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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Maryland Restaurant Owner, James King, Nominated for Restaurateur of the Year

ANNAPOLIS, MD (April 20, 2017)—Local restaurant owner James King has been nominated for Restaurateur of the Year by The Restaurant Association of Maryland (RAM). Mr. King is owner of Blackwall Hitch, Greene Turtle, Roy Rogers, and J. King's. This is his third nomination.

The nominations are voted upon by RAM members and recognize excellence in the foodservice industry and commitment to the community. The nominees demonstrate originality, leadership, quality customer service, and engagement on behalf of the local hospitality industry in the eyes of fellow operators, employees, and the community. The winner will be announced at the 63rd Annual Stars of the Industry Awards Gala on April 30, 2017 at the Renaissance Baltimore Harborplace Hotel.

This nomination follows Blackwall Hitch Annapolis' recent win of the 2017 Restaurant Neighbor Award for its community support. Specifically, the annual Blackwall Bash donates proceeds toward Christmas dinners for local families in need. The restaurant also partnered with the Annapolis Police Department to host monthly free fun and food events for local kids in public housing. These events are designed to educate children on personal safety. Blackwall Hitch also supports the Bernie House, a local shelter for women and children who have fled from situations of domestic violence.

For more information on the RAM awards, please visit <https://www.marylandrestaurants.com/gala.html>.

About Blackwall Hitch

Blackwall Hitch is a coastally inspired concept that fosters a unique connection by blending locally sourced food, spirits and music. The sophisticated yet comfortable ambiance offers flexible gathering spaces for all occasions, and the menu draws upon classic American techniques with a regional twist. Guests enjoy creative cocktails, an extensive wine list and draught beer selection. Blackwall Hitch opened its flagship restaurant in Annapolis, MD in 2014, and has since launched locations in Old Town Alexandria, VA and Rehoboth Beach, DE. Corporate Chef Michael Wagner oversees the culinary teams at all three locations. Get hooked on the flavor at theblackwallhitch.com.

About The Restaurant Association of Maryland

The Restaurant Association of Maryland (RAM) is a 2,000 member statewide trade association operated for the purpose of promoting, protecting and improving the foodservice industry in Maryland. RAM leads and supports the foodservice industry in Maryland by showcasing member restaurants, offering programs that reduce operating costs and advocating for the interests of foodservice businesses. Learn more at www.marylandrestaurants.com.

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