

## Headstone for Brighton's First Burial Returns Home



Cemetery preservationist, Jonathan Appell, taught a workshop at Old Village Cemetery on May 21

On Monday, May 21 the previously unknown headstone of Truman Worden was repaired and restored to its proper upright position and placed in the Worden plot at Old Village Cemetery. Many smiles were shared by those attending as the white marble headstone stood for the first time in over a century.

Truman Worden was the first recorded death and burial in the wilderness community known as Ore Creek in 1837.

His log cabin was located on the west side of Grand River Avenue, near the location of the Methodist Church today. Worden was buried on a high point of land that touches the Millpond and later became the Village Cemetery.

His headstone has been missing for over 130 years. It was accidentally unearthed in the summer of 2010 during final site grading of the earthen bank located at the east end of Old Village Cemetery for

the new St. Paul Street public parking lot. The construction crew that found it said it was about 12-18" below the surface and was in three pieces.

The BAHS has been anxious to have this historic headstone repaired and standing tall in its rightful position since the 2010 discovery. The BAHS hired cemetery preservationist, Jonathan Appell, to repair the headstone and to teach volunteers on May 21 the proper techniques for preserving headstones and monuments. Several other stones were also cleaned and repaired.

This BAHS community investment of \$1375 will enable the society with its dedicated volunteers to start immediately the process of revitalizing Brighton's oldest and most significant cemetery, Old Village Cemetery. The goal is to have the many broken headstones repaired and standing again in an upright position. This will minimize future damage and present a burial ground that looks neat and respectful for Brighton's founding fathers and mothers as well as the many veterans who rest there.

If you have an interest in preserving the past for the future, please consider joining the Brighton Area Historical Society. Civic responsibility starts with each of us!

*Jim Vichich, BAHS President*

### 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.

SEE PAGE 4

*"Having now finished the work assigned me, I retire from the great theatre of Action; and bidding an Affectionate farewell to this August body under whose orders I have so long acted, I here offer my commission, and take my leave of all the employments of public life.*

*George Washington  
(1732-1799)*

*Address to Congress  
resigning his commission  
(23 December 1783)*

## 30 Year Anniversary for BAHS

Well into its 31st year of existence, the BAHS continues promoting our mission: preservation and dissemination of area history. This provides an excellent opportunity for all to learn the early history of our local area. We continue our effort to encourage the preservation and reuse of early local structures.

The acquisition of knowledge

related to the history of our area helps all to find where and how we fit into the scheme of life. The BAHS works to preserve the irreplaceable – local memory of the area – and make it available to others.

Financial support of our mission from individuals and area businesses is recognized and applauded. (cont'd page 2)

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## Thanks and Recognition

### Thanks to...

The BAHS recognizes the following people for their contributions.

- Bert & Marieanna Bair, Judith Coebly, June & Whitney Kimble, Larry Lawrence, Tammy Sexton and Jim Vichich for help with Trail Tales mailing.
- Dr. Harry & Carol Davis, Sandra Everett, Doris Case Singer for donating to Friends of Lyon School Fund.
- Esther Jarvis, Doris Case Singer, Bill Zink, and Joan Rice for donating to the BAHS Projects Fund.
- Karen Goss, Mrs. Mark Hines, Ms. Lisa Jurinic, Mrs. Kim, Mindy Kinsey and Peg Siford for donations in memory of Mark McMacken.
- Pleasant Valley Social Club for a donation in memory of Barbara Ellis Davis.
- Pat Mrozek for the Gove Automobile Company newsletter from January 1, 1920. Gove built a factory in Brighton to manufacture Gove cars and trucks.
- Parent-Teacher Tech, 117 E. Grand River, for stocking "From Settlement to City - Brighton - 1832-1945"
- All members who take the time to notify us of a change of address.

### 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
- Brighton Bar & Grill
- Davis Multimedia, Inc.
- Dr. Fred Bonine, DDS
- Dr Robert Clark, Clark Eye Center
- Susan Doyle, Realtor
- Frank Mancusso, Attorney at Law
- 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
- Dr. John Papadopoulos\*
- Patrick Financial Group\*\*
- Promess\*\*
- Refrigeration Research \*\*
- Schoolhouse Family Dentistry
- SOS Livingston
- Synergy Environmental Inc.
- Yum Yum Tree

### Member Renewals / New Members

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

#### Life

- Shirley Barton

#### Patron

- Esther Jarvis

#### Family / Individual

- Wanda Barr
- Dr. Harry & Carol Davis
- Sandra Everett
- Michael Lenninger & Kathy Partridge
- Jim & Jan Jagielky-Miller
- Dr. Jon & Annie Redditt
- Tom Reinke
- Doris Case Singer
- Henry & Mary Lou Winegar
- Bill Zink

\* Welcome to these new members

\*\* Special thanks to these Life Members

#### BAHS on Facebook

Are you on Facebook? We are! Look us up on Facebook and visit our page. See and discuss old photos and reminisce with others about Brighton's earlier days with other Facebook members. And while you are there "Like" us.

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## Dates to Remember

**June 3, 6, 10, 13, 17, 20, 24, 27: 5pm-8pm**

BAHS hosts at CoBACH Center on Sun and Wed during June

**June 7, 14, 21, 28: 9am-12nn**

Archiving/Open House at Lyon School

**June 27: 6pm**

BAHS Board Meeting at CoBACH

**Jul 21: 1:30pm-3:00pm**

The Brighton District Library will host a release party for the new historical photo book called *Brighton Area*, available early this summer. This *Images of America* book by Arcadia Press and written by local author Genal Pratt with the Brighton Area Historical Society will present 198 early Brighton area photos. Each picture includes a short description detailing the historic image.

Meet Genal Pratt and members of the BAHS. Light refreshments for all; books for \$20. Admission is FREE.

**This Month at CoBACH through July 15**

**Tues-Sun, 5-8 pm also Sat 9am-12nn**

Experience the *150th Anniversary of America's Civil War* with displays that feature classic battle images and artifacts on loan from local collectors.

### Area Organizations

**June 23-24:**

Waterloo Area Historical Society - "Blacksmiths, Soldiers and Log Cabin Weekend". [waterloofarmmuseum.org](http://waterloofarmmuseum.org)

**Did You Know**—Brighton had a car and truck manufacturing plant that was built in 1920. The Gove automobile and truck was to be manufactured in Brighton and Las Vegas. Several trucks were made before closing the business. The building is currently owned and operated by Refrigeration Research and is located at 525 North Fifth Street.

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## 30 Year Anniversary (from pg1)

The BAHS is sensitive to our obligation to the community and to our supporters. Through responsible budgeting and proper administration of our finances, the BAHS retains its 501c(3) Non-Profit status for our donors.

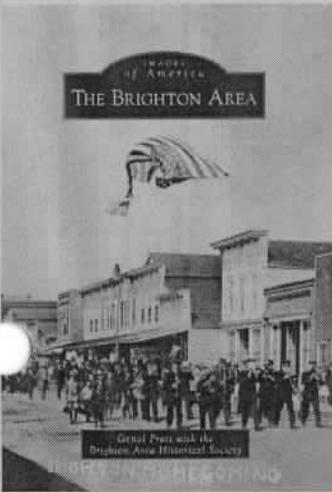
Being cognizant of our responsibility to our financial contributors and those who donate artifacts of local history (especially their memories), the BAHS will continue growing in its mission. The work on our extensive archives and considerable Historic Resource Survey will continue on for the years to come.

Many challenges and opportunities will face our organization as we move forward. Those like-minded individuals with a passion for history and community are encouraged to become members and to participate with us in our future.

## 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 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<br><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"/> \$50 Patron                        | <input type="checkbox"/> \$10 <input type="checkbox"/> \$100          | <input type="checkbox"/> \$10 <input type="checkbox"/> \$100   |  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Renew <input type="checkbox"/> \$15 Individual <input type="checkbox"/> \$60 Business/Professional   | <input type="checkbox"/> \$25 <input type="checkbox"/> \$250          | <input type="checkbox"/> \$25 <input type="checkbox"/> \$250   |  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$25 Family <input type="checkbox"/> \$500 Life  | <input type="checkbox"/> \$50 <input type="checkbox"/> Other \$ _____ | <input type="checkbox"/> \$50 <input type="checkbox"/> Other \$ _____  |  |
| <small>The Brighton Area Historical Society is a 501(c)(3) Non-Profit Organization. All donations are tax deductible.</small> |   |  |  |



### New book release June 2012

#### Images of America: The Brighton Area

by Genal Pratt with the Brighton Area Historical Society

128 pages, and includes 199 pictures

**\$20.00**

**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 one of these jobs?

#### Web Site Administrator

Proficient with Joomla CMS; experience with HTML/CSS, graphic design, web servers a plus.

#### Trail Tales Editor

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

#### Treasurer

Strong understanding of accounting practices; experience managing a general business ledger, P&L statement; 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.

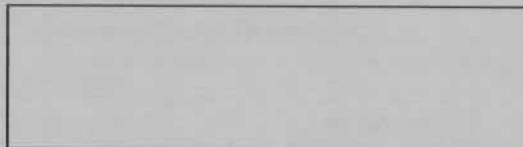
The BAHS accepts monetary support and donations of historical artifacts. Please consider supporting us with your generosity.

**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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### Civil War Veterans Resting At Old Village Cemetery (Part 14)

The 11<sup>th</sup> Michigan Cavalry was organized in March 1865. Wallace Henry Case enlisted as a private in Co. A, March 17, 1865, serving until September 22, 1865. His father, Rodman, was the fourth child born to Samuel and Katie who came to Michigan c. 1836. Wallace was the second of six children.

Upon his return from the service, he married Emma Acker in 1866. He bought property in Brighton Township on Brighton Lake Road (SW¼ of the NW¼, Section 31, Brighton Township) on January 28, 1867.

The 1870 census finds them in a two-story store, the second door west of 401 W. Main St., with Wallace's occupation noted as a butcher. They lived upstairs with children Frank, Bessie (who died at 19 months) and Celestia. The first telephone company organized in Brighton was located there with Emma and Celestia serving as operators.

Wallace died December, 1915. He and Emma are two of 15 members of the Case family buried in the Old Village Cemetery.

Not only did soldiers die on the battlefield of the Civil War, they often were discharged because of disability and died later at home. Charles H. Pease (born 1838 in Michigan) was one of these. His parents, Charles W. (born 1812 in New York) and Sarah (born 1813 in New York), came to Brighton Township in 1834 purchasing property in Section 9.

Both Charles's parents died by 1859. He continued farming until enlisting November 7, 1863, in Co. I, 2<sup>nd</sup> Michigan Cavalry, with 20 others from Livingston County, seeing action in Tennessee and Alabama. Discharged for disability (disease), he died October 9, 1864 and joined his parents in the Old Village Cemetery. Research indicates of the 20 who enlisted with Charles, only 15 survived. The five others died of disease or wounds, a 25% fatality rate.

The 6<sup>th</sup> Michigan Cavalry was organized August 12, 1862. Of the 1200 men, 50 were from Livingston County. Among them was John A. Platt. The 6<sup>th</sup> saw much active service in Virginia, Maryland and Pennsylvania, including Gettysburg.

John Platt was assigned to Co. B on February 9, 1864, and later died in Richmond Prison June 11, 1864. Eight other Livingston County men died in confederate prisons in 1864; four in Richmond Prison and four in Andersonville Prison. Of the original 50, a total of 17 died in the service of the 6<sup>th</sup> Cavalry.

John's parents, William and Mary Ellen Platt arrived in Michigan around 1835. John and two brothers, Thomas and George, who died at a young age, are buried in the Old Village Cemetery. Their parents and siblings moved on to Nebraska around 1872, and their descendants to California.

*Compiled by Marieanna Bair from census records; 1880 History of Livingston County; Old Village Cemetery transcription by John & Janice Field; writings of Bill Pless; Case genealogy by S. Leith and Bidwell records from Jane Tomlinson.*

*Corrections/additions, requested. 810-229-6402.*

**Did you know**— the new "Brighton Area" pictorial history book that consists of 198 photo's and 128 pages is available at the Brighton Farmers' market every Saturday from 8 am—1 pm. The Society's booth is located in front of Lynn's café. The book cost is \$20.00. The book can also be purchased at the CoBACH Center, Lawrence Autobody, Parent Teacher Tech Center and by calling Jim Vichich at 810-250-7276.

Due to a change of Editors this issue is a few days late. We are sorry for any inconvenience this may have caused.