The purpose of the Brighton Area Historical Society is to preserve, advance and disseminate knowledge of the history of the Brighton Area. The membership is composed of people who feel the above purpose is worthwhile and should be promoted.

EDITORIAL

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(Mr. Bair, Editor.)

1986 MEMBERSHIPS 1986

Since the last newsletter, the following can be included as members: Bill & Jackie Armstrong, Alice Anderson, Eric Mstrup, Kay-dawn Bendar, Jean & Barde Bethea, Mari Boring, Tom & Lois Cole, Clare Dymond, Libby Eisenhardt, Joe & Irene Ellis, Eliouellse Gibson, Eleanor Hornung, Fred & Bernice Hyne#, Walt Linstid, Max & Dorothy Mach, George Piesch, Jaccie Piesch, Margaret Goldstein, Mildred Shannon, Elsa Stegenga##, Rita Valaes, Jim & Shirley Wanzen, Dr. Gerald & Eva Wahler###.##

# Patron members.

Eldred & Sons has paid business/professional dues. MANY THANKS TO ALL. YOUR SUPPORT IS VITAL.
HELP ... HELP ... HELP ... HELP ... HELP we need...
... people to serve on the Program committee...

... " " " " Finance "

... " " " " Farmers' Market committee.

... " " " " people to arrive on the Lyons School..." dictaphone...pictures of Lyons School...

... material to be used in this newsletter.

Contact a board member with your support.

OLD TOWN HALL COMMITTEE REPORT

Goals being considered include the restora-
tion of the building to its original charac-
teristics (windows, doors, cupola, bell, etc.) It will house an active, ongoing museum of Brighton Area history. Besides the display of artifacts it is planned to conduct various cultural and educational events.

To the benefit of the public the museum will be a sense of discovery and awareness of those who initiated the settling of the area and those who have made it possible for us to live in a community that cares.

The committee will be researching grants and foundations and organizing a master plan incorporating restoration, funding, and programming. A meeting in June or July will present these goals to the City Council for their approval. At that time the committee will be looking for support from area residents.

"Thanks to all the Historical Society members without a parade in Brighton Doctors' Day every small town has a July 4th parade? Isn't that part of the heritage we want to pass on to our children? The hoopla, the flags, music, marchers and beauty pageants, family, food? The commemoration of the begin-
ing of the greatest country on earth?

If you want a July 4th parade, make your wishes known to the City Hall, 227-1911 soon.

We are sorry to lose Allen Walby as a Director. We are happy to have him attend Board meetings. A new Director for 1986 will be appointed soon.

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BRIGHTON FARMERS' MARKET

June 7 thru October 25, the Brighton Farmers' Market will be in operation. Last year the Society held several successful bake sales. This is an opportunity for members who are unable to participate in other Society activities to show their support of the Society's goals. Needed is a committee to conduct this project. Contact a board member if you can help.

FIRST LANDOWNERS OF LIVINGSTON COUNTY, MI.

Milton Charboneau has compiled a record book (3/4 x 200 p. hardbound, printed on acid free paper) giving the name of the buyer, date, acres, description of the property. Cross indexed, it includes an early county map and a diagram of townships. It will go on sale June 1, for $15.00, until July 1, after which a shipping charge of $1.50 must be added. A special offer has been made to members of the Society: from June 1 through June 15, they may buy this book for $12.00. Check or Money Order payable to Milton Charboneau, 9040 Farley Ed, Pinedale, MI. 48169.

On consideration of dues paying members of the Society, the mailing list for Trail Tales, which includes many whom we consider to have an interest in the aims and goals of the Society, must be reviewed periodically. To keep expenses in line with dues income, arbitrary delitions of non members must occasionally be made to the mailing list. It does not seem proper to expect to continue to receive Trail Tales and let dues paying members 'foot the bill.'

1986 BRIGHTON AREA HISTORICAL SOCIETY MEMBERSHIP FORM 1986

NAME

PHONE

ADDRESS

New ( ) Renewal ( ) Please send a copy of Society Bylaws ( )

Activities in which I'd like to participate:

( ) Bake Sale ( ) Meeting programs

( ) I am a member ( ) Committee

( ) Fund raising ( ) Newsletter publication

( ) Genealogy ( ) Oral History

( ) I am willing to do

Due: 8.00 per couple 5.00 per individual

5.00 per patron 25.00 business/professional

send to: Brighton Area Historical Society P.O. Box 481

Brighton, MI. 48116

LYONS SCHOOL #100 ON MICHIGAN HISTORIC SITE REGISTER

The Society has recently received confirmation from the Michigan Historical Commission that the Lyons School has been recognized as a site of historical significance to the community. The site is eligible for the placement of a marker denoting this designation. Your Editor has information regarding acquiring such a marker. Will someone come forward to assume this project?

At a recent meeting with Brighton Area School Supt., Dr. Dennis McMahon, plans were made to meet with the trade classes and teachers and others to examine the site and discuss the purpose of the restoration as a living, working one room school. One benefit of such a meeting would be to make students and parents aware of the need for funds and encourage projects to raise these funds. Help in preparing grant applications was also offered.

Jim Dennis is reviewing current drawings in order to make recommendations regarding the restoration.

Bonnie Corrigan has drafted a letter to be sent former Lyons School students describing the restoration plans, requesting pictures of the school and the anticipated need for restoration funds.

The next meeting date has not been set. Please contact your Editor or Norma Jean Pleas, Brighton Township Clerk, 525-0660 for any support of information you can give. This project will benefit the entire community.

1986 dues are payable. If '86 dues have been paid, it will be noted on the mailing label.

WHAT? NO PARADE?

How can there be an Independence Day in this area without a parade? In Brighton? Doesn't every small town have a July 4th parade? Isn't that part of the heritage we want to pass on to our children? The hoopla, the flags, music, marchers and beauty pageants, family, food? The commemoration of the begin-
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Old Kent Bank for printing of this Trail Tales.

... Chamber of Commerce for not charging for use of copy machine.

... plus...
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people to serve on the Program committee...
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( ) Genealogical Society ( ) Other work I'd be willing to do

Dues: 8.00 per couple 5.00 per individual
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.send to: Brighton Historical Society P.O. Box 481
Brighton, MI 48116
HISTORY NOTES - MEMORIAL DAY IN BRIGHTON

THE DATE: May 30, 1884 - THE PLACE: the Brighton Village Cemetery alive with the flutter of small American flags placed at each veteran's grave. THE PEOPLE: school children standing quietly, dressed in their finest; soldiers and veterans; hats in hand, heads bowed; and other residents of the area, all in reverent attention as the newly formed Samuel B. Appleton Post #179 of the Grand Army of the Republic conducts memorial services for their comrades who have fallen in battle during the Civil War.

Althea's it almost two decades since that deadly event most of those in attendance re-member or are aware of the missing family members. Every one has been planning for days to be involved in some manner in this most sacred of our national holidays.

All have just come from the street in front of the town hall where the children, soldiers and veterans marched from the school to the music of the local band playing patriotic airs. Several of the local dignitaries had publicly expressed their hope that war again would brother fight brother. A reading of the Gettysburg Address was followed by more music and the march to the graveyard by the mill pond. Here a prayer for peace was said, a rifle volley fired and the children placed flowers on each soldier's grave.

Decoration Day originated in 1866, under an order issued by General John A. Logan, Commander in Chief of the G.A.R., to decorate the soldiers' graves and hold memorial services. Since that time that custom has been extended to include graves of all soldiers, and also the graves of relatives and friends. It has become a day of personal and family commemoration.

With the passage of time, members of the G.A.R. Post No. 179 found it difficult to conduct these memorial services. The Jesse B. Cooley Post No. 235 (chartered in 1920) of the American Legion proudly accepted the responsibility to continue the tradition of a memorial service which now includes those who have fallen in succeeding conflicts.

THE DATE: May 30, 1886 - THE PLACE: the Brighton Village Cemetery. THE PEOPLE: Again this parade, the music, the children, the veterans (members of the American Legion, Post #235, the Veterans of Foreign Wars Post #4357 and the Vietnam Veterans of America Chapter #110 of Livingston County), the flags, the grateful people, the memories.

The featured speaker of this day will be Robert Scranton, a WW II veteran and former prisoner of war. The parade will begin at the High School at 3:00 a.m., marching east on Main Street, to the Mill Pond Memorial. This year floats in the theme of showing honor to the Veteran, and political candidates for public office will be included. Those interested in participating should contact Harry Jenson, 229-3900. (Condensed and edited from "Chase's Annual Events, 1986," "Anviersaries and Holidays" and Harry Jenson of the American Legion Post #229. Editor, M. Bair)

BRIGHTON AREA HISTORICAL SOCIETY
P.O. Box 481
Brighton, MI. 48116

PRINTED: OCTOBER 1985

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