Zurich, Ill.

Livingston, N.J.

West Chester, Pa.

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