

**Kasson Alliance for Restoration**

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**KARE Website:** <http://www.kassonalliance.org/>

**Donate or Join KARE Online at:**

<http://givemn.razoo.com/story/Kasson-Alliance-For-Restoration>

**Dec. 24, 2011, Kasson, MN**

**Dear Friends, Members, and Supporters of KARE,**

Hello to everyone. We are writing to update you on the events that have occurred since our last newsletter on Dec. 13, 2011.

**1. 1918 Kasson Public School Update:**

On **December 14, 2011** the City of Kasson received an offer from Sherman Associates of Minneapolis, MN (<http://www.sherman-associates.com/>) regarding their interest in purchasing the Historic 1918 Kasson School which the city placed on the real estate market on 01November. On **December 21, 2011** the city council voted to sign a Letter of Intent with Sherman Associates. The school **HAS NOT** been sold yet. The Letter of Intent states that the City will not enter into negotiations with any other developer while the city and Sherman Associates negotiate a Purchase Agreement. The purchase will likely be tied to Sherman's ability to secure funding. Details are forthcoming. A senior housing complex is being proposed for the school.

**The 33,000 square-foot historic school building, located at 101 Third Ave NW in Kasson, MN, was placed on the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) in December 2007.** The Kasson Alliance for Restoration (<http://www.kassonalliance.org/>) which sponsored the NRHP nomination, had been encouraging the city to request proposals from developers since the Cities' Historic Properties Reuse Study was published in October 2009 (<http://kassonschoolreuse.net/>).

**The school's NRHP status makes it eligible** for both the 20% federal tax credit and the Minnesota 20% tax credit as well as many other funding incentives. Thus the school property is very attractive to developers as evidenced by the city receiving an offer only 44 days after placing the school on the market.

**Sherman Associates was founded by George Sherman in 1979.** The firm is an award-winning, Minneapolis-based, real estate developer specializing in the design, construction and financing of quality housing in Minnesota, Wisconsin, Iowa, Missouri and California. Sherman Associates is also involved in many other real estate ventures.

**We will keep you updated on this process as it moves forward. Thank you for everyone's support!**

**2. KARE on Facebook:** KARE's Facebook site is very popular. We receive almost 200 visits per week. Thank you to all the visitors who have "Liked" us. You can link to KARE's FaceBook site from KARE's website: <http://www.kassonalliance.org/>

**3. KARE on YouTube:** You can link to KARE's YouTube site from KARE's website: <http://www.kassonalliance.org/> Check out the local TV news stories and other information.

**4. Save The School Fund:** If you are interested in donating money to help save the school, **please call the Kasson State Bank at 507-634-7022** or send your check to: Kasson State Bank, Save The School Fund, 203 West Main Street, PO Box 187, Kasson, MN 55944.

**Thank You to everyone for your ongoing support.** Thank you to those of you who reminded us that many of you have family-memberships which pushes KARE's membership to well over 600 members and climbing.

KARE's mission is to preserve Kasson's history, historic buildings and historic structures to serve as landmarks to Kasson's heritage while being a source of education in the importance of historic preservation. The Kasson Alliance for Restoration (KARE) is a 501(c) (3) nonprofit organization formed in January 2007. KARE's membership includes both citizens and supporting businesses.

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KARE is a non-profit membership organization bringing people together to protect, enhance and enjoy the places in Kasson that matter to them. By saving the places where great moments from the cities' history - and the important moments of everyday life - took place, KARE helps revitalize the community, spark economic development and promote environmental sustainability. The Kasson Alliance provides leadership, education, advocacy and resources to citizens and organizations committed to saving historic places, connecting them to Kasson's history and collectively shaping the future of the communities' stories. Note: The media is welcome to use all or portions of this announcement and any attachments.

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