



Holly sophomore Samantha Love rakes the softball field at Holly High School after a game this spring. Holly was named one of the top 20 towns to raise children in Michigan by Niche.com. (Sam Owens/MLive.com)

OAKLAND COUNTY

## City ranks in top 20 of best towns for raising children in Michigan

By Roberto Acosta  
racosta1@mlive.com

A northern Oakland County community has landed in the top 20 of best towns to raise a family in Michigan.

Niche.com, a website started in 2002 as colleg-eprowler.com by Carnegie Mellon University students to offer information on selecting a college or university, named Holly the 11th best town to raise children in Michigan.

"Holly is a midsize town in Michigan with 6,125 residents," said a description on the website. "It has very low home values, average rent costs and very high unemployment levels. Its citizens generally have low education levels and average income levels."

Holly was one of 1,557 towns that were ranked out of 4,264 towns the website had information

for and used to create grades for including crime and safety, education, as well as the number of residents within certain ages, housing and access to places such as libraries and grocery stores.

The top-ranked town was Troy, also in Oakland County, followed by Novi, Chocoday Township in Marquette County, Raisin Township in Lenawee County, Petoskey, and Farmington Hills rounding out the top five.

Southfield, in Oakland County, fell into the No. 23 position. Lapeer landed on the list, coming in 30th. Owosso in Shiawassee County was ranked No. 43, and Saginaw cracked the top 60, coming in 56th.

Carmel, Indiana, took the No. 1 spot on the nationwide list, with Troy at 50th place, between Johnstown, Colorado, and Skokie, Illinois.

**11th**  
Holly's ranking  
by Niche.com

**30th**  
Lapeer's ranking  
by Niche.com

**NCG  
CINEMA**

Lapeer • 1650 Demille Rd.  
810-667-SHOW

Grand Blanc • 8220 Trillium Circle Ave.  
810-695-5000

Burton • Courtland Center Mall  
810-223-0242

Owosso • 314 E. Comstock  
989-723-SHOW

Tickets available @ [www.NCGmovies.com](http://www.NCGmovies.com)