



Community Spirit

New Survey Reveals America's 50 Sweet Spots



The 50 top cities in the US have been picked based on their safe, family-friendly communities and high rate of volunteerism.

(NAPSA)—If you long for a safe, family-friendly community where people really seem to care about each other, the results of a recent survey may seem like a sweet deal.

The research for “America’s 50 Sweet Spots” was sponsored by Hershey Foods and conducted by Bert Sperling, creator of *Money* magazine’s annual “Best Places to Live” feature.

The survey lists safe, family-friendly communities with high rates of volunteerism and where residents have been recipients of community, philanthropic, or military service awards.

The “Sweet Spots” also offer clean, safe environments, the backdrop of frequent celebrations, parades and outdoor activities that bring families together.

All the communities had a high per capita spending on fun, recreational family activities.

Additional criteria included such considerations as: number of roman-

tic settings (flower shops, romantic restaurants and beaches) and the presence of historical settings/houses and museums.

“The top cities were chosen for their charm and friendly spirit,” said Sperling.

Hershey’s will visit five “Sweet Spots” to honor community members for helping their town to make the list.

First place goes to Seattle-Bellevue-Everett, Wash., for its sense of romance, spirit of fun, history and celebrations.

Second place goes to Boston, Mass., for its rich history, tradition of community service, charity, safety, and fun. Third, fourth and fifth place go to Savannah, Ga., for its environment, romance and fun; Des Moines, Iowa, for environment, safety and charity; and Cleveland, Ohio for its fun, history and celebrations.

Consumers can log on to www.hersheys.com to find out which cities made the top-50 list.