

BA ranks in best cities to live

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Broken Arrow was ranked No. 81 in Money magazine's 2010 list of the best small cities for families.

The publication focused its research on the top 100 "Best Places to Live" by looking at cities with populations of 50,000 to 300,000.

Broken Arrow was the only northeastern Oklahoma city of that size to make the Top 100. The town also made the list in 2006.

"We are thrilled about this recognition," Broken Arrow Mayor Mike Lester said in a press release. "We know what a wonderful community we live in, and it's nice to see the nation taking notice."

The magazine ranked the cities based on housing affordability, school quality, arts and leisure, safety, health care, diversity and several ease-of-living criteria. It used data from Onboard Informatics.

Edmond had the best ranking in Oklahoma, coming in at No. 35. Other state communities on the list were Stillwater, No. 67; and Norman, No. 70.

Stillwater placed No. 2 on a breakdown of cities with the shortest commute to work. The 10.7-minute trip was just behind leader Logan, Utah's 10.6 minutes.

In addition, Stillwater was No. 13 among cities with the youngest residents, with the population there having an average age of 26.

Eden Prairie, Minn., was ranked No. 1 overall.

Money pointed out that the cities on the list have many positives, despite the nationwide recession.

"These terrific small cities — even now — boast plenty of jobs, great schools, safe streets, low crime, lots to do, charm and other features that make a town great for raising a family," the magazine's editors said.

The list appears in Money's August issue.

Associate Images:



This house at 7400 E. Indianola St. in Broken Arrow was one of many in this year's Parade of Homes tour. CORY YOUNG / Tulsa World

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