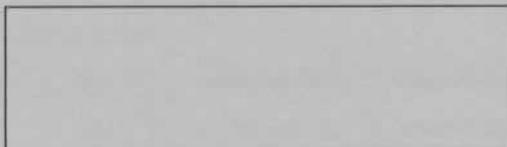


**RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED**



## Brighton's Main Four Corners (Part 5)

The Weiss Barbecue, which began business about 1927 at the southwest corner of E. Grand River and West Main, began an extensive remodeling campaign in 1930 to give better cafeteria service. Weiss Barbecue enjoyed a fine reputation for its food. Interviews reveal that this was the place to go following not only high school football games, but also for avid alumni of the University of Michigan. "They had the best."

"Detroit Creamery Velvet Brand, 39¢ qt, 20¢ pt. Made Fresh Daily" announced on a large sign on the side of the building. The on-site bakery undoubtedly sent an appetizing and inviting aroma to the public.

A photo (circa 1937) of the corner indicates C.F. Weiss Barbecue is also dispensing sodas and drugs. In photos prior to the paving of Grand River in 1924, hitching rails are present.

At present, research does not date when or how the building came down. However, by 1943, the site was a vacant lot. It was deemed proper to "... erect an Honor Roll for the men and women serving in the Armed Forces" from the Brighton area. This was built of seven 4x8 foot Masonite panels, painted white, on which the names were placed. By the end of WW II, only a small area remained blank. This constant reminder generated a continual appreciation of the upheaval all endured in so very many forms.

Following the war, owner of the corner site, Bob Leland, used the lot as a parking lot. Within a few years he built and owned a lunchroom on the corner - The Brightest Spot in Brighton. From 1958 - 1960, it was Itsell's Restaurant. The Sportsman's Grill was in business there from 1961 - 1964. They opened at 6:00 am, seven days a week.

In 1965, Howell Town & Country Real Estate Coldwell Banker moved in. Major changes were made in 1997 when a two-story

addition arose on the small parking site south of the building, which included living quarters on the second floor. The portion on the corner was also rebuilt. Howell Coldwell Banker is on that site in 2010.

*Compiled by Marieanna Bair from references in the BAHS Historic Resource Survey file. To compile a more complete history of this site, and others, our readers are urged to donate, or allow the copying of, articles, photos, clippings and oral histories of memories of this site and others. Contact the BAHS or Marieanna Bair, 810/229-6402.*



Judith Coebly, Gary Reutter displaying Civil War Guns and Swords