

Trail Tales

Volume XL No. 2 February 2021







D. Pettigrove, P. Smith, B. Knight

A Call for Volunteers!

All able body men and women with available time are encouraged to roll up their sleeves and volunteer for the 2021 Headstone Restoration Program at Brighton's Old Village Cemetery located adjacent to the Millpond. This is the eighth year that the Brighton Area Historical Society has led this intensive restoration effort to reassemble damaged and broken headstones for Brighton's earliest inhabitants. The first death in the young town was Truman Worden in 1838. His headstone was unearthed and restored in 2012.

Through seven years of tedious work (160) broken headstones have been reassembled and are now standing tall. Previously pieces were strewn about and found beneath the sod. Another (240) plus leaning headstones were removed and reinstalled vertically. There are (23) trained restoration team members. Training also happens at each work session, thus new volunteers learn the needed methods with on-the-job training. Typically 12-16 volunteers are available for each date. Workers have great pride in the quality of their talents. Most of the workers are retired from varied careers. We have a great time, laugh, enjoy each others assistance, and feel awesome at the end of the day.

Work sessions are scheduled for the fourth Monday of the month tentatively from June through October. The work times are 9am—2pm with an hour break for lunch around 11:30. Completed Covid vaccination with signed vaccination cards will be required to participate.

If you are interested in helping or in making a donation for this cause, call me or check the information provided on Page 3 of this newsletter. The BAHS is a 501(c)(3) non-profit.

Jim Vichich — 810.250.7276 BAHS President info@BrightonAreaHistorical.com

COBACH CLOSED

Due to increased COVID numbers, CoBACH is closed until further notice.
Check our Facebook Page for Reopening.

Archiving at Lyon School on Buno Road is CLOSED

Check our Facebook
Page for the Opening of
Lyon School.

CHECK OUT FACEBOOK

Frequent postings regarding Brighton History.

Brighton Area Historical Society

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

DATES TO REMEMBER	2
Thanks and Recognition	2
SPONSORSHIP FORM	3
BAHS LEADERSHIP	3
CONTACT BAHS	3
HISTORICAL PERSPECTIVE	4

Thanks and Recognition

MEMBERSHIPS: (Reflect dues paid for year 2021 unless otherwise noted.)

IND/FAMILY: Brad Beal (2022), Tim Bennett, Pat Burgess, Joe & Bernice Collins, Gene & Judith Dahlin, William & Jacqueline Damm, Patricia Franklin, Dave & Jacque Fuller, Bob Hill, Richard Hyne, Cheryl Krueger, Charlene & Dave Kull, Dennis & Maria Littleworth, Patti Lanning Middleton (2022), Ernie & Mary Lou Nagy, Peggy Van Sickle, Rick & Sara Thomas*, Robert Wilkinson

PATRON: Robert Johnson, Serra Brighton Automotive, LLC*

BUS/PROF: Advance Craft Home Builders

*Welcome New Members: Serra Brighton Automotive, LLC, Rick & Sara Thomas

Renewing and new memberships keep the Society vital. Please see the form on Page 3 if you would like to join, or renew your dues.

THANKS:

- All new and existing members that have paid dues for 2021. Your memberships and donations show that you value our local history and appreciate the efforts of the BAHS to share and preserve Brighton's story.
- Gerald & Sharron Cantarini for their donation to Old Village Ceme-
- Patricia Franklin and Bob Hill for their donations to Friend of Lvon School along with their dues.

- Robert Johnson for his donation to the Larry Lawrence Scholarship Fund, Friend of Lyon School, CoBACH Events and Old Village Cemetery along with his dues.
- Advance Craft Home Builders and Peggy Van Sickle for their donations to the Larry Lawrence Scholarship Fund along with their
- William & Jacqueline Damm and Patti Lanning Middleton for their donations to Old Village Cemetery along with their dues.
- Jerry & Carole Damon and Jim Vichich for the preparation and mailing of the January Trail Tales newsletter.

The Brighton Area Historical Society extends its sympathy to the family of

Clark Millar

Clark was a long-time member of the Society. He and his wife, Lin were constant volunteers at many of our activities.

If you would like a written receipt for a donation you made to the Society in 2020, please let us know.

Contact: Jerry Damon, Treasurer, 248-345-4080.

Dates to Remember

COBACH Operations: The City of Brighton Arts, Culture and History Center has masks and social distancing are required for the safety of all. been forced to close again due to the large increase of Covid spread . We anticipate a reopening in early summer.

Lyon Schoolhouse: Lyon School is closed for archive work due to the pandemic spread. Follow the BAHS Facebook page for updated opening information.

BAHS Annual Membership & Elections Meeting: Since the Annual Membership and Elections Meeting was cancelled in November, the new planned meeting with elections will be Wednesday, February 24, 2021. The anticipated site is the Lyon Schoolhouse. This is also the first board meeting of the year, since the January board meeting was cancelled due to health concerns. Face

Spring & Summer programming dates are being set in anticipation of the successful upcoming Covid Vaccination Program. Please set your calendars for these tentative dates.

May 1, Saturday, 9am—12nn: Old Village Cemetery Spring Clean-up.

May 31, Monday, 11am-12:15pm, Downtown Brighton Memorial Day Program at the Veterans' Memorial at the Millpond and Old Village Cemetery.

June—October Headstone Restoration Days at Old Village Cemetery always on the 4th Monday of the month from 9am-2pm. June 28, July 26, August 23, September 27, October 25.

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 — Edgar L Cord, Ph.D. — Bonnie Corrigan — Timothy & Giannine Corrigan Jerry & Carole Damon — Bill & Margaret Dixon — Joan Engel — Nancy Fredenburg — Stephen & Marilyn Harrington — William & Lenore Harris Betsy & Bob Herbst — Dr. John & Barbara Jacoby (MN) — Val & Kathy Jacoby (FL) — Kate Lawrence — Seth & Shannon Lemke (TX) Ray & Bessie Maltby — Carol McMacken — Jere & Kay Michaels — James & Janis Miller — Randy & Linda Veno Needham — 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 (2021) — Archer Huntley Financial Services ** — Brighton Area Women's History Roll of Honor** — Brighton District Library ** Brighton Lions Club (2020) — Brighton Veterans Memorial Comm.** — Buckley-Jolley Group ** — Clark/Tait Eye Center (2020) Davis Multimedia, Inc. (2020) — Golfview Painting (2021) — Kimble Appraisal Group, Inc. ** — Lindhout Associates ** — Lawrence Auto Body ** Make Believe Manor, LLC (2020) — Masonic Lodge No. 247 ** — Michigan Consulting & Environmental (2021) — Neighbors Magazine (2020) Patrick Financial Group, LLC ** — Power House Electric, Inc. (2021) — Preview Properties (2021) — Promess, Inc. ** — Refrigeration Research ** Tee-Bone'z Tavern (2020)

2021 Sponsorships

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: Address: City: State	Phone: () —							
\$25 Family \$500 L	siness/Professional BAHS CoBACH Events	p Fund Amount of Donation: \$10 \$100 \$25 \$250 \$50 Other \$							
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+; Gol	d — \$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 2020

President Directors

Jim Vichich Marieanna Bair—Emeritus

Vice President Joe Collins

Nancy Fredenburg — John Rawcliffe
Interim Thomas Reinke
Secretary Lynn Strong

Mindy Kinsey Peggy Van Sickle

Treasurer & Trail Tales Editor
Jerry Damon

Education Liaison
Judith Coebly

Webmaster

Debbie Armstrong

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.

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.

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

"Simpler Times"

of things that happened and subsequently did not happen in the Brighton area. Thanks to Mindy Kinsey for collecting these.

Brighton Argus, 1951. Headlines from that year included:

Social Security is now Available for Farmers. Who knew it took that long for them to obtain that.

Black Topping a Route from Brighton to the GM Proving Grounds became a big story in 1951. "Brighton was losing residents settling here, due to a decent route being built from Pleasant Valley Rd. to GMPG." Several routes were investigated with a final route being Dawson and Jacoby being black topped and improved with funds from Livingston County Road Commission, Brighton Township and General Motors.

GMPG adding 1,000 acres for Military Proving Grounds.

GMPG has 25-year Members. 12 men were given 25 years of service watches at GMPG. GMPG (who had been in area since 1924) were very involved in community. Their activities of social picnics, ball teams and Christmas parties were always published in paper. Their involvement in raising funds for community projects was also always published.

Parking Meters Pay for Street Repairs. Over \$1,500 produced from meters.

Brighton People Take 1st Prize at Farmers Week for sheep and eggs. Farming was still a factor.

Graham Hotel Robbed Again. Thief had dinner and then robbed cashier. "Two men take to chase and catch thief at theater next door."

Graham Hotel sold to Ann Arbor Men. Ralph Monk, head of corporation will be manager.

We thought it might be fun to look back at the headlines for 1951 Green Oak Farmers Ban Hunting on their farms. Brighton and Hartland followed suit. Finally Governor Williams urges legislature to ban rifles for deer hunting.

The following is a snapshot of "Simpler Times" in Brighton, per the Island Lake Area May Incorporate into Village. We know that did not happen.

> City Mill Pond Drained at Dam Crumbles. "Embankment lets go late Monday night." Mill owners, Eppinger Land Co., not interested in rebuilding. The City was to decide what to do.

> Supreme Court Upholds Andrus Conviction. "William and Dan Andrus may yet go to prison in brutal killing and robbery of 88 year old Frank Cline. "Peanut Cline, owner of Cline Clothing store was found bound and lying on floor. Living long enough to identify Dan." They received 13-15 year term.

> 80 Barracks Built for 80 Prisoners. This was on the ground of Brighton Recreation Area. They developed trails and buildings for the park.

> Sam Genn Killed in Fireworks Explosion on 4th of July. Fireworks he was lighting-off exploded at the Drive-in Theater.

> City of Brighton Water Well Desperately Low. New well had to be drilled.

> J. A. Brady Retires. Brady's Market closing. Inventory sale to ensue.

> Friday Night is 'Bargain Night' on Main Street. Special bargains from 6-8. 3rd week in July.

> Death Cheats Mrs. Sarah Hutchins from achieving goal of living to be 100 years.

> \$20,000 Trailer Park at Woodland Lake. Park at Pine Lodge Ranch to be a model park.

4H Club Plants 20,000 Trees in area with over 65 participants.