

## Beans, Bales and Bovines Exhibit at CoBACH This Month



Tammy Sexton (left) and Mindy Kinsey (right) discuss exhibits with a CoBACH guest

Experience the sights and sounds from the farms of early Brighton when you visit the CoBACH Center this February. Two large combination wood and steel plows set in a display of old photos will provide an image of the ruggedness of the American farmer. These photos relate how livestock and grain farming was done. Hand tools on display allow guests to visualize different components of the process.

Bee keeping was another facet of area agriculture. Beautiful large pictures of honeybees and their hives, bee farming equipment and retail products made from honey and wax demonstrate how bees provide a vital service and product for the community.

A life-like cow resting on the floor will capture the heart of every child as they enter the building and stare into its big dark eyes. Our bovine friend

provides a great photo opportunity for young children.

Meet Tammy Jo Swineberg (Tammy Sexton) on Saturday afternoons as she shares her knowledge of pig farming in a program designed for children. Her funny farm animal videos will generate smiles and laughter from the kid in each of us.

Also on display are the tools and office equipment of Dr. George Schaffer, a former practicing veterinarian in Brighton from the 1930s-1960s, donated by the Robert Schaffer family. See some early surgery tools that were used to maintain the health of local herds as well as family pets.

Early pictures of farming related businesses, such as grain elevators and mills, are on display and provide a focus on our agrarian community of a century ago. While farming in the Brighton area today is miniscule, the images and

memories of the past are important and must be shared to be remembered.

Take a break from the responsibilities of today and allow your senses to escape to an earlier point in time in Brighton history. This exhibit is both a fun and educational experience that will be enjoyed by adults and children of all ages. Come alone, or bring friends and family so that all may gain an appreciation for the farmers that forged Brighton into the wonderful family-oriented community of today.

*Jim Vichich*  
BAHS President

### 30 Years for BAHS

The 1984 transfer of ownership and subsequent restoration of the 1885 one-room Lyon School from Brighton Township meant fund raising was greatly needed. These efforts were mightily supported by the community. Besides fund raising sales and raffles, members included extra funds when paying annual dues. The entire community responded with financial support. Local businesses provided volunteer labor, planning, and materials at a discount or no charge.

The point behind this activity was three fold: the school would offer students the experience of early Michigan education with curriculum developed by local educators; it would provide museum dis-

### POINTS OF INTEREST:

READ ABOUT THE 30-YEAR HISTORY OF THE BAHS.

SEE PAGE 1

THE STORY OF CIVIL WAR VETERANS BURIED IN OLD VILLAGE CEMETERY CONTINUES IN THIS ISSUE'S HISTORICAL PERSPECTIVE.

SEE PAGE 4

## Michigan 175 Year Anniversary

*On January 26, 1837, Michigan became the 26th state to be admitted to the Union.*

*That was 175 years ago. Happy Anniversary to all Michiganders and our great state!*

### INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

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## Date to Remember

Feb 1, 5, 8, 12, 15, 19, 22, 26, 29: 5pm-8pm / Feb 4, 11, 18, 25: 12nn-3pm  
BAHS hosts at CoBACH Center

Feb 2, 9, 16, 23: 9am-12nn  
Archiving/Open House at Lyon School

Feb 22: 6pm  
BAHS Board Meeting at CoBACH

### This Month at CoBACH

Tue-Fri, Sun: 5pm-8pm / Sat: 9am-3pm  
*Beans, Bales and Bovines Exhibit:* See exhibits from Brighton's agricultural past. Displays include grain and livestock farming, bee keeping and veterinary medicine.

### Area Organizations

Feb 12: 2pm  
Saline Historical Society presents *Electric Trolleys of Washtenaw County with H.M. Hildebrandt*. Visit [salinehistory.org](http://salinehistory.org) for more details.

Feb 20: 7pm  
Wixom Historical Society present the *Sibley-Hoyt House Restoration Project*. Call (248) 624-0246 for details.

### Congratulations!

Northville Historical Society is celebrating the 40th anniversary of the Mill Race Historic Village. The BAHS sends our congratulations and best wishes.

### In Memorium

The Brighton Area Historical Society wishes to extend sympathies to the family of:

**Elizabeth "Beth" Cord**

Beth was a life-long resident of Brighton.

## Thanks and Recognition

### Member Renewals / New Members

Thanks to our existing and new members for their annual memberships:

#### Patron

- William & Margaret Dixon
- Roland & Jane Owens and Lois Tobias (NE)

#### Family / Individual

- Tim Bielby (MT)\*
- Elaine Blight
- Pat Burgess (Fenton)
- Robert Carlson
- Jim DeJohn
- Carolina DeLuca (Howell)
- Doris Fay
- Phil & Peggy Gage (Ste. St. Marie)
- Lynette Hawkins
- Tommy Hill\*
- Jeanette Johnson
- Susan Lanning (Liv.)
- James Lauridson (Strl. Hgts)
- Helen Leitz (Drbrn)
- John & Ruth LePatourel
- Cleo Moran (Novi)
- Patricia Mrozek (New Buffalo)\*
- Joan Naylor (OK)
- Ed & Sherry Nyhus
- Greg Park (OH)
- Ray & Linda Potter
- Hilda Rondeau (CA)
- Connie Sherman
- Ralph & Suzanne Skwarski
- Jon Twork
- Linda Wintermute (WI)
- Alice Wyland
- John & Anne Zemke

### Business / Professional Members

The support of our professional members is deeply appreciated. We encourage you to support these local businesses.

- Acorn Deck Accessories Inc.
- Advance Craft Home Builders
- Archer-Huntley Financial Services\*\*
- Bagger Dave's Restaurant
- Davis Multimedia, Inc.
- Dr. Bonine Oral & Maxillofacial Surgery
- Susan Doyle, Realtor
- Greater Brighton Area Chamber of Commerce
- Hands on Mind and Body Wellness Center
- Joe Agius / Burroughs Tavern
- Lawrence Autobody\*\*
- Masonic Lodge #247\*\*
- Michigan Commerce Bank
- Patrick Financial Group\*\*
- Promess\*\*
- Refrigeration Research \*\*
- Synergy Environmental Inc.\*
- Yum Yum Tree

\* Welcome to these new members

\*\* Special thanks to these Life Members

### Thanks to...

The BAHS recognizes the following people for volunteering their time.

- Marieanna & Bert Bair, Judith Coebly, Jackie Damm, Sue Garcia, Larry Lawrence and Jim Vichich for help with Trail Tales mailing
- Al Wirth for helping with distribution of Trail Tales to local businesses
- Elaine Blight for their donation to the BAHS Projects Fund
- Jim DeJohn, Cleo Moran, Helen Leitz, and Ray & Linda Potter for their donations to the Friends of Lyon School Fund
- The Merrill Herbst Family, John Herbst, Jerry & Anne Dilloway, Marieanna & Bert Bair, Larry Lawrence, Shirley & Bob Knight, Hank Winegar, Dick & Lucille Weaire, Joe Colins, Mindy & Tom Kinsey, Gary & Judy Coebly, Vicki Vichich and Tammy Sexton for providing display pieces for the current CoBACH exhibit
- Ralph Steinberger, Hank Winegar, Joe Collins, Tom Reinke, Harry Davis, Nancy Fredenburg, Dick Weaire, Larry Lawrence, Mindy Kinsey and Jim Vichich for volunteering at CoBACH

## 30 Years for BAHS (continued from page 1)

play area; it would serve as an archive facility and organization headquarters.

With up-to-date mechanicals and handicap available rest room facilities, the school would be open to all.

### Restoration

Except for the ceiling in the school room (which is original) the entire structure has been restored: foundation, floors, walls, ceilings and roof. A recent insulation improvement makes the building more energy efficient and will save money. The entire project took 16 years and included the restoration or installation of period style windows, a bell tower and bell, the

extension of the roof line over the flat rear addition, a new well and septic system. Now complete, the Lyon School is a historic asset of the community.

On October 28-29, 2000, members of the Rotary Club and other caring individuals came together for the final push to complete the restoration. And a great weekend it was. Period school desks, chairs, book cases, display cases, filing equipment/materials found a new home.

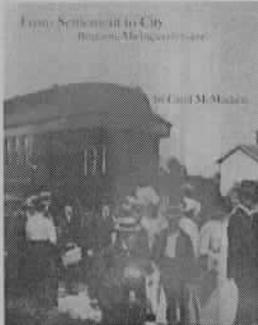
From 1982-1997, meetings were held at the Old Town Hall with the city's blessings. However, the city needed the building again. Where to now?

## 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](http://www.BRIGHTONAREAHISTORICAL.COM) or mail in the following 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"/> \$50 Patron	<input type="checkbox"/> \$100	<input type="checkbox"/> \$100
<input type="checkbox"/> Renew	<input type="checkbox"/> \$15 Individual	<input type="checkbox"/> \$25	<input type="checkbox"/> \$25
	<input type="checkbox"/> \$60 Business/Professional	<input type="checkbox"/> \$250	<input type="checkbox"/> \$250
	<input type="checkbox"/> \$25 Family	<input type="checkbox"/> \$50	<input type="checkbox"/> \$50
	<input type="checkbox"/> \$500 Life	<input type="checkbox"/> Other \$ _____	<input type="checkbox"/> Other \$ _____

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



**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 the Brighton area, starting with its earliest days as a frontier wilderness settlement through to the growing community of the mid-1940s.

The book also contains a collection of over 300 pictures and illustrations and is a must for any book collection on the State of Michigan or of its rich history.

## Help Wanted

The BAHS has several key positions we need to fill. We need your help and are asking our members to step up and get involved.

### Web Site Administrator

Proficient with Joomla content management system; Familiarity with HTML, CSS, graphic design, email and web site hosting is helpful.

### Trail Tales Editor

Proficient with Microsoft Publisher; strong skills in writing and editing; familiarity with graphic design preferred, but not required.

### Treasurer

Strong understanding of business accounting principles and practices; experience in managing a general business ledger and profit & loss statement; understanding of non-profit accounting a plus.

## BAHS Leadership

President

**Jim Vichich**

Vice President

**Marieanna Bair**

Secretary

**Tammy Sexton**

Interim Treasurer

**Mindy Kinsey**

Trail Tales Editor

**Dave Ball**

Directors

**Jerry Damon**

**Joe Collins**

**Nancy Fredenburg**

**Larry Lawrence**

**Thomas Reinke**

**Dick Weaire**

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](mailto: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.

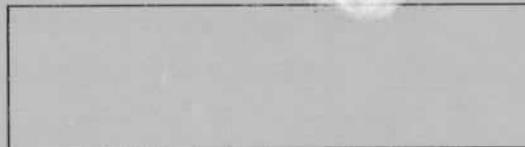
**CoBACH Center**

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.

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



## Civil War Veterans Resting At Old Village Cemetery (Part 10)

Aaron A. Newman was born September 5, 1832, in Plymouth, Michigan. By the 1860 census, he is the owner of 200 acres in Brighton Township, Sections 5, 6 and 7 (the Hunter, Hyne, McClements Road area, west of Old 23).

Newman was a farmer. He was also a patriotic man who served in the Civil War. His parents, Joel (born 1788 in New York) and Hannah (née Lyon, born 1794 in Massachusetts) apparently came to Wayne County, Michigan with son Almon, also born in New York in 1824. Aaron's brother, Hiram, was also born in Michigan in 1834.

About 1855, Aaron married Louisa (born 1834 in New York). The 1860 Census records children Ida Jane (born 1856) and son, Merritta (born 1859). Sadly, the son died in 1860.

Enlisting in John Gilluly's Co. I of Michigan's "Fighting 5<sup>th</sup> Infantry on September 6, 1861, Aaron served as a wagoner until the end of his three year enlistment.

The 5<sup>th</sup> Michigan Infantry Regiment, consisting of Companies A, F, and I, a total of about 900 officers and enlisted men, reported to Fort Wayne. After receiving the regimental flag in Detroit, September 11, they embarked for Cleveland finally reaching Washington, D.C. Co. I had its "... first duty in front of the enemy" on September 22.

Various earthworks and forts were built in which to pass the winter; floating down the Potomac to Yorktown, VA, in the spring. After a month's siege in April, the Confederates left for Richmond, VA, with Union soldiers in pursuit.

Rain made the roads difficult to move artillery, cavalry and army wagons. As a wagoner Aaron struggled through the mud and rain toward the fighting at Williamsburg in May. "This was the regiment's first battle and a wild initiation it was. It went in with about 500 men and out of this force its loss was one hundred fifty-three in killed and wounded."

The Regiment participated in the Battle of Gettysburg in July, 1863. By mid-September the Regiment again joined the Army of the Potomac. Brandywine Station became winter quarters in 1863-64. The fierce battle at Orange Courthouse in early May, 1864, was followed with more of the same at Spotsylvania and continued on to Cold Harbor and Petersburg. Aaron was mustered out on September 6, 1864.

Fortunate to have returned from battle, he was anxious to return to his occupation as a farmer in north Brighton Township. Apparently separated from Louise, Janette is recorded as his wife. Two children are born to this union; a son, Arthur (born 1867) and daughter Clara B. (born 1871). However, Ida Jane is not noted in the 1870 census. Arthur married Margaret Campbell; both are buried in Howell's Lakeview Cemetery. Clara married neighbor George Taylor. As often occurred, Clara died in childbirth in 1891 and her son, Vernon, in 1892. Clara, George and Vernon are buried at Old Village Cemetery, as is mother Jenette who died on January 15, 1887.

Aaron died on March 5, 1900. His obituary states he had six children. Present research reveals only five. By 1900, a son, Chester, is "... in the west" and Arthur lives in Howell. A widow is also noted in the obituary. Research indicates she was Margaret Leach, whom he married in 1888. She died in New York.

The youngest brother Hiram, married Rachael. Two children were born. Hiram (died July 19, 1920) and Rachael (died October 23, 1909) in Monmouth, Oregon. Another son, Charles H. was living there.

*Compiled by Marieanna Bair from Census records; 1880 History of Livingston County; Old Village Cemetery transcription by John & Janice Field; Fairview and Lakeview Cemetery transcription and obituary records by Milton Charboneau and online assistance of Judy Bair.*