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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 *Pre-event Chef Demonstration at Farmer's Market September 10th*

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.

For a preview taste of some of the culinary fare to be featured at the event, a *Feast of the Fields* Chef Demonstration Day at the Saratoga Farmer's Market is scheduled for Wednesday, September 10, 2008 from 3-6pm, highlighting the culinary talents of Chef David Pedinotti of *Mouzon House* and *One Caroline Street Bistro*. Chef Pedinotti will be cooking up a sampling of the chicken gumbo he intends to serve at the *Feast*. Stop by the market to get a sampling of the fine culinary fare you can expect to enjoy at the *Feast of the Fields*.

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. This year the event will be 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.

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.

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The *Feast of the Fields* facilitates the strengthening of ties between 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.

The evening's festivities include culinary demonstrations, samplings from 15 different chef stations, interaction with the chefs and farmers, a silent auction of select nature-themed local artwork, 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, B95.5, Times Union, 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, Raymond James Financial Services, Saratoga National Bank, and Stewart's Shops.

Tickets for the event are \$150 per person. For more information about the event or to purchase tickets, please contact Saratoga P.L.A.N. at 518-587-5554 or go to their website at www.saratogaplan.org.

Saratoga P.L.A.N. is a not-for-profit land trust offering comprehensive land conservation services to government, organizations, and individuals, while striving to achieve regional coordination and cooperation in land use, open space and recreational trail planning. It has protected over 3,030 acres of farmland, natural habitats, and water resources in Saratoga County. For more information call 518-587-5554 or go to www.saratogaplan.org.

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