

WHY WORTHINGTON IS A GREAT PLACE TO LIVE

Living in Central Ohio is just right for my family, but I feel that the jewel of the area is Worthington. It is the perfect suburb of Columbus and I am proud that I have never lived anywhere else. It is a progressive community with deep roots; stable and affluent. Its citizens are a true community with a positive outlook on life and the future.

Worthington is very historical. It boasts such luminaries as Thomas Worthington, former governor of Ohio, and James Kilbourne, founder of the city and member of the US House of Representatives. Worthington was also the former headquarters of William Henry Harrison while his troops were in the Northwest Territory. Many historic buildings are still standing in town like the Orange Johnson House and the Worthington Inn. They exist in the charming downtown shopping area that is also teeming with great eating establishments and a beautiful city square.

Worthington is famous for many things. Its residents live a healthy lifestyle and this is shown by the continual use of its parks system, bike paths, modern recreation center, pools, and senior citizen facilities. Almost every child raised in Worthington is blessed to learn sports through the Worthington Youth Boosters program. Tennis courts and golf courses are easy to find. The Worthington Library system is second to none and nationally recognized with three branches and non-stop programming. We have a sister city in Sayama, Japan, and both adults and children have benefited from exchange programs with that city. Worthington has an active Chamber of Commerce that attracts new business to the city and provides special events like a year round farmer's market and a tree program that enhances the area's natural beauty.

Worthington's school children are familiar with the American Whistle Company, as they all have had a field trip there. There is also the Ohio Railway Museum and a historical

society. Worthington has numerous churches and religious congregations of all types. In fact, we are the home of the Roman Catholic Pontifical College at the Josephinum, the only pontifical college outside of Rome Italy.

When one thinks of Worthington, one of the first things that come to mind is the school system. Worthington Schools have been rated excellent by the State of Ohio for the last six years and has nationally recognized teachers. The Ohio Teacher of the Year for 2010 is Tim Dove, a middle school teacher in Worthington. Ninety percent of this system's students pursue higher education and yearly, these same students perform 55000 hours of community service. The schools also have the highest level of sports participation, music appreciation, and a love of the arts. All of this is possible from taxes paid on the very reasonable home prices in the area. You get a lot for your money in Worthington!

The arts are alive and well in Worthington with our vibrant fine arts community and our new McConnell Arts Center. There is a constant array of theater, choir, visual art and music presentations.

My parents moved to Worthington before I was born because they were looking for a safe, attractive, and affordable community with a lot to offer its residents. They did a lot of research and looked at many areas. We have been happy here since Day One and love the people and all that this city has to offer. I am eternally grateful that they chose Worthington.