Olivia Hammer 4<sup>th</sup> Grade, Honorable Mention Jordie Kipp, teacher

## My Favorite Farm

It is a hot summer day, and we need to buy fresh corn. I get into the car with my family and head down to the road past the green horse stables and the big white church to my favorite farmstand. As we park in the small gravel parking lot, I see the pretty field of zinnia flowers. There are a bunch of colors like red, orange, yellow, and pink. There are also sunflowers that are bright yellow and standing tall. I also see the farmstand and a big tractor in the field. We have arrived at Cervenka's Farm.

When I walk into the farm stand, I see a lot of fruits and vegetables. They are all fresh and locally grown I see the bright yellow corn and the red juicy New Jersey tomatoes. There is even more than just fresh produce for sale. There are fresh baked goods, like pies and cakes, cheese, meat, raw local honey, and other locally made goods. Everything looks delicious. Even bouquets of the colorful zinnias are for sale. The farmstand is also open in the fall and has a bunch of bright orange pumpkins in time for Halloween.

As I explore the farmstand, I think about how all of these fruits and veggies get here. Farmers work very hard and long days to grow their crops. Farming is important because if you have no farmers, you have no food. Every spring, I see the farmers in the field with big green tractors getting ready to plant crops. In the summer, I notice how tall the corn stalks and hay have grown. And in the fall, I see the tractors harvesting and baling the hay. Some of these crops are not just for us humans. The corn can be fed to cows, and they can be fed to the horses at different farms. Farming is also important because it creates jobs in communities.

As I am going home, I can see the beautiful pink, orange, and yellow sunset beyond the fields. But I'm getting hungry, and I can't wait to eat the freshly picked bright yellow corn on the cob. I am thankful to have local farms where I live that provide delicious fresh produce. I love the farms that are in my community.