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FOR INFORMATION/CONFIRMATION, CONTACT:

Karen Blomstedt, General Manager

Howard Johnson Inn

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Digital image attached; additional images available upon request.

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

LOCAL HOWARD JOHNSON INN WINS TWO NATIONAL AWARDS

Of 473 properties worldwide, the Howard Johnson Inn of Middletown, RI took 1st place and was recognized with the **2008 Overall Guest Satisfaction Award** presented by Howard Johnson International. The award was accepted by Karen Blomstedt, General Manager, Jeff Miller, Director of Operations and Jennifer Joslyn, Front Office Manager, at the annual conference held recently in New Jersey.

The property also won the coveted **2008 Property of the Year Award** in the Inns/Express Inns category (ranked #1 out of 335) which is based on a combination of quality assurance scores and guest satisfaction surveys. The annual competition includes locations in 18 countries.

The Kempenaar Family has been affiliated with the Howard Johnson brand at the West Main Road location for almost 50 years starting with the Howard Johnson's Restaurant in 1960. Owner Rocky Kempenaar continues the tradition started by his father, Robert, and Uncle Fred. Since opening in 1969, the Middletown Inn has hosted over 1 million overnight stays. The property has a team of 30 associates and features 114 guest rooms with a variety of amenities including an indoor heated pool, sauna and whirlpool.

For more information, call 401.849.2000 or visit www.newporthojo.com.

PHOTO CAPTION:

Displaying awards, General Manager Karen Blomstedt and Director of Operations Jeff Miller flank proud owner Rocky Kempenaar surrounded by associates.

