



The Friends of the Kelley Farm played a pivotal role in helping to secure capital funding for site and program improvements. THANK YOU for your help!

Governor Signs Legislation to Fund Kelley Farm

More Minnesotans to learn about the state's farm stories with plan for renovation and expansion

From the Minnesota Historical Society:

Governor Dayton signed the capital budget / bonding bill Tuesday, June 17, 2014, which includes a \$10.5 million request for the Minnesota Historical Society's Oliver H. Kelley Farm in Elk River. This project provides for expanded educational programs supported by an improved visitor center and new farm buildings that are able to accommodate the growing number of Minnesotans coming to learn about farming and food in the past, present and future.

Once complete, the renovations will allow the farm to serve thousands of additional visitors per year. The plan will:

- Increase the size of the visitor center, bringing visitor amenities up to current standards.
- Develop interactive, changing exhibits and expand public program space.
- Create engaging classrooms.
- Add videoconferencing and internet access so the

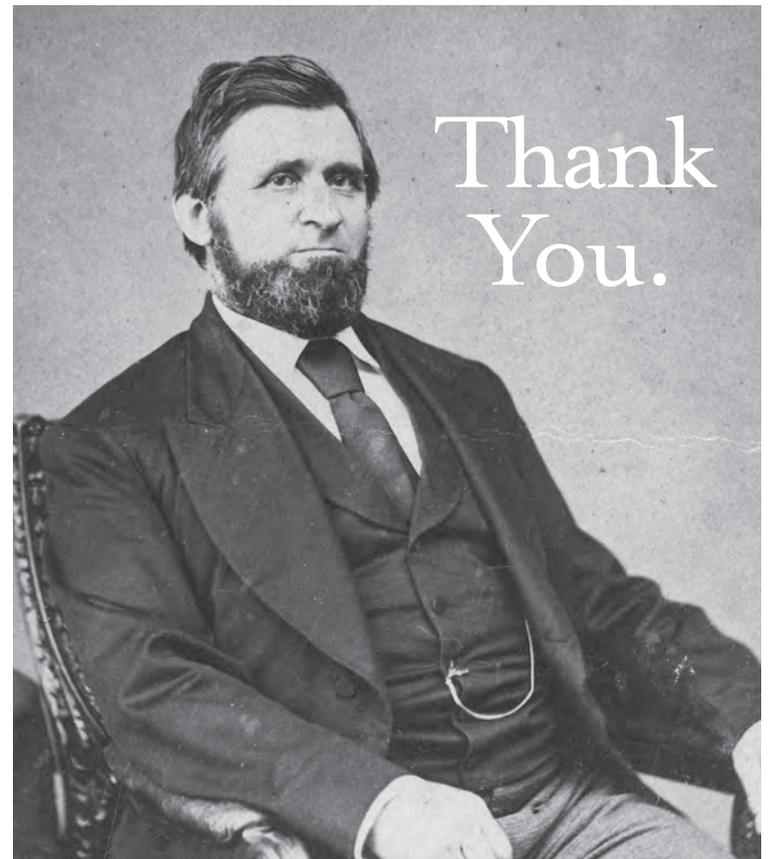
farm's programs can reach schools throughout the metro area and Greater Minnesota.

- Create a guest animal shelter for visiting animals from program partners where visitors can interact with and learn more about today's farm animals.
- Build a four-season shelter for school group lunches, additional programming and community rental space.
- Create a teaching kitchen for demonstrations and workshops regarding cooking, food preservation and healthy eating.
- Expand and modernize the restrooms, including adding a family restroom.
- Expand staff support space and storage areas.
- Overhaul and increase maintenance support areas.

Final design work will begin this summer, with construction work slated to begin in early 2015. A grand opening of the new visitor center and support buildings is planned for May 2016.

"Students from across the state will have access to hands-on learning in state-of-the-art facilities. But it's even bigger than that. The new visitor center and expanded programming will help us reach families and tourists too, to share the story of Minnesota's farm-to-table agriculture and its role in today's global economy."

- MNHS CEO and Director Steve Elliott



Pigs and Carrots and Kitchens of Knowledge

John Kuester, Friends Board President

Kelley Farm Site Manager Bob Quist took time from the multi-layered planning process for the \$10.533 million revitalization of the Kelley Farm to talk turkey about carrots in the June 4th edition of Star Tribune. In commenting that the revitalized facility will contain a teaching kitchen and classrooms, Quist stated: "In a classroom we might do something with carrots.

The class could make carrot cake, carrot muffins or carrot slaw.

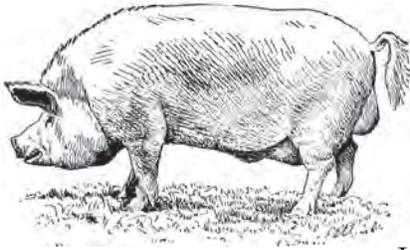
It's the story of agriculture. We do grow carrots in Minnesota and now all of a sudden kids are trying carrot slaw for the first time and liking it."

While Bob did not talk about hogs in this article, I can speak to this type of farm animal based on my experience living on an Iowa farm in the late 1940's and early 1950's. Among the many highlights of this experience was my pig called Henrieta, with whom I spent many happy hours playing hide-and-seek in the plum orchard. Henrieta was very good at finding me when I hid in the plum brush, but never got the "you hide so I can find you" part of the game. Pleasant as these summer activities were, Henrieta went to market in the fall and provided tasty hams, pork chops and bacon in the process.

The connection between the pig in the plum orchard and carrot slaw in the Kelley Farm

kitchen is: knowledge. Even as a kid playing happily with my pig, at some level I knew the experience was to be short-lived. The hog was part of the food chain and eventually would end up on the dinner table like countless other hogs, chickens, ducks, cows and sheep to be found in neighboring barns, pens and pastures.

No matter how emotionally tied one was to a certain animal it eventually would be slaughtered and processed as food.



Working with children in the new Kelley Farm kitchen is only one example of how modern families will discover where our food comes from. We live today in a world where most people are at least two generations removed from an actual farm-based living experience. While the mission of the Kelley Farm will continue to focus on 1860's agriculture and the legacy of Oliver Kelley, it will also expand to educate the public about modern agriculture. A major theme of exploring modern agriculture is the food for the kitchen table that it produces.

The Star Tribune article concluded with the following quote from Bob "Minnesotans need to know where their food comes from. This is where it starts." The upcoming months and years will be exciting ones for the Kelley Farm as it undertakes new programs and enjoys enhanced facilities, while remaining true to its past.

Paint the Farm Art Show 2014

Saturday October 4th and Sunday October 5th.

10:00AM to 5:00PM Saturday
Noon to 5:00PM Sunday

Art activities for the children

Location
Oliver H. Kelley Farm
15788 Kelley Farm Rd.
Elk River MN

Mark your calendar to join us October 4th & 5th for "Paint the Farm", our premier fine art exhibit and sale. The mission of the show is to promote art and the rich history of the Elk River area—and raise funds for the Friends of the Kelley Farm. (Artists donate 40% of their show sales to the Friends.) This year we have added jewelry and small clay sculptures, plus other traditional fine art subjects in addition to paintings of the historic Oliver Kelley Farm. Artists will be bringing landscape, still life, abstract, and portrait paintings that are not specifically Farm-related.

As always there will be a great selection of original art, prints, greeting cards, and the art table for kids and adults to create their own take-home art.

Be sure to visit during the show this year, as Paint the Farm will take a one-year break during the renovation of the Farm. While on hiatus, a planning committee will be meeting to discuss ways to expand the show and get more local artist involved. *If you are interested on being part of this committee call Mark Haglund 763-856-5092.*

"Paint the Farm" will take place at the Oliver H. Kelley Farm in conjunction with Prairie Sugar Days on Saturday, October 4, 10am to 5pm and Sunday, October 5, noon to 5pm.

There will be an artist reception on Sunday the 5th from 1pm to 4pm.

To view the artwork from past shows go to:
<http://elkriverartshow.wordpress.com>

Upcoming Special Events

For more information or reservations for these events CALL 763.441.6896.



Grandparent's Day

Thurs., July 24 & Wed., Aug. 13, 2014
10am-5pm

\$9 adults, \$7 seniors and college students
\$6 children ages 6-17; free for children age 5 and under and MNHS members.

Grandparents and grandchildren are invited to spend the day together engaged in 19th-century farming. Share stories with each other and the farm hands while experiencing the garden, meeting animals and helping with the cooking.

**GRANDPARENTS
GET IN FREE!**

The Useful Art of Pickling

Sat. & Sun., Aug. 16 & 17, 2014
10am-5pm Sat.; Noon-5pm Sun.
\$9 adults, \$7 seniors and college students
\$6 children ages 6-17; free for children age 5 and under and MNHS members.

The useful art of pickling provided families with a variety of foods throughout the long winter months 150 years ago. Visitors will help make pickles while learning about sweet and sour pickles and other varieties that were popular with the Kelleys and families like them.

Working on the Farm

Thurs., Aug. 7, 2014 • 10am-5pm
\$9 adults, \$7 seniors and college students
\$6 children ages 6-17; free for children age 5 and under and MNHS members.

Children of all ages can join in the chores that kids did on farms more than 100 years ago. Families worked together and children had a role. Help load hay into a wagon pulled by Coulter and Toby, the farm's oxen, and then help unload it into the barn. Kids can also try to get the laundry clean using a scrub board without the calves eating the soap, haul baskets of weeds out of the garden, and play Cat's Cradle or Grandmother's Footsteps and other 19th-century games.

Threshing Weekend

Sat., Aug. 30, Sun., Aug. 31
& Mon., Sept. 1, 2014,
10am-5pm Sat. & Mon.,
Noon to 5pm Sunday
\$9 adults, \$7 seniors and college students
\$6 children ages 6-17; free for children age 5 and under and MNHS members.

Celebrate Labor Day Weekend at the Kelley Farm. Threshing the grain harvest was the culmination of an entire growing season's toil. Join the Kelley Farm hands as they bring grain bundles in from the fields, thresh the grain in an 1856 horse-powered Cox and Roberts Threshing machine, help bag up the grain and rake away the straw.

• SPECIAL EVENT •

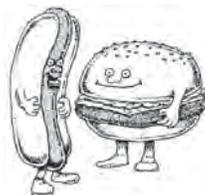
HARVESTING THANKS

*A Celebration of History
at the Oliver Kelley Farm
Saturday, September 13,
4:00-6:30 p.m*

Join us as we celebrate the expansion of the Kelley Farm. This free open house event on Kelley Farm grounds includes hearty appetizers, cash bar, live music, horse-drawn trolley rides along the Mississippi River Trail, and self-guided house and farm tours.

RSVP to Michelle
at (651) 259-3119
or mnhsevents@mnhs.org.
We hope to see you there!

THANK YOU to those who visited our Coborn's Brat Stand in June. The Friends earned \$441.50 (the largest earnings of any group's weekend according to Coborn's!) Plan to visit our CUB FOODS Hamburger and Brat stand the weekend of August 15-17!



CONNECT WITH THE FRIENDS ONLINE!

Find out more about the Friends of the Kelley Farm, join conversations about current events and happenings - and share your photos of the farm online!



FriendsOfTheKelleyFarm.org



Like Friends of the Kelley Farm on facebook!



www.flickr.com/groups/kelleyfarm/

Visit the MNHS website for a complete list of events at The Farm!

<http://sites.mnhs.org/historic-sites/oliver-h-kelley-farm>



FRIENDS OF THE KELLEY FARM

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Elk River, MN 55330

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Email: kellyfarm@mnhs.org
www.FriendsoftheKelleyFarm.org

“A great field trip made even better by...scholarships.”



1st graders from Lucy Craft Laney School in Minneapolis have a special message for the Farm!

First grade teacher Carolyn Kuennen of Lucy Craft Laney School in Minneapolis sent a wonderful letter and photo of thanks to the Staff at the Oliver Kelley Farm after her class (and her school's principal) visited in May, 2014.

Her class got up-close-and-personal with the sheep, horse and oxen, and got to work in the house and garden. (They were wondering if their plants have sprouted yet? Yes, they have, despite the heavy rains!)

A special note of thanks to all of the Friends of the Kelly Farm for contributions that help to make bus and admission scholarships possible for classes like Ms. Kuennen's. They are looking forward to visiting again next May!