



OLD VILLAGE CEMETERY: RESPECT CONTINUES TO GROW

The Headstone Restoration/Preservation Team of the Brighton Area Historical Society has completed their 7th year in bringing broken and desecrated headstones back to their original form of honor and memory. The citizens of Brighton and the family members of our founders can smile with pride knowing this restoration program has surpassed the 75% completion stage. Family memorial markers across Old Village Cemetery continue to rise again from the shattered strewn pieces on the ground as the volunteer army has restored another (12) this summer. A grand total of (160) marble and granite memorials can now cast a shadow of the rising and setting sun over their grave sites.

Volunteer time for repairing headstones for the seven years is near 2800 hours. If a very minimal labor repair rate of \$40/hour is used for these skilled workers, then a low end savings would be \$112,000.

The volunteers encourage the Brighton City Council and community to pay their respects at Brighton's oldest cemetery. The first burial was 1838 for Truman Worden. His headstone can be found in the north east section not far from the Diary Queen.

Don't forget Veterans' Day is November 11. There are (45) Civil War and (2) WWII veterans buried in the Old Village Cemetery. Their grave sites are easily found by locating the US flag mounted on top of a blue 12" tall staff proudly displaying the attached military medallion.

Thank you to all veterans for their service!

Jim Vichich — 810.250.7276
President of BAHS
jvichich@comcast.net

November 9: Veterans' Day Observed in Brighton

11:00—Parade on Main Street
11:15—11:40: Veterans Program at Veterans' Memorial & new AMPitheatre
11:40—12:10: Old Village Cemetery Memorial Program for Brighton's Civil War soldier Captain Erastus Pratt. Rededication of restored Capt. Pratt family headstone monument by the Headstone Preservation Team of the Brighton Area Historical Society. Solemn Program by the Sons of Union Veterans Camp 120.

CoBACH Hours

Sunday—Friday 5—8pm
Saturday 11am—5pm
Closed Monday

CoBACH Display

FREE EXHIBITS

November
"WW1— Letters Home"

MEMBERSHIP DRIVE BEGINS THIS MONTH

See the insert
in this issue

CHECK OUT FACEBOOK

Daily postings regarding
Brighton History.

**Brighton Area Historical
Society**

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Thanks and Recognition

MEMBERSHIPS:

IND/FAMILY: Beverly LaBelle

PATRON: Nick Deychakiwsky*, Debra Ball Johnson

LIFE: David & Marilyn Pettigrove

*Welcome new member: Nick Deychakiwsky

Membership Drive for 2020 begins this month. Please consider renewing your membership or becoming a new member of the Society. Membership dues contribute to the viability of the Society.

THANKS:

- City of Brighton and Val & Kathy Jacoby for their generous 2019 Platinum Sponsorships.
- Marieanna Bair, Joe Collins, Jerry Damon, Mindy Kinsey, Norma Pless, Lynn Strong, Peggy Van Sickle and Jim Vichich who prepared the October issue of Trail Tales for mailing.
- Al & Karen Wirth's donation of several old Brighton signs.
- Stephanie Popoff's donation of Lyon school image on aluminum.

- Jerry & Carole Damon, Nancy Fredenburg, Mindy Kinsey, Bruce Ritter and Lynn Strong who gathered the materials and setup the Brighton High School Alumni display at CoBACH.
- Members of the Old Village Cemetery Headstone Preservation Team on assembling restored monuments during the October workday: Jerry Brock, Joe Collins, Jerry Damon, Tony Ferreyra, Dave Fuller, Mike Johnson, Bob Knight, Bob Pettengill, Dave Pettigrove, John Rawcliffe, Dave Rebigier, Pat Smith, Jim Vichich and Ed Vitez.
- Mira Stefaniuk for her wonderful presentation on Camp DiBrova that was held at the CoBACH Center on September 29th.

Sympathies from the Brighton Area Historical Society to the family of

Jenny Fredenburg

Jenny was a life-long resident of Brighton and a long-time volunteer for the Society.

Dates to Remember

CoBACH Center: FREE EXHIBITS — (See Page 1 for Hours).

November 1-23: "WW1—Letters Home" focuses on our nation's heroes who sent letters back to mom and dad from the war zones. A perfect Veterans' Day exhibit to recall the sacrifices our veterans made and the experiences shared in their letters.

November 7,14,21; 9am—11:59am: Visit the One-room Schoolhouse for a free tour. Bring a family photo to be scanned from your past! Memories must be preserved. Only you can help! **CLOSED Thanksgiving, November 28.**

November 9—Veterans' Day observed in Brighton: See Page 1 for details on timing and program.

November 17: Lyon Schoolhouse, 1—4pm; Annual Board Meeting with election of officers and Board of Directors for 2020. Also last board meeting for 2019.

Potluck from 1—2pm

Business Meeting at 2:15-4pm

December 8: Lyon Schoolhouse; Sunday 1—4PM — FREE EVENT

Santa and Mrs. Claus visit Lyon Schoolhouse to greet the children for 2019 Christmas. The school will be decorated for the Christmas holidays as you would see in the early 1900s. Get your free family photos with Santa and join the elves as they show the children how to make their special Christmas tree ornament. Parents should help children make a wish list to present to Santa. Handicap accessible. Share your experience with grandma and grandpa also!

Life — Business — Professional Members

Life Members:

Tom Archer — John & Deb Armstrong — Paul & Kathryn Bair (Allen) — Marieanna Bair — Shirley Barton — Charles & Janice Beach Donald & Shari Black (N.J.) — Marilyn Campbell (IN) — John & Jenny Conely — Bonnie Corrigan — Timothy & Giannine Corrigan Jerry & Carole Damon — Joan Engel — Nancy Fredenburg — Stephen & Marilyn Harrington — William & Lenore Harris — Betsy & Bob Herbst Dr. John & Barbara Jacoby (MN) — Kate Lawrence — Seth & Shannon Lemke (TX) — Ray & Bessie Maltby — Carol McMacken Jere & Kay Michaels — James & Janis Miller — Greg & Pamela Park (OH) — John G. Park & Madeline Kingston-Park — Richard Park (IL) David & Marilyn Pettigrove — Bob & Donna Phillips — Joyce Powers — Douglas & Carole Rearick — Tom & Bonnie Riutta — Robert & Pauline Schaffer Bruce & Betty Schuman — Anne Stratigos — Lynn Brady Strong — Jim & Vicki Vichich — Linda (Skeman) Wintermute

Business /Professional Members: (** Indicates Life Members)

Advance Craft Builders (2019) — Archer Huntley Financial Services ** — Brighton Area Women's History Roll of Honor** Brighton District Library ** — Brighton Veterans Memorial Comm.** — Buckley-Jolley Real Estate Team (2019) — Clark Eye Center (2019) Davis Multimedia, Inc. (2019) — Golfview Painting (2019) — Kimble Appraisal Group, Inc.** — Lindhout Associates** — Lawrence Autobody ** Masonic Lodge No. 247 ** — Neighbors Magazine (2019) — Patrick Financial Group, LLC ** Power House Electric, Inc. (2019) — Preview Properties (2019) — Promess, Inc.** — Refrigeration Research ** — Tee-Bone'z Tavern (2019) Weld Mold Company (2019)

2019 Sponsorships

Platinum Level: City of Brighton, Val & Kathy Jacoby

Bronze Level: Carolina DeLuca, Frank & Jo (DeLuca) Del Vero, Bob Hill

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 mail to the address provided on the form below.

Mail check or money order payable to: Brighton Area Historical Society P. O. Box 481 Brighton, MI 48116-0481		Name: _____	Phone: () _____
		Address: _____	
		City: _____	State: _____ Zip Code: _____
		E-Mail: _____	

Membership Plan:		Additional Donation to—Check One:		Amount of Donation:	
<input type="checkbox"/> New	<input type="checkbox"/> \$2 Student	<input type="checkbox"/> Larry Lawrence Scholarship Fund	<input type="checkbox"/> Friend of Lyon School	<input type="checkbox"/> \$10	<input type="checkbox"/> \$100
<input type="checkbox"/> Renew	<input type="checkbox"/> \$15 Individual	<input type="checkbox"/> \$50 Patron	<input type="checkbox"/> BAHS CoBACH Events	<input type="checkbox"/> \$25	<input type="checkbox"/> \$250
	<input type="checkbox"/> \$25 Family	<input type="checkbox"/> \$60 Business/Professional	<input type="checkbox"/> Old Village Cemetery Fund	<input type="checkbox"/> \$50	<input type="checkbox"/> Other \$ _____
	<input type="checkbox"/> \$500 Life				

The Area Historical Society is a 501(c)(3) Non-Profit Organization . All donations are tax deductible.

BAHS Sponsorship Program

The BAHS sponsorship program has the following levels with the associated annual funding gifts. Sponsors will receive recognition through the Trail Tails newsletter and through sponsorship placards located at the City of Brighton Arts, Culture and History (CoBACH) Center (aka Old Town Hall) and the Lyon One-room Schoolhouse.

Annual Sponsor levels are:

Platinum — \$1,000+; Gold — \$500+; Silver — \$250+; Bronze — \$100+

If you would like to become a sponsor or have a question, please contact:

Jim Vichich, President
Brighton Area Historical Society
810-250-7276 or jvichich@comcast.net

BAHS Leadership 2019

President Jim Vichich	Directors Joe Collins
Vice President Marieanna Bair	Nancy Fredenburg
Secretary Carole Damon	Mindy Kinsey
Treasurer & Trail Tales Editor Jerry Damon	John Rawcliffe
Webmaster Debbie Armstrong	Thomas Reinke
	Lynn Strong
	Peggy Van Sickle
	Education Liaison Judith Coebly

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

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.

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



Jesse Cooley

“Letters Home as published in the Brighton Argus, August 7, 1918”



In 1918, World War I ended on the 11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th month. Hence, November 11th became “Armistice Day” or as we call it now, “Veterans’ Day”, to honor all that lost their lives supporting freedom. Like all cities across the United States, Brighton sent their “boys” off to fight. The Brighton Argus published “Letters Home” every week from the men in the service. Jesse Cooley was one such man, his letter home to Frances Conley, was published August 7, 1918.

“My own dear mother”

How any times I have thought of you today, and I suppose you are wondering what your boy is doing. Well I am not doing much today for a wonder. Going to a ballgame this afternoon if I can rake up ambition enough. Mother, I can’t say that I was ever very ambitious but I guess I have lost what I had. I feel old now-a-days. Guess I have carried too many packs on my back. Getting so I hate the sight of that pack. If it were not for you dear Mother, I guess I would go mad, but you are all the world to me. I got your letter and it was a good one. In fact I hear from you folks 2 or 3 times a week. You see I have it on the rest of you for I can write as much as I like and it don’t cost me a cent. It is often very difficult, however, to get paper.

How I would like to celebrate in Brighton today but perhaps I can next year. When you write, tell me what is going on around home. Suppose it was some fourth.

I am feeling bum lately. A month in the front lines was too much for me I guess. Seems good not to have shrapnel for breakfast, but I can hear the shells alright from here. It is Fourth of July all the time here. Mother—never fear for your boy Jesse—he is getting 3 squares a day and carries out his orders. You see this war perhaps different than it is. Our company has been very lucky. Hope it will continue, but our time may come yet.

The weather is not so warm here as it is in the states at this time of year. It gets pretty chilly before morning in the trenches. We all have new overcoats.

The 1st day of August, I will have had 6 months service in France. Every 6 months we get a gold stripe on our sleeve. Don’t look for me for a long time Mother, although I would love to see you more than I can tell. My letter is crowding paper, so will say goodbye.

From your loving son

Jesse Cooley 126th Infantry Co. E. APO”

Jesse was killed August 2, one day after receiving his 6 month service gold bar and 5 days before his letter was published in the Argus. Jesse was the first local man to die in service in WWI, he was just 22 years of age. American Legion Post #235 was renamed in honor of Jesse B. Cooley.

(Submitted by Mindy Kinsey from information from the Brighton Argus and Honor Roll of WWI.)