



best >>  
PLACE TO LIVE

**Crown Point**

Office of the Mayor, 101 N East St, Crown Point, Ind.  
219.662.3240, crownpoint.in.gov

**T**he City of Crown Point was established in 1834 and has grown to a population of just under 25,000. They boast a top-ranked school system, plenty of parks, greenways and greens, and a historic downtown anchored by the former courthouse, which now houses a restaurant, museum, and shops. The city gained national notoriety in 1934 when John Dillinger escaped from the county jail, and again in 2008 when a big-screen version of the story brought movie star Johnny Depp to town.

Patti Olson, clerk-treasurer, who has lived in Crown Point for 40 years, says, "People love our downtown area. We have a beautiful courthouse, people are friendly, and we have a lot of activities all year long. We just keep doing things all of the time and we're hopping. People like to visit us and hopefully they will make Crown Point their home. We have a director of special events in the mayor's office and she does an outstanding job and it's never dull here, there's always something going on. Plus we have a lot of really great people who live here and when you come visit it's a warm and fuzzy feeling. It's a good place to live and raise a family." -HA

**SECOND PLACE**

**Valparaiso**

Office of the Mayor  
166 Lincolnway  
Valparaiso, Ind.  
219.462.1161  
ci.valparaiso.in.us

**THIRD PLACE**

**St. Joseph**

City Hall  
700 Broad St  
St. Joseph, Mich.  
269.983.5541  
sjcity.com

