"HOLIDAY GREETINGS" FROM THE BRIGHTON ARGUS, 1898

MORE FROM A BOOK OF POEMS BY FRED A. BUSH

Caleb K. Collett
Roofing, etc.

If you want a roof that's lasting
And a roof that's water tight,
C. K. COLLETT
Surely you
With a roof that is all right.

In steel or iron or galvanized,
In copper or in tin,
He'll put a roof on your buildings
So that water can't get in.

And paint it with steel roofing paint
That lasts until it's burned.
He does all kinds of wood work
In fancy scroll or turned.

Located on Grand River Street,
You will find his place with ease.
And he will give your work attention
And guarantee to please.

C. H. Williams
Jeweler & Optician

If there's any piece of jewelry
That you would like to buy,
Or up-to-date engraving,
There's one place you should try.

For C. H. Williams does it right,
In his Grand River store;
He'll make you what you're wishing
If you'll look his factory over.

He is a good watch maker,
And fixes watch or clock.
And fits your eyes with glasses,
At prices down to rock.

Just go and visit Williams
For anything in his line,
And you will have your work done
In a style that's genuine.

BRIGHTON AREA HISTORICAL SOCIETY
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229-6005

DATES TO REMEMBER

FEB. 6, 7 P.M. LIVINGSTON COUNTY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY, LDS CHURCH. 1001 W. GRAND RIVER, HOWELL. "LET'S CHECK THE INTERNET"
12, 3-5 P.M., 3RD FLOOR, 1-5 P.M. GENEALOGICAL LIBRARY.
18, 1-5 P.M. WORK IN ARCHIVES. COME.
24, 7:30 P.M. BOARD MEETING.
27, 7:30 P.M. HISTORY BOOK COMMITTEE.
MAR 5, 7 P.M. GENERAL MEETING AND COURT HOUSE TOUR.
6, 7 P.M. LEGS. TOWN COUNCIL MEETING.
7, 7 P.M. LEGS. TOWN COUNCIL MEETING.
9, 7 P.M. LEGS. TOWN COUNCIL MEETING.
16, 7 P.M. LEGS. TOWN COUNCIL MEETING.

LIVINGSTON COUNTY COURTHOUSE TOUR
MONDAY, MARCH 3, 7:30 P.M.

HOLDING THE FIRST TERM OF COURT IN THE NEW COURTHOUSE IN THE FALL OF 1885, IS REGARDED AS A STEP IN THE FIRM ESTABLISHMENT OF HOWELL (LIVINGSTON CENTER) AS THE COUNTY SEAT (INSTEAD OF ORE CREEK [BRIGHTON]). THE ARRIVAL AND SETTING OF THE FIRST ATTORNEY IN THE COUNTY ALSO CONFIRMED HOWELL'S CLAIM.

WITH INCREASING DIFFICULTY AND INCONVENIENCE THE COUNTY SUPERVISORS MET IN TEMPORARY QUARTERS FOR THE NEXT 12 YEARS. ELECTIONS TO RAISE TAXES TO CONSTRUCT A COUNTY BUILDING WERE REGULARLY DEFEATED BY THE BRIGHTON AREA VOTERS. THIS FIRST COURTHOUSE WAS REPLACED WITH THE RICHARDSONIAN ROMANESQUE STRUCTURE IN 1889 WHICH STILL STANDS. AGAIN IT WAS SEVERAL YEARS BEFORE THE VOTERS IN THE EASTERN PART OF THE COUNTY WERE DEFEATED IN THE BALLOTING FOR IT TO BE BUILT IN HOWELL.

IT WAS 1975 WHEN CONSIDERATION WAS GIVEN TO POSSIBLE PRESERVATION/CONSERVATION OF THE POORLY MAINTAINED COURTHOUSE.

THIS TIME THE REFERENDUM ON THE FIRST BALLOT; ADMITTEDLY BY THE NARROW LIFE OF MARGINS, 194 VOTES THE END RESULTS OF THE RESTORATION ARE SPECTACULAR, INTERIOR AND EXTERIOR.

THE GUIDED TOUR, OPEN TO THE PUBLIC, WILL CONFIRM THE PRIDE ONE FEELS IN THE CONTINUED EXISTENCE OF THE BUILDING. THIS TIME THE PRESERVATIONISTS WON AND HAVE BEEN VINDICATED.

NEED A RIDE? 810/229-5402 MARIEANNA.
1996 MEMBERSHIPS 1997

PATRON: Enr & Dorothy Bandhu, Bob & Tillie Bitten, Mark & Charlotte Goodin, Val & Kathy Jacoby (FL), Whitney & June Kimmel, Dennis & Maria Littleworth, Doug & Carol Reagor, Bob & Ruth Watson (Rowell).

COUPLES/INDIVIDUALS: Bob & Diane Assemacher, Bert & Mariaeanna Bair, David Barton, Jeff & Diana Barton, Leon & Marilyn Bonner (Nehvl), Marilyn Campbell (IN), Lois Clark (Midland), Bill & Marianne Comiskey, Joe & Irene Ellis, Dorothy Hartman, Bob & Betty Herbst, Merill & Ruth Herbst, Jeanette Johnson, Bob & Shirley Knight (98), Jack & Jeanette Linahan, Rudy & Doreen Meffert, James & Judy Murray (Dexter), Doris Priesskorn, Dan & Emmejean Schmidt, Doris Mary Stier (Grand Rapids), Alice Sprague (FL), Margaret Squire (98), Arloa Washburn, Pat & Marge White (98), Don & Alice Wyland.

Records for 1996 are being compiled for filing. As a part of the history of this organization the membership list is included. Your membership is necessary for the Society to continue its preservation and restoration projects. It is hoped you can be counted on. The membership form on page 5 can be used.

To be financially responsible to those who are supporting members is necessary to review the addresses to which trail tales is sent. Consideration will have to be given to removing the label if the membership date on your label isn’t 97 or higher. PRINTING AND MAILING CHARGES (over $200 per month) force this unpleasant action.

Your support and encouragement is sincerely appreciated by the nine board members and the several project chairs. They need to know others also agree with the Society purposes and goals.

THANKS THANKS THANKS
Bert Bair, Norm Catell, Joanne Ceru and June Kimmel for preparing the January issue of Trail Tales for mailing.
Heartland House, Naught ‘n Nice, Wood ‘N Things, Nostalgia Antiques at the Book Nook for stocking several fund raising items. (See Financial Resources.)

PRESERVATION AND RESTORATION
ARCHIVES: Each 3rd Tuesday, 1-3 p.m., at the Old Town Hall. Sure can use help in identifying pictures, sites, dates, etc. A copy machine, legal size filing cabinet.php, etc., etc., etc., etc., etc. A big help. And so would warm bodies. Not a good date for you? Call 229-6402; a date will be scheduled.

HISTORY BOOK: Carol McMacken, 231-2957, thanks those who have already sent in material (pictures, stories, abstracts, etc., etc.) for possible use in the area history book. This committee meets the 4th Thursday, 7:30, call Carol to let her know of your interest. The more items from which to choose the more complete the book will be. Don’t be left out.

HOMEBUILDERS ASSOCIATION: this year will see completion of the renovation of 182 E. Grand River, the Association’s office. The new floor is ready for laying. When warm weather arrives, work on the exterior will be finished. Donations to continue the renovation and some are income tax deductible.

LYONS SCHOOL: Not forgotten—warmer weather will mean more accomplished.

ORAL HISTORY: It seems that suddenly the long time residents of the area are gone—too with older relatives. Get their stories on tape before it’s too late. How to begin? Call 229-6402 and get the information you need.

NEEDED NEEDED NEEDED
...A TREASURER, NEWSLETTER CHAIR, FUND RAISING CHAIR, THE JANUARY ISSUE SOMEWHAT DETAILED THE RESPONSIBILITIES. A SPAGHETTI SUPPER HELPERS, HOME TOWN HELPERS, SALES CHAIR (DISTRIBUTE SALES ITEMS, KEEP TRACK OF STOCK, ETC.), ART FAIR, RAFFLES, ETC. CONTACT ANY BOARD MEMBER OR MARIE ANNA BAIN, 229-6402.

FINANCIAL RESOURCES
TILES: 6”x6” white ceramic tiles, with local historical scenes; can be purchased at Nostalgia Antiques, 116 W. Main, $4.00 or 3 for $12.00. Prop. Clarence Hines has tiles from 1986 in stock. The 1996 tile, see right, is also available.


POST CARDS: at the Book Nook, 322 W. Main, Sharon Steinhauer, Prop. SIGNATURES, to be embroidered on the signature built for the archives, $10.00;

1918- RIALTO THEATER - 1937
BRIGHTON, MICHIGAN
1996
BRIGHTON AREA HISTORICAL SOCIETY

IN MEMORIAM
SINCERE SYMPATHIES OF THE SOCIETY ARE EXTENDED TO THE FAMILIES OF
ESTHER FITZPATRICK
LEOTA MASON
ESLIE FEE WEST
ALL WERE TEACHERS IN THE AREA AT ONE TIME

THE RIALTO THEATER, BUILT IN 1918 ON WEST MAIN STREET ACROSS FROM THE MILL POND, WAS THE FIRST MOVIE HOUSE BUILT ESPECIALLY FOR THAT PURPOSE IN BRIGHTON. THE SILENT MOVIES WERE ACCOMPANIED BY A PLAYER PIANO AND OFTEN WITH LOCAL PIANISTS. IT WAS ALSO THE SITE FOR HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION EXHIBITIONS, LOCAL STAGE PRODUCTIONS (INCLUDING MINSTREL PLAYS), AND MUSICAL PRODUCTIONS SUCH AS THE BRIGHTON CONCERT BAND. IN 1937 THE RIALTO WAS REMODELED FOR USE AS A BOWLING ALLEY. IT WAS AFTER WWII THAT THE BUILDING WAS DEMOLISHED TO MAKE WAY FOR A PARKING LOT.
1996 MEMBERSHIPS 1997

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COUPLES/INDIVID: Bob & Diane Asenmacher, Bert & Marieanna Bair, David Barton, Jeff & Diana Barton, Leon & Marilyn Bonner (Nthvy.), Marilyn Campbell (IN), Lois Clark (Midland), Bill & Marianne Comisky, Joe & Irene Ellis, Dorothy Hartman, Bob & Betty Herbst, Merill & Ruth Herbst, Jeanette Johnson, Bob & Shirley Knight (GB), Jack & Jeannette Linahan, Rudy & Deonne Mefferd, James & Judy Murray (Decker), Dori Priesskorn, Dan & Emme Jean Schmidt, Doris Mary Stier (Grand Rapids), Alice Sprague (FL), Margaret Squire (GB), Arloa Washburn, Pat & Marge White (GB), Don & Alice Wyland.

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To be financially responsible to those who are supporting members it is necessary to review the addresses to which the mail will be sent. Consideration will have to be given to removing the label if the membership date on your label is less than 6 months old. Printing and mailing charges are approximately $25.00 per month. Force this unpleasant action.

Your support and encouragement is sincerely appreciated by the nine board members and the several project chairs. They need to know others also agree with the society purposes and goals.

THANKS THANKS THANKS

...Bert Bair, Norm Catwell, Joanne Cerutti and June Kimble for preparing the January issue of Trail Tales for mailing.

...Heartland House, Naugty 'n Nice, Wood 'n Things, Nostalgia Antiques and the Book Nook for stocking several fund raising items. (See Financial Resources.)

APR. 6. 10:45 p.m. Genealogy and History Book Reading Center, 355 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing 517/352-0123.

ESTHER FITZPATRICK
LEOTA MASON
ELSIE FEE WEST

All teachers were in the area at one time

BRIGHTON AREA HISTORICAL SOCIETY MEMBERSHIP FORM

NAME ____________________________________________ PHONE ____________________________

DUES: $25. Patron $25. Business/Professional
$75. Couple $7. Individual Brighten Area Historical Society
P.O. Box 481, Brighton, MI 48116-0481

FINANCIAL RESOURCES

TILES: 6"x6" white ceramic tiles with local historical scenes. Can be purchased at Nostalgia Antiques, 116 W. Main. $8.00 or 2 for $12. Prop. Clarence Hines has tiles from 1986 in stock. The 1996 tile, see right, is also available.

COVERLETS: woven cotton with nine local historical sites, are stocked at Naughty 'n Nice, 412 W. Main. Wood 'n Things 200 Byrne Street and Heartland House, 124 W. Main. $49.00.

POST CARDS: at the Book Nook, 322 W. Main. Sharron Steinhauer, Prop. Signature: to be embroidered on the signature built for the archives. $10.00;

NEEDLEPOINT KITS: the Old Town Hall: 10"x14" pictures of the mill stream dam. Call 229-6402.
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In his Grand River store,
He'll make you what you're wishing.
If you'll look his factory over.

He is a good watch maker,
And fixes watch or clock,
And fits your eyes with glasses,
At prices down to rock.

Just go and visit Williams
For anything in his line,
And you will have your work done
In a style that's genuine.

P.O. Box 481
Brighton, MI 48116
Vol XVI No. 2
February, 1997

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DATES TO REMEMBER
Feb. 6, 7 P.M. Livingston County Genealogical Society, LDS Church, 1041 W. Grand River, Howell. "Let's Check the Internet." 12, 5-8 P.M. & Feb. 1-5 P.M. Genealogical help at the Library.
16, 1-5 P.M. Work in Archives. Come.
24, 7:30 P.M. Board Meeting.
27, 7:30 P.M. History Book committee.
Mar 3, 7 P.M. General Meeting and Courthouse tour.
6, 7 P.M. LEGS, Tour County Register of Deeds Office, "Available Records and How to Use," 227-1760.
16, Green Oak Township Historical Society will tour Michigan Historical Center, Lansing. Join them, 229-6402 or 486-9115.

"Old Town Hall," 202 W. Main, Welcome.
"See item this page. Public Welcome.

Livingston County Courthouse Tour
Monday, March 3, 7:30 P.M.
Holding the first term of court in the new schoolhouse in the fall of 1852 is regarded as a step in the firm establishment of Howell (Livingston Center) as the county seat (instead of Ore Creek [Brighton]). The arrival and settling of the first attorney in the county also confirmed Howell's claim.

With increasing difficulty and inconvenience the county supervisors met in temporary quarters for the next 12 years. Elections to raise taxes to construct a county building were regularly defeated by the Brighton area voters. This first courthouse was replaced with the Richardsonian Romanesque structure in 1889 which still stands. Again it was several years before the voters in the eastern part of the county were defeated in the ballot for it to be built in Howell.

It was 1975 when consideration was given to possible preservation/conservation of the poorly maintained courthouse. This time the referendum won on the first ballot; admittedly by the barest of margins, 142 votes. The end results of the restoration are spectacular, interior and exterior.

The guided tour, open to the public, will confirm the pride one feels in the continued existence of the building. This time the preservationists won and have been vindicated.

Need a ride? 810/229-6402 Mariana.