



**SIXTH ANNUAL OLD VILLAGE CEMETERY  
CLEAN-UP AND RESTORATION  
SATURDAY, MAY 3 FROM 9AM TO 1 PM**

In Old Village Cemetery headstones of Brighton leaders and residents peer down over their city as if to observe the changes through time. Please join community members for a civic pride event working inside the beautiful ornamental fence under the canopy of mature trees honoring those buried there. You will find the names of prominent and ordinary folks from Brighton's earliest days that endured hardships that can only be imagined as they settled these frontier villages.

One of the goals of this spring restoration is to have Old Village Cemetery in respectful condition for the veterans buried there this Memorial Day, Monday, May 26. Veterans of the Blackhawk, Civil, Spanish-American Wars, WWI and WWII are part of the rich Brighton history.

The Brighton Area Historical Society recognizes the contributions that our service men and women have made to preserve the freedoms we experience. Please join the working teams as we revitalize these grounds and provide a respectful setting. Workers with grass/leaf

rakes, branch/brush shears, garden tools and work gloves are needed.

Restoration work on the headstones will also take place during this same time. If you have an interest in learning to restore these historical headstones and monuments, please join us. No experience needed as we will train you.

We are guaranteed a spring day that will provide fellowship to all participants while experiencing the beauty of the 1838 Old Village Cemetery. Everyone will leave with a feeling, emanating deep from within their hearts that their donation of four hours is one small thank you to our veterans that have served this great country.

Please call me to volunteer. Everyone's help is needed!

Thank you in advance.

Jim Vichich (810-250-7276)

President, Brighton Area Historical Society

**LIKE US ON FACEBOOK  
at  
Brighton Area Historical Society**

**POINTS OF INTEREST:**

President's Editorial

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Evolution of Area Roads (part 1)

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**OFFERED BY THE BRIGHTON  
AREA HISTORICAL SOCIETY**

**The "The Brighton Area"  
softcover photo-history book  
\$20.00**

or

**From Settlement to City  
Brighton, Michigan 1832-1945  
Hardcover history book by  
Carol McMacken  
\$65.00**

**Available at  
Lawrence Autobody  
CoBACH Center  
Green Oak Township Hall  
or by  
Calling 810-250-7276**

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## Thanks and Recognition

### Memberships:

#### BUSINESS/PROFESSIONAL:

Advance Craft Home Builders, Inc., Dr. Fredric Bonine, Mancuso & Cameron, McCririe & Associates, P.C.

#### PATRON:

Jack & Heidi Clausnitzer, Don & Edie Leith.

#### LIFE:

Donald Black (N.J.), Bernie & Bonnie Corrigan

#### FAMILY/INDIV:

Joe & Tina Anderson, George & Muriel Allen, Jack & Joann Allen, Caren Bierman, Dale Borst, MaryAnn Catrell, Judy Coebly & Gary Reutter, Frank N. Diakaw\*, Sandra Everett, Tony Ferreyra & Mercedes Ferreyra, Bob & Shirley Knight, Lee & Sue Garcia, Dwight & Joyce Matteson, Brenda McCarty, Cleo Moran, Joan Naylor (OK), Pat Nelson, Wallyne Smail, Robert Willhide (FL), Robert Wilkinson (Gryng), Al & Karen Wirth III, Willis Wolf (CA).

*\*A warm welcome to new member, Frank N. Diakaw.*

*Renewing Business/Professional members and Life members provide extra support to board members and those able to participate on a more active level.*

### THANKS:

- Marieanna Bair, Jackie Damm, Carole & Jerry Damon, Jeanette Johnson, Jane Tomlinson and Jim Vichich for their help getting the February issue of Trail Tales in the mail in a timely fashion.
- Advanced Craft Home Builders, MaryAnn Catrell, Don & Edie Leith and Cleo Moran for their donation to Friends of Lyon School with their memberships.
- MaryAnn Catrell, Bob & Shirley Knight, Cleo Moran and Al & Karen Wirth III for their donation to Society projects with their memberships.
- Amica Companies Foundation for their matching gift via Pat Franklin.
- CoBACH volunteers for February: Joe Collins, Hank Winegar, Nancy Fredenburg, Larry Lawrence, Mindy Kinsey and Jim Vichich.
- The Lyon School parking lot/ side-walks snow removal team of Larry Lawrence and Jim Vichich.
- Our Trail Tales editor, Jerry Damon, for the great work of putting our monthly newsletter together.
- Larry Lawrence for his weekly research at the Brighton District Library where he retrieves forgotten bits of history from old Brighton Argus newspapers.

### Society Life Members:

John & Deb Armstrong  
Tom Archer  
Shirley Barton  
Donald Black (N.J.)  
Marilyn Campbell (IN)  
Bernie & Bonnie Corrigan  
Nancy Fredenburg  
William & Lenore Harris  
Betsy & Bob Herbst  
Larry & Kate Lawrence  
Seth & Shannon Lemke (TX)  
Carol McMacken  
Joyce Powers  
Douglas & Carole Rearick  
Robert & Pauline Schaffer  
Anne Stratigos  
Jim & Vicki Vichich

### 2013 Business / Professional Members:

Acorn Deck Accessories, Inc.  
Advance Craft Builders  
Fred Bonine, DDS, MSPC  
Brighton Bar and Grill  
Buckley Jolley Group LLC  
Clark Eye Center, MD., P.C.  
Caretel Inns of Brighton  
Champ's Pub  
Davis Multimedia, Inc.  
Susan Doyle, realtor  
ERA Griffith Realty  
Grace Pointe Church  
Kimble Appraisal Group, Inc.  
Mancuso and Cameron P.C.  
Schoolhouse Family Dentistry  
SOS Livingston  
Synergy Environmental, Inc.  
Yum Yum Tree  
Lawrence Autobody \*\*  
McCririe & Associates, P.C.  
Masonic Lodge No. 247 \*\*  
Patrick Financial Group, LLC\*\*  
Promess, Inc.\*\*  
Refrigeration Research \*\*  
Archer Huntley Financial Services \*\*  
\*\* Life Members

The Brighton Area Historical Society extends sympathy to the family of

**Thomas H. Leith**

Tom was a Brighton native and long time advocate of the Society

## Dates to Remember

**March 2, 5, 6, 9, 12, 13, 16, 19, 20, 23, 26, 27, and 30: 5pm-8pm** BAHS hosts at CoBACH Center on Sunday, Wednesday and Thursday.

**March 6, 13, 20, 27: 9am -12nn**

Archiving/Open House at Lyon Schoolhouse.

Share some old family photos that show buildings in Brighton.

**March 26: 6pm**

BAHS Board meeting at CoBACH.

**March/April CoBACH:** "So You Think You Can Sew!" Exhibit. Exhibit will feature sewing through different periods of U.S. history.

**April 10: 6pm-9pm:** Spring Cluster Meeting of local libraries and historical societies. Sponsored by Milford HS and held at their Mary Jackson House located at 648 Canal Street, Milford, MI., Call to attend 248-684-6879.

**May 3: 9am-1pm:** Join the 6th Annual Spring Cleanup of Old Village Cemetery. Your help is needed as the revitalization of Brighton's oldest cemetery readies the graves of U.S. veterans and others for the Memorial Day observance.

**With other organizations:**

**March 20:** Milford Historical Society—Mrs.

Lincoln. [www.milfordhistory.org](http://www.milfordhistory.org)

**March 28, 29:** Historical Society of Michigan. Local History Conference—"Michigan in Perspective". Conducted by a variety of knowledgeable persons, 23 sessions from Airplanes to Women. [www.hsmichigan.org](http://www.hsmichigan.org) or 800-692-1828.

**March 16:** Green Oak Township Historical Society program: Games & Toys of the 1800s. [www.Greenoaktownshiphistoricalociety.org](http://www.Greenoaktownshiphistoricalociety.org)

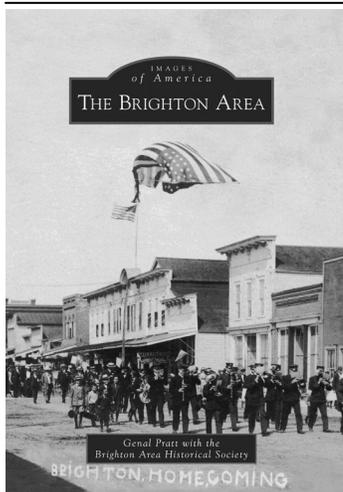
**March 21, 22 and April 4, 5:** An Evening with Mark Twain sponsored by the Livingston Players, held at CoBACH. Call 810-772-9544.

## Support BAHS: Become a Member or Donate

The BAHS relies on participation of its members and the generosity of its patrons. If you would like to make a donation or become a member, please mail to the address provided on the form below.

<b>Mail check or money order payable to:</b>		<b>Name:</b> _____	<b>Phone:</b> (____) ____-____
Brighton Area Historical Society		<b>Address:</b> _____	
P. O. Box 481		<b>City:</b> _____	<b>State:</b> _____ <b>Zip Code:</b> _____
Brighton, MI 48116-0481		<b>E-Mail:</b> _____	
		<b>How would you prefer to receive Trail Tales:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Email <input type="checkbox"/> US mail <small>(PLEASE CHECK ONE)</small>	
<b>Membership Plan:</b>		<b>Friend of Lyon School:</b>	<b>BAHS Projects Fund:</b>
<input type="checkbox"/> New	<input type="checkbox"/> \$2 Student	<input type="checkbox"/> \$10	<input type="checkbox"/> \$10
<input type="checkbox"/> Renew	<input type="checkbox"/> \$15 Individual	<input type="checkbox"/> \$25	<input type="checkbox"/> \$25
	<input type="checkbox"/> \$25 Family	<input type="checkbox"/> \$50	<input type="checkbox"/> \$50
	<input type="checkbox"/> \$50 Patron	<input type="checkbox"/> \$100	<input type="checkbox"/> \$100
	<input type="checkbox"/> \$60 Business/Professional	<input type="checkbox"/> Other \$_____	<input type="checkbox"/> \$250
	<input type="checkbox"/> \$500 Life		<input type="checkbox"/> Other \$_____

The Brighton Area Historical Society is a 501(c)(3) Non-Profit Organization . All donations are tax deductible.



### New book released

#### Images of America: The Brighton Area

by Genal Pratt with the Brighton Area Historical Society

128 pages, and includes 199 pictures

**\$20.00** Plus \$5.00 if shipping is required

**Description:** This new book contains a treasured collection of photographs and provides a fascinating historical record of the people, farms, and businesses that drove the growth of Brighton through the 19th and 20th centuries. The architecture, landscape, and cherished character of Brighton tell the stories that embody the foundation of our community today.

### We Need Your Help

We are asking our members to step up and get involved. "Can you fill this need?"

#### Volunteers at CoBACH

Welcome desk, help set up displays, loan of personal items for displays of the early days of Brighton.

Contact Jim Vichich at 810-250-7276

### BAHS Leadership

President

**Jim Vichich**

Vice President

**Marieanna Bair**

Secretary

**Linda Millar**

Treasurer

**Jerry Damon**

Trail Tales Editor

**Jerry Damon**

Directors

**Joe Collins**

**Nancy Fredenburg**

**Mindy Kinsey**

**Larry Lawrence**

**Thomas Reinke**

**Tammy Sexton**

Education Liaison

**Judith Coebly**

**Sue Skwarski**

### BAHS: How to Contact Us or Find Us

If you would like to contact us, please use the following options:

**E-Mail:**

info@brightonareahistorical.com

**Phone:**

(810) 250-7276

**US Mail:**

Brighton Area Historical Society

P. O. Box 481

Brighton, MI 48116-0481

**Lyon School**

11455 Buno Road, west of Pleasant Valley Road. The 1885 Lyon School is a fully restored, barrier-free one-room schoolhouse and serves as our organization headquarters.

**CoBACH Center**

202 W. Main Street, in downtown Brighton next to the Millpond. CoBACH is formally known as the City of Brighton, Arts, Culture and History Center. It is located in the historic 1879 two story brick building, also known as the Old Town Hall.

The BAHS is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization. Please help us fund our mission while also helping yourself with a tax-deductible contribution.

The BAHS accepts monetary support and donations of historical artifacts. Please consider supporting us with your generosity.

**BRIGHTON AREA HISTORICAL SOCIETY**

P.O. Box 481  
Brighton, MI 48116-0481

**Non-Profit Org.  
U.S. Postage  
PAID  
Permit #303  
Brighton, MI**

**RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED**



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**Evolution of Area Roads**

Until statehood, January 26, 1837, Michigan was a United States Territory. In 1831, Federal surveyors drew the Meridian and Base Lines (NS—EW). From this mark, boundaries for counties, townships, cities and roads were laid out, mapped and recorded. Streams, lakes and rivers were also located.

July 4, 1832, an act of U.S. Congress directed the President to appoint three commissioners to ‘lay out’ a road from Detroit to the headwaters of the Grand River for military purposes. (It was less than 20 years since the end of the War 1812.) It was accordingly laid out and in 1833-34, \$2,500 extended a road ten miles west of Detroit. (We believe this means some trees were cut and stumps removed.) March 3, 1835, \$25,000 was authorized to clear a road 100 feet wide through the timber and the construction of bridges over the Rouge, Huron, Shiawassee and Cedar Rivers. It should be noted that the laying out of roads did not always mean they would happen. However, when Michigan became a state it became responsible for its own roads.

Until March 17, 1835, the south half of Livingston County was still part of Washtenaw County which had earlier been formed from Wayne County. A state act of that date directed that a route be built, among others, from the county seat of Washenaw County to the county seat of Genessee to connect with the Saginaw Turnpike. This road and the Grand River Road intersected in Brighton.

Local research notes that many of the early settlers of the area followed the Indian Grand River Trail west from Detroit. However, many also took the several Indian trails north from Ann Arbor, a small hamlet at the time, around Whitmore Lake into Livingston County.

A review of land records of original settlers holds many recognizable names. Bingham, Brady, Case, Dix, Rumsey, Russell, Smith, Warden and Tuthill were among those living in Ann Arbor when

they registered land in Green Oak Township. Arms, Beach, Bird, Cranston, Fitch, Fonda, Kellogg, Kelly and Maltby headed farther north into Brighton Township.

The settlers found the Huron River drained Green Oak leaving marshes which provided fodder for cattle, and high plains which could be prepared for crops. Ore Creek, Mann Creek and other waterways assured Brighton Township settlers a similar situation.

These early settlers traveled that trail to settle on a piece of virgin land to farm or on one of the many waterways to construct lumber and grain mills. Chippewa and Pottawatomi Indians had long used these lands for agriculture, fishing and hunting. However by 1835, the Indian population had been removed by the United States government via various treaties.

The 1859 map indicates the trail north out of Ann Arbor entered the county on the west side of Whitmore Lake at Eight Mile (the Base Line) Road. Circumnavigating the high hills, the trail turned west at Winans Lake Road, north on Rickett, crossed the Huron, and joined the Grand River Trail north through Brighton. At the north end of town the Ann Arbor/Flint Trail continued north on Flint Road on a circuitous route through Brighton Township and on the west side of School Lake into Hartland Township. It should be noted that not always were the surveyors’ lines followed. Wet marshes and tall hills often determined the route this barely two-track road followed. *To be Continued....*

(Compiled by Marieanna Bair from “From Settlement to City—Brighton”, “Yesteryears of Green Oak”; “1880 History of Livingston County”; “Early Landowners of Livingston County” by Milt Charboneau. Additions/corrections requested. 810-229-6402.)