

## **Plymouth area makes Web site's Top 100 for second year**

**BY MATT JACHMAN • OBSERVER STAFF WRITER • APRIL 26, 2009**

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An Internet-based resource for people around the country who are relocating has recognized the Plymouth area for the second straight year.

The Plymouth community — the city and the township together — was named one of the top 100 places to live Tuesday by RelocateAmerica.com. The area also made the list in 2008.

The Plymouth area joins Rochester Hills and Hudsonville as the three Michigan communities on the list, which was whittled from more than 1,800 nominees.

“We all knew the Plymouth community was a great place, but it's special when somebody from the outside looks at 1,800 communities and recognizes”

Plymouth and Plymouth Township, said Richard Reaume, the township supervisor.

A press release said feedback from residents and local leaders, plus statistics on crime, education, employment and more in the nominated communities, were studied before selections were made.

Wes Graff, executive director of the Plymouth Community Chamber of Commerce, filled out a questionnaire for the study, which was a new element in the selection process. The questions, Graff said, touched on public safety, parks and recreation, community events, the economy and leaders' vision for improving the community.

“It's exciting that they've put more (criteria) into the process and we're still able to be in the top 100,” Graff said.

Concern about the nation's economy and housing market led

RelocateAmerica.com to look at the list with a “different lens” this year, said Steve Nickerson, president of TrueV New Media, which operates the Web site.

“We concentrated on the outlook for future growth and ability to rebound in the communities that we selected,” Nickerson said.

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