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***AARP THE MAGAZINE ANNOUNCES
TOP PLACES TO LIVE (AND RETIRE)***

***Burlington Selected as “City To Watch” Based On Atmosphere and Services for
Residents Age 50+***

WASHINGTON, DC—What are the top cities to live in for boomers 50+ looking for a great place to retire? *AARP The Magazine*, the world’s largest circulation magazine, today unveiled its annual list of the top places to live in the U.S. with Atlanta, Boston (Beacon Hill), Chandler, Milwaukee and Portland (OR) nabbing the top honors. The magazine also named the top four cities to watch—Austin, TX, Traverse City, MI, Burlington, VT and Mankato, MN—in its September/October issue which takes an in-depth look at why these areas rank highest and are ideal for older residents. The selections were based on specific criteria for what makes a community livable: new urbanism, smart growth, mixed-use development, and easy-living standards.

“The cities we chose are ahead of the curve in providing services for empty nesters, active retirees, and everyone in between and we’re thrilled to recognize them for their efforts,” said Steve Slon, editor of *AARP The Magazine*. “City living may cost a bit more, but urban communities also deliver peak value in the form of culture, work options, mass transit and fitness opportunities, and this year’s selections really cover the spectrum.”

Burlington’s selection was based in part on its work to create a livable community for an aging population focusing on mobility, housing and community engagement. “This is a wonderful endorsement of the work we are doing as a community on the Burlington Livable Communities Project,” said Jennifer Wallace-Brodeur, acting state director for AARP Vermont. AARP is partnering with the city of Burlington and some 30 other community organizations in a collaboration to plan for the aging of the city’s population.

AARP The Magazine’s selections focus on livable community characteristics in each city including mass-transit systems so residents can drive less, expanded sidewalks to encourage walking, better health care, and a wide range of mixed use housing. These qualities attract members of the 50+ age group, a segment that spends more than \$2.2 trillion on goods and services each year and is expected to grow in size by 32 percent in the next 15 years.

Additional information about this year's top cities can be found in the September/October issue of *AARP The Magazine* or online at www.aarpmagazine.org.

About AARP The Magazine

With more than 30 million readers nationwide, *AARP The Magazine* (www.aarpmagazine.org) is the world's largest-circulation magazine and the definitive lifestyle publication for Americans 50+. Reaching more than 22.5 million households, *AARP The Magazine* delivers comprehensive content through in-depth celebrity interviews, health and fitness features, consumer interest information and tips, book and movie reviews, and financial guidance. Published bimonthly in print and continually online, *AARP The Magazine* was founded in 1958 and is the flagship title of AARP Publications.

About AARP

AARP is a nonprofit, nonpartisan membership organization that helps people 50+ have independence, choice and control in ways that are beneficial and affordable to them and society as a whole. We produce *AARP The Magazine*, published bimonthly; *AARP Bulletin*, our monthly newspaper; *AARP Segunda Juventud*, our bimonthly magazine in Spanish and English; *NRTA Live & Learn*, our quarterly newsletter for 50+ educators; and our website, AARP.org. AARP Foundation is an affiliated charity that provides security, protection, and empowerment to older persons in need with support from thousands of volunteers, donors, and sponsors. We have staffed offices in all 50 states, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, and the U.S. Virgin Islands.