

Locally Owned Bear Creek Coffee Café & Drive Thru to open Sept. 4th

Mentor, Ohio (August 25, 2008) – Bear Creek Coffee and Espresso Company, one of the fastest growing coffee chains with over 60 locations nationwide, is coming to Mentor, Ohio to perk up the neighborhood!

Located in the Midland Center just west of 306 at 7338 Mentor Ave., owners, Dennis Koury, and Jeff and Lindsey Pyle will open the only gourmet coffee shop in the area with a convenient drive-thru window. Their award winning Bear Creek coffee is small batch micro-roasted and custom blended to ensure freshness and quality not found in large bulk production. Bear Creek Coffee recently took 8th place in a field of 370 roasters at the Roasters Guild 2008 Roasters Choice Tasting Competition.

Considerably more upscale and unique than your typical coffee shop, this Bear Creek location will offer French Press Coffee, and Chicory, a coffee additive made from chicory roots and purported to have medicinal properties. Baristas are expertly trained to hand pull each shot of espresso as it is ordered with the proper grind, tamping pressure and extraction time, so expect the finest espresso available. Customers can also enjoy a variety of frappes, fruit smoothies, pastries, muffins and assorted gourmet treats while taking advantage of the convenient free wireless internet service. And as if that's not enough to set them apart, this location is also the only business in Lake County to serve Cheesecake Factory Cheesecake!

A MATCH MADE IN HEAVEN

Dennis Koury hails from Cleveland Hts, Oh. He graduated from Michigan State University with a major in Hotel, Restaurant and Resort Management and subsequently managed several family restaurants. He then successfully started Record Den, growing to a 12 store chain which he managed for 32 years. Dennis not only has the restaurant experience needed to run a successful coffee house, he owns and developed the Midland Center where Bear Creek Coffee is located!

Jeff Pyle is a Cleveland native born in Chardon. He attended Lake Catholic H.S. and Lakeland Community College where he received a degree in Criminal Justice. While serving as a police officer for the past 14 years, he dreamed of owning his own business. Along came Lindsey, who grew up on a cattle ranch as the child of an entrepreneurial family and spent time as a whitewater rafting guide and fighting fires working for the Forest Service. Lindsey learned through her experience with family businesses that "with hard work and a good work ethic, you can become a success." With their marriage, they merged their dreams of business ownership. They attended Coffee Fest 2008 in Wash., D.C. where Jeff concentrated on marketing and design and Lindsey centered on barista and product development areas. Now, all they needed was Dennis.

Dennis, Jeff and Lindsey welcome all of their Mentor area neighbors, friends and family to celebrate their Grand Opening and decide on their favorite Bear Creek beverage at half price on Saturday and Sunday, September 5th and 6th, 2008.