

# **Trail Tales**

Volume XL No. 4 April 2021



Thank you to these great volunteers that love Brighton and share its rich history!

The newly elected board of directors for 2021 are anxious to step out from behind the Covid restrictions that have held everyone captive for the past year. Summer is near and vaccinations are moving at a great speed. The society is ready to restart the normal summer historical programs. New CoBACH exhibits, Lyon Schoolhouse operations, headstone repairs at the Old Village Cemetery, archiving work and hopefully the reintroduction of the Brighton Victorian Silhouettes around the downtown are planned.

The City of Brighton Arts, Culture and History (CoBACH) Center is reopening Friday, April 9 with a soft reopening. Exhibits will be available on weekends: Friday 5—8pm, Saturday 11—2pm and Sunday 2—5pm. These reduced hours are due to limited availability of CoBACH operational volunteers who are completing their vaccinations. Regular CoBACH hours are anticipated to start on Tuesday, June 1. Regular CoBACH hours can be found on Page 2 of this newsletter. Volunteers and guests will be required to wear facial masks when entering the building. The protective sneeze Plexiglas shield that surrounds the entrance desk will remain in place minimally through the fall.

It is a great feeling to know that the return to normalcy is getting closer and those awesome summer Kiwanis concerts at the Millpond are just around the corner!

Jim Vichich — 810.250.7276 BAHS President jvichich@comcast.net

# Cobach Soft OPENING APRIL 9

Hours for this soft opening
will be
Friday 5—8pm
Saturday 11—2pm
Sunday 2—5pm
See Page 2 for additional
information on hours.

Archiving at Lyon School on Buno Road is CLOSED

Check Page 2 for our anticipated opening date.

## **CHECK OUT FACEBOOK**

Frequent postings regarding Brighton History.

Brighton Area Historical Society

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# Thanks and Recognition

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

IND/FAMILY: Jim Birney Family, Nancy Cardle, Peter Kujawa, Rosemarie Oldford, Tom Reinke, Shirley Warren

BUS/PROF: Livingston County Convention Visitors Bureau\*

\*Welcome New Member: Livingston County Convention Visitors Bureau

#### 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:**

- The sponsors, annual and life members including donors whose valued support provide financial resources for historical programs at the CoBACH Center, Old Village Cemetery and support for the operation of the Lyon Schoolhouse and its archives.
- Lynn Strong for her donations to the Larry Lawrence Scholarship Fund and CoBACH Events.

- Shirley Warren for her donation to the Society along with her dues.
- To our Life Members listed below for their continued support.
- Jerry & Carole Damon and Jim Vichich for the preparation and mailing of the March Trail Tales.

2021 Membership Drive: Congratulations to Ed Vitez who was the winner of our three BAHS history books. Thank you Ed for your continued support and recommending others to become part of BAHS.

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 Spring & Summer programming dates are being set in anticipaweekends only, Friday (5-8pm), Saturday (11-2pm) and Sunday (2-5pm) while volunteers complete their vaccinations. The following regular schedule is anticipated to start Tuesday, June 1. Tuesday—Friday 5-8 pm, Saturday 11-5 pm and Sunday 2-5pm.

Lyon Schoolhouse: Lyon School is anticipated to reopen for archiving Thursday, June 3 from 9-12nn. All senior volunteers will be vaccinated by that time. Any visitors must wear facial masks and observe social distancing.

History Center is reopening April 9. Hours will be shortened to tion 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—12nn, Downtown Brighton Memorial Day Program at the Millpond Veterans Memorial.

> 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

# 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 — Tony & Beth Ferreyra — 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 — Alice Wyland

**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 \*\* Livingston County Convention Visitors Bureau (2021) — Make Believe Manor, LLC (2020) — Masonic Lodge No. 247 \*\* Michigan Consulting & Environmental (2021) — Neighbors Magazine (2021) — 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: E-Mail:	Phone: ( ) — Zip Code:			
\$25 Family \$500 L	siness/Professional BAHS CoBACH Events	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 2021**

President Directors

Jim Vichich Marieanna Bair—Emeritus

Vice President

Nancy Fredenburg

Secretary

Joe Collins

John Rawcliffe

Thomas Reinke

Mindy Kinsey

Lynn Strong

Peggy Van Sickle

Treasurer & Trail Tales Editor

Jerry Damon Education Liaison
Webmaster Judith Coebly

**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**

#### **Uber Drug**

# "If you lived in the Brighton area in the 1950's, 60's or 70's, you visited this business."

One ounce of ice cream topped with hot fudge, marshmallow and chopped nuts was not the only "special" served at Uber's Drug in Brighton following World War II. Patrons were also assured of receiving a smile, a joke or friendly chatter from Chuck Uber who owned the downtown drug store for 24 years. Chuck passed away in July of 1992 at the age of 73.

Chuck Uber was born June 14, 1919 in Howell, the son of Paul and Bessie (Johnson) Uber. He married Margie Barr on August 8, 1968, in Brighton. He was a 1937 Howell High School graduate and a 1941 MSU graduate, earning a degree in Business Administration.

Uber opened the drug store at 300 Main Street in 1946, which was located next to the old Post Office near the dime store. Chuck and his staff served up 5-cent and 8-cent ice cream cones and the "Uber Special," a favorite among the town folks in 7cent and 14-cent sizes.

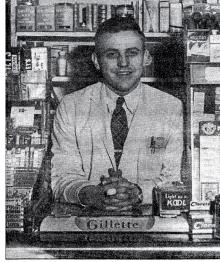
Many remember Chuck as having a very outgoing personality who was always laughing and joking with his customers. He had an amazing ability to get along with people. Chuck never turned away those who were sick, even if they could not pay him until the next week.

I worked for Chuck as a "soda jerk" during the summers of 1958 and 1959 and have many great memories of him and the Uber customers. Chuck loved practical jokes and whenever possible would use them to his advantage. Example, he had issues with salesmen who would come and take up too much of his valuable time. Next to the cash register at the front end of the counter Story submitted by Jerry Damon. Compiled from articles from the was a glass shelf. On that shelf were many glasses but one was always there alone. It was a "dribble glass." Chuck would come out of the back room with a salesman, grab that glass, fill it with

water and hand it to the salesman. He would take a big drink and water would dribble down the front of his nice suit. Chuck would laugh and say, "Have a good day!"

The store was located downtown until 1961 when it moved to the corner of Main and Grand River. He sold the store to Bob Herbst in 1970 and moved to Delmar, California. In 1978, he became a co-owner and manager of the Westward Ho Motel in Bend, Oregon that he operated until his passing.

I am certain many long-time Brighton residents have their own memories of Chuck Uber and the drug store he operated.



Chuck Uber founded Uber Drugs in Brighton in 1946

Brighton Argus, November 1968 and August 1992 and his own memories working in the store.)