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## River Region hotels earn top marks

*By Cosby Woodruff*

Guests have rated the River Region Marriott and Renaissance properties among the best in the chain. They have also ranked the property's spa in Montgomery and the golf course in Prattville as the very best in the chain, according to a recent survey.

Guests at every hotel are asked to fill out computerized surveys about their stays, and 2009 guests have ranked the spa at the Renaissance Montgomery Hotel & Spa at the Convention Center as the best among the chain's 15 spas.

Guests also ranked the golfing experience at Capital Hill in Prattville the top golfing experience in the Marriott chain.

Mike Evelyth, general manager of the Montgomery Renaissance, said the honors show that the properties provide great service.

"It is a source of pride for the hotel as well as the spa," he said. "It is great marketing also."

Bill Lang, spokesman for hotel operator Point Clear Holdings, said the rankings are meaningful to hotel insiders and beneficial to guests.

"It is a big deal in the industry," he said.

The local properties were not the only PHC locations to rank high in the awards.

Renaissance properties in Mobile and Birmingham ranked No. 2 and No. 3 for spa services.

Marriott properties in Point Clear and Florence ranked No. 1 and No. 5 for spas in that chain.

Golf properties in Florence and Auburn ranked No. 2 and No. 3 in that category.

Guests were asked to rate the hotel and its services with about 100 different questions.

Lang said the Montgomery spa had a 98.8 rating on the survey.

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