

Second Annual Old Village Cemetery Spring Cleanup



Cemetery Clean-up: Saturday, May 1st, 9 am - 2 pm

In Old Village Cemetery, headstones of Brighton leaders and residents peer down over their city as if to observe the changes through the years. 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 both prominent and ordinary citizens from Brighton's earliest days who endured hardships that can only be imagined as they settled these Michigan frontier villages.

One of our goals for this spring clean up event is to have Old Village Cemetery in a respectful condition in time for May 31st Memorial Day commemoration. Veterans

of the Blackhawk War, Civil War, Spanish-American War, World War I and World War II are interred here. Their lives and final place of rest are an important part of Brighton's rich history. Memorial Day activities will include the American Legion/VFW Parade and the rededication of Old Village Cemetery, which includes a memorial performance by the 5th Michigan Regiment Band, a Civil War reenactment band.

The BAHS recognizes the contributions that service men and women have made to preserve the freedoms we experience. Please join the volunteer teams as we work to revitalize these grounds and provide a more respectful setting. Volunteers of all ages with work gloves are

needed to use steel rakes, leaf rakes, shovels, axes, branch/brush shears, all of which will be provided. For the removal of small weed trees, we need adult volunteers who can bring chain saws.

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

Please contact us at (810) 250-7276 to sign up so that I can plan work accordingly. Everyone is needed! Thank you in advance.

Jim Vichich

Oral History

Each week, older members of the Brighton area die. Their memories of Brighton's earlier days are a valuable historical resource. To preserve this great asset, we have started an oral history project to record their memories.

Help is needed to contact older members to schedule interviews. Please contact us if you can help with this important project.

Special points of interest:

THE FOUR CORNERS OF GRAND RIVER AND MAIN ARE DISCUSSED IN THIS MONTH'S HISTORICAL PERSPECTIVE ARTICLE.

SEE PAGE 4

A FOLLOW UP TO THE BRIGHTON FIRE DEPARTMENT HISTORICAL PERSPECTIVE IS ALSO INCLUDED.

SEE PAGE 2

"Thank God for Michigan."

President Abraham Lincoln

May 16th, 1861, upon seeing the 1st Michigan Infantry march past the White House, being the first regiment from the US frontier to arrive in Washington DC.

Inside this issue:

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Recent and Future Happenings

Dates to remember - April 2010

Apr 28: 6:00 pm

BAHS board meeting at CoBACH

Apr 1, 8, 15, 22, 29: 9am-12nn

Archiving at Lyon School

Apr 7, 14, 21, 28: 2pm-8 pm

Society hosts at CoBACH

Apr 11, 18, 25: 5pm-8 pm

Society hosts at CoBACH

Lyon School Maintenance

We need volunteers to help paint the Lyon School. This includes all the prep work, such as washing and scraping, as well as painting. If you would like to volunteer, please contact us. Also, if you would like to help cover the costs, you can donate to the *Friend of Lyon School* fund using the coupon on page 3.

In The Archive Room At Lyon School

Drawers full of files of memorabilia, clippings, photos of history of local sites/events such as governmental agencies, celebrations, organizations, parades, lakes, schools, etc., are being reviewed and prepared for productive research. Approximately 10' of shelf space containing the historic resource survey binders are continually updated. To provide for better access to the archives, scanning into the computer is ongoing. For all of these activities more help is welcome. You will find how you can be a part of this.

Old Phone Directories Needed

To assist in preparation of the Historic Resource Survey, city directories of telephone directories from the 1930 and 1940s are needed. Contact us if you have any to donate.

Addendum To BFD Series

As we continue our salute to volunteer in the Brighton Fire Department, we add Peter Fay, Luther Frink, John Hutchings, William W. Pentlin, Henry Rohn, William Stanfield and Thomas Williams as members to Hook and Ladder Company 1, 1879.

A photo, circa 1885, has another 21 local men in uniforms with a large '1' in a shield on the front of the jackets. These men include J. Anderson, John Baker, William Becker, William Bitten, Art Boylan, George Broadmore, Charles Campbell, Steve Jones, Le Roy King, Ed Miller, Robert Parks, George Pitkin, Avery Prout, R. Roberts, Bill Robins, E. Rosencrans, Gene Sweet, Ansel Townsend, Felt Wehnes, Lou Westphal, with Will Winkelhouse holding the trumpet he uses to shout instructions.

Watch for more names next month.

Thanks and Recognition

THANKS TO....

The BAHS recognizes the following people for volunteering their time and energy to support the BAHS.

- Judith Coebly and Sue Skwarski for delivering 99 copies of the newsletter to teachers, administration and PTOs for the Brighton, and other schools, each month. Parents should be aware that they may schedule visits with their children to the historic Lyon School, our fully restored one-room school house.
- Pat & Marlene Fonseca (AZ), Esther Jarvis, and new member John Kluck for their donations to BAHS projects in addition to their annual dues.
- Mary Ann Catrell, Pat & Marlene Fonseca (AZ), Margo Metzger and Delores Yackley for their Friends of Lyon School 2010 donations in addition to their dues.
- Bert Bair, Ida Bair and June Kimble for helping prepare the March issue of Trail Tales for mailing.

- Alice Wyland for donating a portable school writing desk with slate and slate pencils and sketching samples, dated 1875. You'll find it in the school items display at Lyon School.

Memberships

We would like to thank the following members for their annual memberships:

Patron:

- Margo Metzger

Individual

- Pete & Coral Black*
- Jim and Christine Birney*
- Mary Ann Catrell
- Pat & Marlene Fonseca (AZ)
- Esther Jarvis
- John Kluck*
- Jonathon Redditt
- Henry & MaryLou Winegar
- Delores Yackley

*New Member—Welcome!

2010 Business / Professional Members

The support of our professional members is deeply appreciated. We encourage our members to patronize these local, businesses who are sustainers of the BAHS.

- Advance Craft Home Builders, Inc.
- Archer-Huntley Financial Services*
- Jagielky Bookkeeping
- Lawrence Autobody*
- Masonic Lodge #247*
- Patrick Financial Group, LLS*
- Promess*
- Yum Yum Tree (New Member!)

*Special thanks to these Life Members

BAHS is a nonprofit organization. We rely on the support of our members in the form of annual dues, other monetary and artifact donations, and volunteer work. Please continue to support us; your participation and generosity is what makes BAHS a vibrant organization capable of responding to new challenges and opportunities.

Support BAHS - Become a Member or Donate

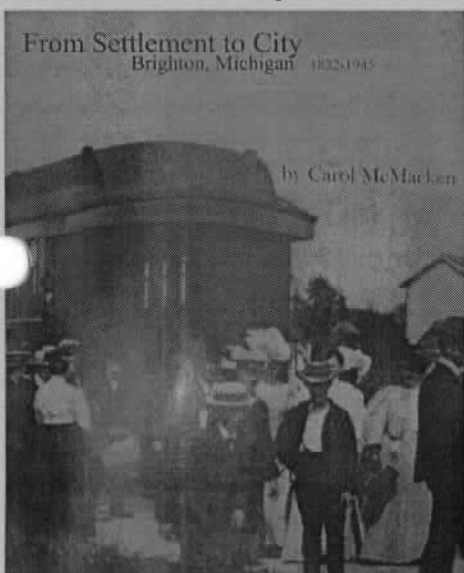
The BAHS relies on participation of its members and the generosity of its patrons. If you would like to make a donation or become member, please visit our web site at www.brightonareahistorical.com or mail in the following form below.

Mail check or money order payable to:		Name: _____	Phone: () _____
Brighton Area Historical Society		Address: _____	
P. O. Box 481		City: _____	State: _____ Zip Code: _____
Brighton, MI 48116-0481		E-Mail: _____	

Membership Plan:		Friend of Lyon School:		BAHS Projects Fund:	
<input type="checkbox"/> New	<input type="checkbox"/> Business	<input type="checkbox"/> \$500 Life	<input type="checkbox"/> \$15 Individual	<input type="checkbox"/> \$10	<input type="checkbox"/> \$100
<input type="checkbox"/> Renewal	<input type="checkbox"/> Personal	<input type="checkbox"/> \$50 Patron	<input type="checkbox"/> \$2 Student	<input type="checkbox"/> \$25	<input type="checkbox"/> \$250
		<input type="checkbox"/> \$25 Family		<input type="checkbox"/> \$50	<input type="checkbox"/> Other \$ _____

The Brighton Area Historical Society is a 501(c)3 Tax Deductible Organization

BAHS Gift Shop



The Brighton Area Historical Society maintains an inventory of commemorative and Brighton history memorabilia for sale as society fund raisers. 100% of all sales proceeds go to fund ongoing organization budget needs of BAHS, including local history projects and Lyon School maintenance.

Our product offering includes BAHS apparel (shirts, hats, etc.), home décor (pewter items, afghans and pillows, decorative ceramic tiles, etc.), postcards, craft items, and the like. To see in detail our full offering, please visit our online gift shop on our web site at www.brightonareahistorical.com.

Product Spotlight

From Settlement to City
Brighton, Michigan 1832 - 1945
by Carol McMacken
450+ pages
Over 300 pictures
\$65.00

Description: This large volume hardcover book contains a beautifully detailed history of Brighton from its earliest days until the mid-1940s. It also contains over 300 pictures and illustrations. This item is a must for any book collection on Michigan and its rich history.

BAHS Leadership

Executive Board

President
Jim Vichich

Vice President
Marieanna Bair

Secretary
Thomas Reinke

Treasurer
Mindy Kinsey

Directors

Dave Ball

Jim Miller

Sue Garcia

Larry Lawrence

Education Liaison
Judith Coebly

Education Liaison
Sue Skwarski

More About BAHS

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

E-Mail:
info@brightonareahistorical.com

Phone:
(810) 250-7276

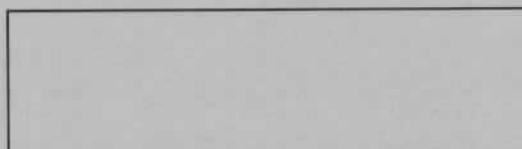
US Mail:
Brighton Area Historical Society
P. O. Box 481
Brighton, MI 48116-0481

The Lyon School is located at 11455 Buno Road west of Pleasant Valley Road.

The BAHS is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization. Help out the BAHS and yourself with a tax-deductible contribution.

The BAHS accepts monetary support and donations of historical artifacts.

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



Brighton's Main Four Corners

After the destruction of the Eastern House on the northeast corner of Main and Grand River in 1926, a variety of enterprises attempted to establish themselves. Among the earliest were a brick store, a restaurant and gas station hoping to continue serving the local and traveling public. These failed during the Depression of the 1930s and were torn down.

The resulting clearing seemed an ideal location for a car sales business. Walker Chevrolet appeared in 1935. This was followed by Leech Motor Sales around 1940. Bev Smith Motors (1944-1947) later became John Weise Ford, the last car dealership before the site was cleared. A strip mall with A&P grocery was constructed in 1960.

Uber's Drugs located there from their West Main location in 1963, staying 33 years until 1996. A Farmer Jack store succeeded the A&P in 1971, to be followed in 1977 by Sefa's Grocery. Sefa's had moved from 9810 E. Grand River. They had been in that location since 1962. Their business was open for 20 years before closing in 1997.

The site then became the Brighton Shopping Plaza in June 1997. After Sefa's closed, Arbor Drugs opened in 1997. Others in the Plaza included a laundry, photo shop, computer shop, etc. Most recently, tenants include CVS Pharmacy, O'Reilly Murray's Auto Parts and Sushi Zen.

The 1967 Brighton Centennial issue of the Brighton Argus records Malcom Fitch as the first tinner in town with a tin shop in a two-story building on the corner. By 1893 it was described as the Conley Tin Shop. When brothers Will & Fred Stuhrberg owned the Eastern House, this site across E. Main was used as a

storage house for carriages. They likely also stored other horse-drawn conveyances and equipment there. Our archives hold a photo of George Smith and his team in front of the building in 1906. Another photo shows the north side of the building. An exterior staircase indicates apartments were rented there. An 1898 ad publicizes that C.E. Cushing, with Oscar W Babcock and Henry Sowle, made and sold harnesses here.

Research has not so far revealed when the frame building was displaced. A 1921 reference, including a photo, tells us E.L. Boilare sold meats at the store in a one-story building. At some time, the Stuhrbergs also had meat available there. A February 1931 clipping states "K.J. Lehman took over the Stuhrberg meat market on the 4th". In April 1931, it states "Lawrence Navarre became a partner of K.J. Lehman in the meat business."

During the 1930s, a Pastry Shop and Watson & O'Leary Dairy sold dairy, eggs, etc. In the early 1940s, Mabel Herbst opened a Malt Shop. Lunches and hamburgers were a specialty that many high schoolers trooped from the school on Church Street to enjoy. Mabel's daughters often helped their mother; maybe that had something to do with the many male customers.

By 1950, the sign outside read Walker's Grill & Malt Shop. By 1955, it was Haller's Grill, followed by the Brass Lantern in 1969. In 1973, the Brass Lantern acquired a liquor license, transferred from 132 E. Grand River. By 1994, it became the Cap & Cork liquor store. In 2007, this site was cleared and a new building now houses Rottermond Jewelry.

*Compiled by Marieanna Bair from Brighton Argus clippings
Additions/corrections requested. (810) 229-6402.*