This month's road trip will take us to several Farmer's Markets. Now you may be asking why in February when it is still cold. Well the reason is that some of them are open year round and also Spring will be here before you know it and you will be prepared for the wonderful farm fresh foods.

I will start with one of my new favorites. It is Ochs Farm Market in Drums. It is only 20 minutes away by following Rt 940 through Freeland, at the light keep straight onto E Butler Road, at Rt 309 stay straight onto W. Butler Road. Turn right onto N. Beisels, then immediate left onto E County Road and then 1.5 mile, Ochs will be on your right.

Ochs is a 5th and 6th generation farm with fresh fruit, veggies, bulk food, flowers, eggs, cheeses, and much more. Some of our favorites have been the fresh corn, bulk dried fruits. They have soup mixes that you can just make a cup or more. We especially like the Pennsylvania Dutch Chicken Corn Chowder. They carry The Good Hive honey, very good local honey. Their potatoes are used by many of the local restaurants. I also like their loose dried tea.They have some very good flavors. During the spring and summer they have many plants outside for purchase. The fall they have pumpkins and gourds.

Ochs is open year round except for 2 weeks the end of January when they all go away as a family. They website is https://www.facebook.com/people/Ochs-Farm-Market/100057294286789/ Be sure to check them out.

The next place is also in Drums not far from Ochs. It is Burger's Farm Market. It is located at 371 Saint Johns Rd. They also are in their 5th and 6th generation. They are open the first Saturday after the 4th of July and close the Sunday before Thanksgiving. They sell vegetables. They also have a pick your own blueberries, beets, cabbage, cucumbers, peppers, eggplant, tomatoes, beans, pumpkins and squash. Their website is https://burgersfarm.webnode.page/

The Amish Farmer's Market on Rt 115 is open on Fridays and Saturdays in the warmer weather. They have fresh produce, baked goods, and flowers. They also have BBQ chicken on Saturdays. They have an open pit on which they cook the chicken. The meals come with potatoes and salad. They also have fresh cut meats. It can be very crowded on Saturdays during the summer when all of the fresh produce is out.

Hanna's Farm Market is on Rt 940 in Pocono Lake.area. It opens on April 1st. They have produce, seafood, and meats. They also have a gift shop with various items. Website is https://www.facebook.com/people/Hannas-Farm-Market/100063672154917/

Heckman's Orchards are located on Rt 115 in Effort and has operated since 1962. They produce a wide variety of fruits and vegetables. They open in May and are open through the fall. But they also sell Christmas trees, wreaths, and grave blankets around the holidays. They have a pick your own for strawberries, cherries, and apples.. But you can get all of their produce at their stand along Rt 115 starting in May. Website is https://heckmanorchards.com/

Hometown is an indoor/outdoor market in business since 1950, located in Tamaqua. I included it because of its size, even though it is about a 45 minute drive there. It is open only on Wednesdays year round from 8am - 7pm. They have everything you could possibly be looking for - produce, meats, cheeses, organic items, fresh baked good, collectibles (new and used), household items, Clothing, plants, shrubbery flowers, coins, books, crafts, and much more. Be prepared to walk. The place is huge and very crowded in the summer. I go there particularly in the Spring to one of the outdoor plant place. I am able to get a flat of various annuals for about $18.00 a flat. Beautiful flowers. That is where I get the marigolds for the pots at the clubhouse. Website is http://hometownfarmmkt.com/