

# KNOWLES FAMILY RESTAURANTS ACHIEVE A MILESTONE

## First Hotel in New Jersey to Go Solar!



Left to right: Kurt Knowles Jr., West Orange Mayor John McKeon, Harry Knowles, Kurt Knowles, Joseph Fiordaliso, Dennis Wilson and Elliott Jones, General Manager, Marriott Residence Inn.



Left to right, standing: Kurt Knowles Jr., Dennis Wilson, Richard Riccio of URGO Hospitality, Mayor John McKeon, Kurt Knowles. Seated: Harry Knowles.

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### *The Marriott Residence Inn at The Manor Helps Reduce CO<sub>2</sub> Emissions by Installing a Solar Electric System*

A ribbon-cutting ceremony announcing the installation of the first solar electricity-generating power system at a New Jersey hotel was held January 11th at The Residence Inn at The Manor.

Kurt Knowles Jr., sixth-generation Knowles family restaurateur, addressed the attending media (television, magazines and newspapers), outlining to the guests why the day marked a milestone for the hotel industry, the Township of West Orange and the State of New Jersey.

“The Knowles family is proud to be doing their part to combat global warming and reduce this country’s dependence on imported oil,” stated Kurt Knowles Jr. “We as a society are starting to realize how important it is for us to aggressively pursue the implementation of alternative energy. We now

live in a time when we can be both environmentally friendly and economically responsible. New Jersey has the most aggressive alternative energy incentive program in the United States today!”

West Orange Mayor John F. McKeon, Chairman of the Assembly Environmental Committee for New Jersey, said West Orange is setting a statewide example. He reminded the guests that West Orange was the birthplace of electric energy, the first major monumental milestone for West Orange and New Jersey.

The Knowles are proud business participants of the West Orange Energy Diet sponsored by Mayor John F. McKeon and the

Township of West Orange — a town-wide grass-roots effort to reduce energy consumption in the municipality by 20% in 2007.

Dennis Wilson, President of The Solar Center, a Denville, New Jersey, based solar energy company that



Mayor John McKeon addressing the media.

designed and installed the 108 kW system, thanked the State of New Jersey and congratulated the Knowles for taking this important initiative more than a year and half ago. Mr. Wilson stated that “over the system’s 30+ year lifespan, it will reduce carbon dioxide emissions by 2000 tons, equivalent to planting 600 acres of trees or permanently removing 400 cars from the road annually.”

Joseph Fiordaliso, Board of Public Utilities Commissioner, also thanked the Knowles for their vision and dedication. He said the BPE contributed \$400,000 toward the project and that the State of New Jersey is one of the top five in renewable energy in the world!



Kurt Knowles Jr., Director of Corporate Services, Knowles Family Restaurants.