



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Media Contact: Viki Gudas, Executive Director
269-469-2400 | vgudas@visitharborcountry.org

Harbor Country's Lark & Pear in Sawyer, Named One of *Midwest Living*[®] "Meals Worth the Trip" in Best of the Midwest 2010 Edition

HARBOR COUNTRY, Mich (May 13, 2010) Lark & Pear Coffee & Tea House , located on Red Arrow Highway in Sawyer – in the heart of Harbor Country, was one of eight Michigan communities (54 region-wide) featured in the "Best of the Midwest" edition of *Midwest Living*[®] for "Meals Worth the Trip". In all, eight Michigan communities made the list – recognizing the communities' increasingly rich and varied food scene, according to *Midwest Living*[®] Editor-in-Chief Greg Philby.

In its annual *Best of the Midwest* issue, *Midwest Living* serves up editors' top picks for the five best small to midsize food towns (two of the five were from Michigan: Ann Arbor and Traverse City) in the 12-state region. After eating more than 700 meals at locally owned restaurants, the foodies at *Midwest Living* ranked their favorites.

"Researching these awards was tough duty," Philby joked, as he presented the Michigan awards recently at the Pure Michigan Governor's Conference on Tourism at the Grand Hotel on Mackinac Island. "We check everything out in person so we can be sure the restaurant will be a good experience from a visitor's perspective. We looked for quality, for a rich variety of restaurants and prices, and for use of fresh and local ingredients. We particularly love when a restaurant or town really expresses its heritage and sense of place. Part of culinary tourism is about food that tastes great, and part is about personality and a unique experience."

The complete list of Michigan winners include:

Midwest Living's Top Five Food Towns:

- Traverse City
- Ann Arbor

The other top-five winners were Bloomington, IN, Des Moines, IA and Madison, WI.

54 More Meals Worth the Trip, including eight from Michigan:

- **Sawyer: The Lark and Pear (coconut-plum cake)**
- Petoskey: Jesperson's (cherry-berry pie with a perfectly flaky crust)
- Grand Rapids: Marie Catrib's (fudgy chocolate pudding, extra-rich thanks to duck eggs)
- Fenton: Uncle Ray's Dairyland (made-to-order frozen yogurt).
- Bay City: Krzysiak's House (Polish golabki—stuffed cabbage rolls).
- Sault Ste. Marie: The Antlers Restaurant (steaks and burgers, eaten under of the gaze of 200-plus taxidermic critters).

- Wakefield: Randall's Bakery (pasties—the UP's trademark pastry pillows stuffed with meat, potatoes and veggies).
- Kawkawlin: Turkey Roost (Thanksgiving dinner year-round).

Midwest Living's Best of the Midwest, an annual guide to the region's best restaurants, hotels and attractions, is on newsstands until **September 7, 2010** or available at **midwestliving.com**.

PHOTO AVAILABLE UPON REQUEST

Midwest Living®

About *Midwest Living*

Midwest Living magazine (www.midwestliving.com), published by Meredith Corporation (NYSE: MDP), is a regional publication that celebrates the richness of life in the Midwest. Founded in 1987, the magazine is dedicated to providing its readers with a wealth of region-specific information and inspiration, focusing on travel and events, food and dining, and home and garden, as well as other editorial content categories. *Midwest Living* magazine, which reaches over 4 million readers, is published bi-monthly and has a rate base of 950,000. *Midwest Living* also partners with Travel Michigan to produce *Michigan Travel Ideas*®, an annual guide to getaways in Michigan, from parks and outdoor activities to city weekends and upscale resorts. For a **free** copy, visit michigan.org.

CONTACT: Barbara Morrow (515/284-3085; barbara.morrow@meredith.com).