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Press Release

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Saratoga P.L.A.N. Celebrates Local Farmers and Chefs at Fourth Annual *Feast of the Fields* Fundraising Event

Saratoga P.L.A.N. (Preserving Land and Nature) announces its fourth annual *Feast of the Fields* fundraising event to be held at Saratoga National Golf Club, in Saratoga Springs, NY on Thursday, September 18, 2008 from 6-9pm. The event pairs some of the best local farmers and producers with acclaimed chefs from the Saratoga region.

The *Feast of the Fields* is an annual event to raise funds to support Saratoga P.L.A.N., a not-for-profit land trust devoted to protecting farmland, open space, and promoting viable and sustainable agriculture in Saratoga County. Held amid the spectacular grounds of Saratoga National Golf Club, the event is regularly enjoyed by over 300 guests and has become one of Saratoga's most celebrated post-August events. Saratoga National Golf Club has also protected 136 acres of forest and wetlands adjacent to the golf course, one of Saratoga P.L.A.N.'s largest held conservation easements.

Host Chef Frank Vollkommer, Executive Chef at Saratoga National Golf Club, has assembled an excellent roster of culinary talent for this year's *Feast of the Fields*, such as chefs Stephen Topper of *Saratoga Polo*, Paul Parker of *Chez Sophie*, Dale Miller, of *The Inn at Erlowest*, Max London of *Max London's Restaurant and Bar*, Yono Purnomo of *Yono's Restaurant*, Ken Lingle of *The Sagamore*, and David Pedinotti of the *Mouzon House* and *One Caroline Street Bistro*, just to name a few. Approximately 15 chefs will be paired with over 30 different farmers and producers representing farms growing, producing or raising meats, poultry, cheeses, fruits, and vegetables. The *Feast of the Fields* facilitates the strengthening of ties between our area restaurants and farms, promoting sustainable agriculture, supporting the regional economy, and providing greater awareness of regional farms and opportunities to participate in buy/eat local campaigns such as the 100-mile diet.

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Tickets for the event are \$150 per person. The evening's festivities include culinary demonstrations, samplings from 15 different chef stations, interaction with the chefs and farmers, and unique entertainment. In addition to raising critical funds for Saratoga P.L.A.N.'s mission, the *Feast of the Fields* highlights the importance of protecting regional farmland.

This year's *Feast* corporate sponsors include: The David B. Silipigno Foundation, Saratoga National Golf Club, Brookfield Power, The Brooks Reinemann Group Merrill Lynch, Colley Asset Management, Elan Planning & Design, First Columbia, LLC, Bette and Cring Construction Group, Key Bank, Bonacio Construction, Earth Tech, Elevation Films, LLC, Greenman-Pedersen, Inc, Linell Lands, Northwestern Mutual Financial Network, Prudential Manor Homes, Saratoga National Bank, and Stewart's Shops.

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