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TOM DURKIN, NYRA Announcer:
THE OLDE BRYAN INN, 123 Maple Ave, Saratoga Springs, NY, (www.oldebryaninn.com)

Among my favorites in Saratoga is a place that I can walk to from my house. The Old Bryan Inn is not named fancifully to give the impression of an old inn; it is the real deal and goes back prior to the Revolutionary War. To eat, I go no farther than the bar. It has a low wood beamed ceiling, great thick walls of stone, a fireplace and above that, a bawdy oil depiction of Leda and the Swan. It is easily the most charming bar in town and it is full of fun folks much of the time. The food at the "OBI," as we locals call it, is hearty. All of the soups are terrific and the chefs seem to take great pride in their variety. I often go for the Reuben sandwich as well. The staff is experienced and well trained, there are a lot of staff members that have been there for years. The bar selections are extensive, the dress is casual, prices are moderate and it has a very authentic atmosphere.

ANDY SERLING:
CHEZ SOPHIE, 534 Broadway (www.chezsophie.com)
 Chez Sophie is located in The Saratoga Hotel. The food is influenced by the chef's great-grandmother, who learned about her love for food on a farm in Northern France. They work with local farmers to supply organic and high quality food and also have a large wine and beer selection (400 wines and 40 Belgian beers). Reservations are recommended.

THE BEEKMAN STREET BISTRO, 62 Beekman St. (www.thebeekmanstreetbistro.com)
 The Beekman Street Bistro is a casual restaurant that puts a particular emphasis on the freshness of their ingredients and the farming communities make the "fresh" philosophy relatively easy to achieve. When I visit, I usually order the rabbit. The prices are moderate and reservations are recommended.

LANCI'S RISTORANTE, 68 Putnam St. (www.lancisristorante.com)
 Lanci's is a very small place that offers authentic Italian cuisine. The menu is fairly simple but everything is exceptionally good. The dress is casual and they do not take reservations. It is always busy, but definitely worth the try!

SARAH WEISBORD:
MAX LONDON'S, 466 Broadway (www.maxlondons.com)

This is the new hot spot in town. Max, the son of Mrs. London of Mrs. London's Bakery, has opened his new Mediterranean restaurant right next to the Bakery on Broadway. I haven't had the pleasure of dining there since they opened in December, but I've eaten Max's delicious creations many times when he was the chef at Eartha's Bistro. Here, he offers small plates, pastas, salads, pizzas, and daily specials with extensive cocktail, beer and wine lists in a contemporary hip setting. Max London's tops my list of favorites to try this season.

BILL WILMOT, Stepwise Farm:
BLOOMERS, 2853 Route 9, Malta, NY, (518) 584-4484

Bloomers is an America Bistro and is one of my favorites. The menu is varied and eclectic, ranging from bison to a killer vegetarian meat loaf, and they have an excellent wine list. One of the proprietors is a huge fan of the legendary Chicago R & B guitarist, Mike Bloomfield; hence, the name. Fabulous photos of this South Side icon adorn the walls. Finally, not only are the owners and staff courteous and very knowledgeable, but they also take reservations, which are highly recommended.

LEE EINSIDLER:
CHIANTI IL RISTORANTE, 18 Division St, (518) 580-0025

Located in downtown Saratoga Springs Chianti Il Ristorante has a casual and rustic, yet elegant atmosphere. The service and the authentic, affordable Italian cuisine offers everything needed for a wonderful dining experience. The menu is extensive, as is the wine list, there is even a special martini list. Prices are moderate, dress is smart casual and reservations are suggested.

SERGIO'S, 707 Rte. 9, Wilton, NY (www.sergiossaratoga.com)

Sergio's is a family style Italian restaurant that is fabulous and popular with the racetrack goers. Their keys to success include great food (in hearty portions), great wine and great service. They also offered outdoor dining in the warm months and a great bar. Only five minutes from Saratoga Racecourse, this is a great place to stop for a casual yet wonderful dining experience!

SIRO'S, 168 Lincoln Ave (www.sirosrestaurant.com)
 Siro's specializes in their four-star cuisine, elegant atmosphere and service that is second-to-none. It is located adjacent to Saratoga Racecourse and is a landmark for regulars at the track. Their food is imaginative and delicious. This is the place to go if you are looking for a nice and unique dinner out. Prices are a bit expensive, but well worth the quality. Reservations are recommended.