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MANSFIELD NAMED A TOP CITY IN TEXAS FOR HOME OWNERSHIP BY NERDWALLET

MANSFIELD, Texas – The consumer finance blog NerdWallet has named Mansfield one of the “Best Cities in Texas for Homeownership.”

NerdWallet, a consumer advocacy website that provides information on credit cards, investing, mortgage rates and other personal financial matters analyzed cities in Texas to determine which communities were the best to buy homes. The website looked at criteria such as availability, affordability, growth, median homeowner costs and median household income to score and rank the cities.

Out of the 20 ranked cities, Mansfield was 9th and was the only Tarrant County city in the Top 10.

“Mansfield continues to be singled out as a one of the state’s leading communities in a variety of different categories,” said Mayor David Cook. “Whether we’re one of the best small cities to move to in the U.S. or one of the safest cities in Texas, it’s clear that Mansfield is highly regarded as a quality community. I am extremely proud of what our city has accomplished and what we can provide for our residents.”

“The positive feedback we are seeing as a city is the result of the vision of our City

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Council and the strategic planning of our staff to provide our residents with the best in city services and facilities,” said City Manager Clayton Chandler. “It is gratifying to know that those who analyze and compare cities around the country and around the state see our community and see success.”

NerdWallet officials said that as renting becomes less affordable, consumers will begin looking more closely at the current housing market. “We wanted to give potential homebuyers a look at the current market and rank the communities based on homeownership rates, monthly costs, monthly household income and population growth,” said Sara Collins with NerdWallet.

The website analyze gave Mansfield a homeownership rate of 80.1 percent and a median monthly homeowner cost of \$1,892. Growth rate for the city between 2010 and 2012 was 9.6 percent.

The NerdWallet recognition comes on the heels of two other independent rankings by website analyzing community data. In October SafeWise, which provides research and reviews on home security systems and community safety initiatives, named Mansfield to its list of safest cities in Texas for 2013 ranking the city 18th on its list of the Top 50. In November, real estate brokerage website Movoto Real Estate listed Mansfield as the 6th “Best Small City in America to Move To.” Movoto provides community research based on livability statistics such as cost of living, safety, unemployment rates and home sales.

Read more about it at NerdWallet. <http://www.nerdwallet.com/blog/2014/best-cities-homeownership-texas/> .