



Thanks to all who made Santa and Mrs. Claus a success!

The Brighton Area Historical Society hopes that all family and friends had a wonderful Christmas! This time of the year is an awesome period to refresh our relationships with those special people who occupy a section of our heart.

Christmas with Santa was the final event of the year and was held at Lyon Schoolhouse on December 10. All the children and parents had a wonderful day as Santa and Mrs. Claus met individually with the excited little ones. Family members captured those cherished photos with those precious facial images. Thank you to Pat Tucker and Tammy Sexton for wearing those red suits that brought joy to the little ones.

Dozens of scrumptious homemade cookies were available through the talents of Syndy Bisoski, Beth Ferreyra, Nancy Fredenburg, Mindy Kinsey, Lynn Strong and Vicki Vichich. Thank you to these kitchen elves for those tasty morsels!

Thank you to Mindy Kinsey for sewing the children's green felt Christmas tree ornaments that were decorated by the kids under the guidance of elves Beth Ferreyra and Mindy.

Much gratitude to the balance of the team members that helped with photos, set up, take down, and clean up were: Steve Black, Joe Collins, Ron Cyr, Jerry and Carole Damon, Nancy Fredenburg, Tony Ferreyra, Lynn Strong and Jim Vichich. Additional thanks for the greenery from Nancy and the tree from Joe.

The team of the historical society did a wonderful job! Thank you to everyone! The proof was seen in the faces of the children. Parents were very complimentary of the Christmas program. **The Christmas Santa Program next year will be Sunday, December 8, 2024.**

Happy New Year and the best of health to everyone in 2024!

Jim Vichich
BAHS President
info@BrightonAreaHistorical.com
810.250.7276

Final Month of our Membership Drive.

Please renew your membership, become a new member or donate to the Society. See the insert or Page 3 for the form. Thank You.

The society extends its condolences to the families and friends of

Nancy Cardle and Al Wirth

Both were long-time members of the society and will be missed by all.

CoBACH Exhibit: January—March “Winter Wonderland” CoBACH Hours

Thursday—Friday 5—8pm
Saturday 11am—5pm
Sunday 2—5pm
Closed Monday thru
Wednesday

Archiving at Lyon School
on Buno Road
Every Thursday
9 to 12nn

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 2024 unless otherwise noted)

IND/FAMILY: Tena Anderson, Howard & Syndy Bisoski, Carolina DeLuca, Mary Fonseca, Joanne Harte, Jeanette Johnson, Robert Johnson, Susan Lanning, Richard & Kathy McKinnie, Stephanie Popoff, Ray & Linda Potter, John & Linda Rawcliffe, Tom Reinke, Patrick Smith, Richard & Letitia Smith, Haig Stoddard, Bob & Jenny Triffo, Robert Veik, Ed Vitez, Richard & Lucille Weaire

PATRON: John Cameron, MD*, Mary Comiskey/Val Hancock, Joyce Hubbs, Tom & Mindy Kinsey, Robert & Priscilla Pettengill, Lois Tobias, Susan Zimmermann

BUS/PROF: Mark Francuck DDS, PC*, Preview Properties, Serra Brighton Automotive, Tee-Bone'z Tavern

SPONSORSHIP: PLATINUM: John Cameron, MD, John Park, **GOLD:** Lawrence Auto Body

Welcome to new members*: John Cameron, MD, Mark Francuck, DDS, PC

FINAL MONTH OF THE 2024 MEMBERSHIP DRIVE. THANK YOU TO OUR MEMBERS WHO HAVE RENEWED THEIR DUES. Please see the insert or the form on Page 3 if you would like to join, or renew your dues. Through your dues and donations we are able to continue the work of preserving Brighton's history.

THANKS:

- To our members who have renewed their dues for 2024 and beyond.
- John Cameron, MD and John Park for their 2024 Platinum Sponsorships.

- Lawrence Auto Body for their 2024 Gold Sponsorship.
- Howard & Syndy Bisoski, John & Linda Rawcliffe for their donation to Old Village Cemetery along with their dues.
- Mary Comiskey/Val Hancock, Joanne Harte for their donations to the Larry Lawrence Scholarship Fund along with their dues.
- Carolina DeLuca, Jeanette Johnson, Tom & Mindy Kinsey for their donations to CoBACH Events along with their dues.
- Richard & Letitia Smith for their donation to the Larry Lawrence Scholarship Fund and Friend of Lyon School along with their dues.
- Mary Fonseca, Ray & Linda Potter for their donations to Friend of Lyon School along with their dues.
- Joyce Hubbs, Robert Johnson, Richard & Kathy McKinnie for their donations to the Larry Lawrence Scholarship Fund, Friend of Lyon School, CoBACH Events and Old Village Cemetery along with their dues.
- Pat Smith for his donation to the Society along with his dues.
- Lawrence Auto Body for their donation to the Larry Lawrence Scholarship Fund.
- Deb Armstrong, Jerry Damon and Jim & Vicki Vichich for their donations to the Society.
- Kathy Pearson for her donation of jewelry for the BAHS Spring Jewelry Sale.

Dates to Remember

CoBACH: CURRENT EXHIBIT: January — March: "Winter Wonderland"

NOTE: CoBACH Winter Hours — January — March 2024

Thursday—Friday 5-8 pm

Saturday 11-5pm

Sunday 2-5pm

Monday—Wednesday—CLOSED

January 7,14,21,28: Society volunteers at CoBACH Center.

January 4,11,18,25; Lyon School; 9—Noon: Historical archiving and school visitors welcome.

January 24; CoBACH Center, 6pm: BAHS Board Meeting.

April 26—May 4; CoBACH Center: BAHS Spring Used Jewelry Sale. Jewelry donations needed.

Life — Business — Professional Members

Life Members:

Tom Archer — John & Deb Armstrong — Paul & Kathryn Bair (MI) — Sharrell (Munce) Blakeley (CA) — Shirley Barton — Janice Beach Donald & Shari Black (FL) — Steve Black — Marilyn Campbell (IN) — John & Jenny Conely — Edgar L Cord, Ph.D. — Bonnie Corrigan — Kelsey Corrigan Timothy & Giannine Corrigan — Jerry & Carole Damon — Frank & Jo Del Vero — Bill & Margaret Dixon — Joan Engel — Tony & Beth Ferreyra Nancy Fredenburg — Dave & Jacque Fuller — Lee & Deb Gough — Stephen & Marilyn Harrington — William & Lenore Harris — Betsy & Bob Herbst Dr. John & Barbara Jacoby (MN) — Kathy Jacoby (OR) — Claire & Aaron Jusino — Kate Lawrence — Seth & Shannon Lemke (TX) Ray & Bessie Maltby — Jere & Kay Michaels — James & Janis Miller — Randy & Linda Veno Needham — Greg & Pamela Park (OH) John G. Park & Madeline Kingston-Park — Richard Park (IL) — Kathy Pearson — David & Marilyn Pettigrove — Bob & Donna Phillips Douglas & Carole Rearick — Brigitte Ritsema — Tom & Bonnie Riutta — Robert & Pauline Schaffer — Bruce & Betty Schuman — Anne Stratigos Lynn Brady Strong — Jim & Vicki Vichich — Linda (Skeman) Wintermute — Karen Wirth — Alice Wyland

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

Advance Craft Builders (2024) — Archer Huntley Financial Services ** — Brewery Becker** — Brighton Area Women's History Roll of Honor** Brighton District Library ** — Brighton Lions Club (2023) — Brighton Veterans Memorial Comm.** — Buckley-Jolley Group ** Clark/Tait Eye Center (2023) — Mark Francuck, DDS, PC (2024) — Kimble Appraisal Group, Inc.** — Liberty Title Agency (2024) — Lindhout Associates** Liv. County Convention & Visitors Center (2023) — Lawrence Auto Body ** — Masonic Lodge No. 247 ** — Patrick Financial Group, LLC ** Power House Electric, Inc. (2023) — Preview Properties (2024) — Promess, Inc.** — Refrigeration Research ** — Serra Brighton Automotive (2024) Tee-Bone'z Tavern (2024) — Wallflower Mercantile (2023)

2024 Sponsorships:

Platinum: John Cameron, MD — John Park

Gold: Paul & Kathy Bair — Lawrence Auto Body

Bronze: Brighton Light House — Judith Coebly/Gary Reutter — Carolina DeLuca

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

Membership Plan:		Additional Donation to—Check as Desired:	
<input type="checkbox"/> New	<input type="checkbox"/> \$5 Student	<input type="checkbox"/> Larry Lawrence Scholarship Fund	Amount of Donation:
<input type="checkbox"/> Renew	<input type="checkbox"/> \$20 Individual	<input type="checkbox"/> Friend of Lyon School	<input type="checkbox"/> \$10 <input type="checkbox"/> \$100
<input type="checkbox"/> \$30 Family	<input type="checkbox"/> \$50 Patron or More	<input type="checkbox"/> BAHS CoBACH Events	<input type="checkbox"/> \$25 <input type="checkbox"/> \$250
	<input type="checkbox"/> \$75 Business/Professional	<input type="checkbox"/> Old Village Cemetery Fund	<input type="checkbox"/> \$50 <input type="checkbox"/> Other \$ _____
	<input type="checkbox"/> \$500 Life		

The Brighton Area Historical Society is a 501(c)(3) Non-Profit AND a 509(a)2 Public Charity 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).

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 James.Vichich@gmail.com

Current BAHS Leadership

President Jim Vichich	Directors Tony Ferreyra
Vice President Nancy Fredenburg	Dr. Caitlyn Perry Dial
Secretary—Interim Jerry Damon	Mindy Kinsey
Treasurer Steve Black	John Rawcliffe
Webmaster Debbie Armstrong	Thomas Reinke
	Lynn Strong
	Trail Tales Editor Jerry Damon

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 AND a 509(a)2 public charity 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.

BRIGHTON AREA HISTORICAL SOCIETY

P.O. Box 481
Brighton, MI 48116-0481

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Brighton, MI

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



The following story was submitted by Mark Mullinax who recently retired as the Genealogy and Local History Librarian at the Brighton District Library.

GO BULLDOGS!

Have you ever wondered how Brighton High School became known as the Bulldogs? A couple of theories exist. In the excellent history of Brighton entitled "From Settlement to City, Brighton, Michigan, 1832-1945" by Carol McMacken she notes on page 304 that a track team was started at the high school in 1925. "About that same time a film was playing at the Rialto called Bull Dog Courage. It may be a coincidence that the school later adopted the name the Brighton Bull Dogs."

The Brighton High School yearbooks for 1930 and 1931 make no mention of a mascot or moniker for any of the athletic teams.

It wasn't until the February 3, 1937 issue of the Brighton Argus that the first mention of the Bulldogs appears. An article begins:

"The Brighton Bulldogs snapped out of their losing streak Tuesday evening on their own floor with a 35-11 victory over Dexter."

"It started with (Carl) Bidwell making 4 baskets and (William) Richmond another as Dexter was kept in a daze. Coach Bulla took out Bidwell after the first quarter..."

The Coach Bulla mentioned in the article was Ralph Bulla who, in addition to being the coach of the boy's basketball and football teams, was also the math teacher. He was only at Brighton High for the 1935-36 and 1936-37 school years. By all reports, he was an excellent coach and at the Fall Football Banquet at the conclusion of the 1936 season Coach Bulla was given "words of appreciation" by the Brighton Business Men's Associ-

ation for having produced such a splendid team. It's highly probable that by then the sports teams were being referred to as "Bulla's Dogs" which was soon shortened to "Bulldogs."

The February 2, 1938 issue of the Brighton Argus informs us the "the fighting Bull Dogs (sic) of Brighton High defeated the second team of Fowlerville 26-20 in our gym Tuesday night." Another article on September 28, 1938 heralding the 29-0 "trouncing" of Howell High's football team by Brighton's team declares that "the Brighton Bulldogs presented an impressive picture as they came on the field with their new uniforms and helmets to match."

The 1938 BHS yearbook marks the first time an image of a bulldog was produced. It was superimposed over every sports page of the yearbook. This action seems to have cemented the Bulldog as the official mascot of Brighton High School. Regardless of which version of the Bulldog origination is correct; its legacy endures to this day. GO BULLDOGS!!!

(Mark Mullinax is a member of the BAHS and we would like to thank him for sending along this story and wish him well in his retirement.)

