

## **Edwardsville Named Number 13 of “25 American Suburbs with the Best Value” by *Business Insider***

Edwardsville has been named as number 13 on the list of the “25 American Suburbs with the Best Value” by *Business Insider*, a business website that is focused on delivering the latest news in business, finance, technology, politics, entertainment, and life.

The website looked at 300 suburbs across the country with populations ranging from 5,000 to 100,000 that were within approximately 25 miles of a large metropolitan area to determine 25 suburbs with the best value.

According to Business Insider, “Suburban life can have a ton of perks — great schools, open spaces, a sense of community — but some suburbs aren't cheap to live in... It's about getting a great education, a safe and thriving community, and affordable real estate.” See the full article at: <http://www.businessinsider.com/best-affordable-suburbs-2014-11#ixzz3lsqPeO00>.

Superintendent Ed Hightower is pleased by this announcement. “This recognition is in line with other major publications that have touted Edwardsville, Glen Carbon, and our school district as great places to live and raise a family.”

In 2013, NerdWallet ranked Edwardsville #1 in the “Best Cities in Illinois for Young Families.” The website ranked cities based on three criteria: 1) Does the town have good public schools? 2) Can you afford to live there? 3) Is the town growing and prospering?

According to NerdWallet, “Edwardsville is consistently cited among the best places for families in both statewide and national studies — and for good reason. The town’s public schools at every level, from elementary to high school, have a near-perfect rating from Great Schools. Given Edwardsville’s proximity to St. Louis, quality jobs are plentiful, providing a high median household income while the town’s suburban location keeps home costs low. “

In 2010, District 7 was recognized as a “Class Act” by Education Executive, and Family Circle named Edwardsville as one of the “Ten Best Towns for Families.” In 2009, Glen Carbon was recognized

in “One Hundred Best Places to Live – America’s Best Small Towns” by Money Magazine. And, in 1996, District 7 received recognition from Money Magazine as one of the “Top 100 Schools in Towns You Can Afford.”

Hightower believes that this latest recognition only supports the hard work and effort put forth by students, employees, and citizens of the District 7 communities. “A quality school district is key to quality communities. The District will continue to work to improve the quality of education for our children, and by doing so it will continue to attract new families to the District 7 community,” Hightower said.