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, McElvanes 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 (nee 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, Merritt (born 1859). Sadly, the son, died in 1860.

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

The 5th Michigan Infantry Regiment, consisting of Companies A, F and I, a total of about 300 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.

Fortunately, to have returned from battle, 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 1893 and her son, Vernon, in 1892. Clara, George and Vernon are buried at Old Village Cemetery, as is mother Janette 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 Marionna 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 Charton and online assistance from Judy Birt.

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Beans, Bales and Bovines Exhibit at CoBACH This Month

The Michigan 175th Anniversary celebrates the state’s history and traditions. This year marks the 260th anniversary of the Union, which was achieved 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!
Date to Remember
Feb 1, 5, 8, 12, 15, 19, 22, 26, 29: 5pm / Feb 7 / Feb 25: 12-3pm
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
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Tues-Fri, Sun: 5pm-7pm / Sat: 9am-3pm
Brownies, Bakes 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 for more details.
Feb 20: 7pm
Washtenaw Historical Society present the Sil- bloy-Heth House Restoration Project. Call (248) 624-0246 for details.
Congratulation1
Northville Historical Society is celebrating the 40th anniversary of the Mill Race His- toric Village. The BAHS sends our congratula- tions 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.

30 Years for BAHS (continued from page 1)
play area; it would serve as an archiv- al facility and organization headquarters.
With up-to-date mechanicals and handi- cap 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 im- provement made 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 sys- tem. 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 com- plete the restoration. And a great week- end it was. Period school desks, chairs, book cases, display cases, filling equip- ment/materials found a new home.
From 1982-1997, meetings were held at the Old Town Hall with the city's bless- ings. However, the city needed the build- ing again. Where to now?

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Brighton, MI 48116-0481
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Business/Professional Members
The support of our professional members is deeply appreciated. We encourage you to support these local businesses.
- Acom Deck Accessories Inc.
- Advance Craft Home Builders
- Archer-Huntley Financial Services**
- Bagge Dave's Restaurant
- Davis Multimedia, Inc.
- Dr. Bonnie Oral & Maxillofacial Surgery
- Susan Doyle, Realtor
- Greater Brighton Area Chamber of Commerce
- Hands on Mind and Body Wellness Center
• Joe Aulgur / Burrowers Tavern
• Lawrence Autobody**
• Masonic Lodge #24**
• Michigan Commerce Bank
• Patrick Financial Group**
• Promex**
• Refrigeration Research**
• Synergy Environmental Inc.*
• Yum Yum Tree

For those members who have been with us for a few years, we welcome you to our new members.
Special thanks to these Life Members:
Thinks to...
The BAHS recognizes the following people for volunteering their time.

• Marianna & Bert Bair, Judith Coeby
• Jackie Damme, Sue Garcia, Larry Lawrence
• Jerry & Judy Coeby, Vicki Vichich

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How would you prefer to receive Trail Tales:
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US Mail

Friend of Lyon School:
BAHS Projects Fund:
New $2 Student
New $20 Patron
Renew $5 Individual
$60 Business/Professional
$25 Family
$50 Life
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Jim Vichich
Vice President
Marianna Bair
Secretary
Tammy Sexton
Interim Treasurer
Mindy Kinsey
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Dave Ball

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Beans, Bales and Bovines Exhibit at CoBACH This Month

Tommy Sexton (left) and Minny Kanny (right) display exhibits with a CoBACH panel 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.

Beep 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 loving 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 kids 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 hens 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 on 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 financial support 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 give museum visitors a unique and rich experience with the history of the area; and it would provide museum dis

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! 