

June 30, 2021

Dear Friends,

My kids grew up knowing where their food came from because very often, along with their classmates, they were the ones who planted the seeds or the potatoes during the Spring at Brookfield. They also had this very vital knowledge about food source because the strawberries or peas or beans that were on their plates for supper on any given night were the very ones that they had handpicked earlier that day at the farm. And when we had carrots in the salad, they very proudly announced that they had helped plant the seeds!

That was over 30 years ago. Today, my kids live on the other side of the country, in California and Hawaii, so they don't get many chances to eat the strawberries or beans that I still pick at the farm. However, when they do get home for a visit, they both have a "walk at 'their' farm" on the top of their to-do list! And if a pick-your-own crop is in season, they are right in those rows doing something that they learned how to do as a child, just for the joy of it today.

I was not able to attend the Land Legacy Campaign kick-off celebration at the farm on Saturday. So I was so happy to watch the video of the rally last night. Being able to again hear the story of this magnificent farm's growth from some of the people who guaranteed its very existence as well as Kerry and Max, who are now joining that group, was such a treat. In the midst of watching it, I realized that I didn't know if my kids were aware of this initiative since I don't know if they were on the Farm's mailing list. I sent them each a link to it. They are

adults and whether they contribute to this oh-so-important campaign is absolutely their own choice. However, I wanted to be sure that they had the opportunity to support this magnificent institution that had provided them with such firm grounding, in their bellies AND in their hearts.

So I suggest that all of you Brookfield member parents (and grandparents) let your offspring know about this chance to help guarantee the bright future of this land and the continuation of the mission of the Biodynamic Farmland Trust. Send them a link to the video so they can bask in their past and perhaps decide to contribute to the farm's future, knowing that this farm's model has contributed to the future of farms all over the world.

And you don't necessarily have to wait until all your kids are adults to do this! Allowing even your young ones who still get to go to the farm and pick their own strawberries to donate pennies, nickels, and dimes to this campaign is a great start to teaching them about one of the many ways we can offer our service to the world. I learned a long time ago from Heide Zajonc, a very active member of Brookfield's Legacy Campaign, that how much you give to a cause that you believe in is not as important as the fact that each and every interested party shows up and gives something. There is power in dollar signs, for sure, but there is much more power in heart-based actions.

Here's to all of us creating an over-the-top tally for the Brookfield Farm Land Legacy Campaign.

Warmly,

Rosie Pearson