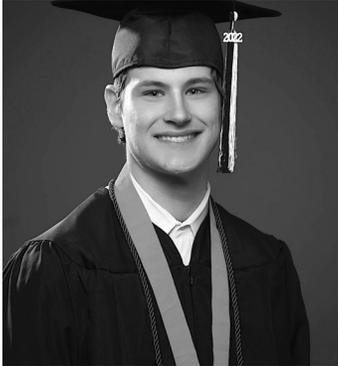


CONGRATULATIONS LUCAS!



The Brighton Historical Society is proud to announce that the 2025 Larry Lawrence Memorial Scholarship awardee is Lucas Witkowski.

This is the sixth year of the Larry Lawrence Memorial Scholarship. It is awarded yearly to any student that graduated from a Brighton Area school in the last five years and is going to a Vocational/Skilled Trade School. Lucas is the tenth Brighton Area School student to receive the Larry Lawrence Memorial Scholarship.

Lucas is a 2022 graduate of Brighton High School; He just finished his first year of a four-year program to become a

licensed electrician at Southeast Michigan Construction Academy.

Following High School where Lucas played Lacrosse and Hockey he played 2 years of Junior hockey with the Metro Jets at Mount Clemens Ice Arena in Mount Clemens, Michigan. They are members of the Great Lakes Conference in the United States Premier Hockey League's Premier Division.

Lucas chose Southeast Michigan Construction Academy because as he said in his application "They have the program that I am interested in, and I am able to work in a safe environment and they are a nationally accredited school".

SEMCA describes itself as follows:

"SEMCA will develop you into a construction professional. For more than 30 years, the Southeast Michigan Construction Academy has been proud to provide valuable training to the construction industry's emerging workforce. Formal education at a trade school gives our students a competitive advantage in the field. At SEMCA, we offer training in electrical, carpentry, HVAC, and welding for residential, commercial and industrial-sized projects. We train apprentices to work on a wide variety of jobs. Pursue a career in a field that provides you the opportunity to make the most of your skills, see the results you want, and to live the happy and fulfilling life you deserve."

The Brighton Area Historical Society wishes Lucas a great educational experience and a very productive career. We would also like to thank our many members and friends for their donations to the Larry Lawrence Memorial Scholarship and continuing to honor Larry. Thank you also to the scholarship committee for their time in reviewing the applications.

Donations to the scholarship can be made on our website at Brightonareahistorical.com or using the form on page three of this newsletter.

Jerry Damon
Larry Lawrence Memorial Scholarship Chair
248-345-4080

FREE CoBACH Exhibit

July
"The Office
Before Apple"

August—September
"Music in the Air"

CoBACH Summer Hours

April thru October
Wed. — Friday 5—8pm
Saturday 11am—5pm
Sunday 2—5pm

Closed Monday & Tuesday

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

CHECK OUT FACEBOOK
Frequent postings regard-
ing Brighton History.

**Brighton Area Historical
Society**

**HAPPY
BIRTHDAY**
To all those celebrating
in JULY!

Thanks and Recognition

MEMBERSHIPS: (Reflect dues paid for year 2025 unless otherwise noted.

IND/FAMILY: Mark Lutz*

BUS/ORG: MI Concrete Lifting*

Welcome to new members*: Mark Lutz, MI Concrete Lifting

REMINDER: you can still renew your membership or become a member using the form on Page 3. 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 2025 and beyond.
- Dr. John Cameron, Jerry & Carole Damon and Lake Trust Credit Union for their 2025 Platinum Sponsorship.
- Wallflower Mercantile for the 2025 Platinum Plus Sponsorship and their donation to the Society.
- John Eckstein of Lindhout Associates for supplying us with the original floor plans of Mellus Hospital.
- Scott Griffith for his insight on the Mellus Hospital building history.
- Mindy & Tom Kinsey, Lynn Strong, Jim Vichich and Ed and Joyce Vitez for the Flag Day Program at CoBACH Center..
- Richard & MaryBeth Gienapp for their donation of a 1995 aerial map of the City of Brighton.
- Steve Black, Nancy Fredenburg, Mindy Kinsey and Jim Vichich for the participating at the recent DNR Senior Stroll at Island Lake.
- Denise & Steve Black, Ron Cyr, Nancy Fredenburg, Mindy Kinsey, Lynn Strong and Jim Vichich for representing BAHS at the Brighton Farmer's Market.
- CoBACH volunteers: Steve Black, Mindy Kinsey, Lynn Strong, Pat Tucker and Jim Vichich.
- Heather Orcutt from Cornerstone Christian School for bringing seventeen 3rd graders to Lyon School for a day of fun and learning.
- Barb Copenhagen for offering her services to help teachers plan their Lyon School visits.

Dates to Remember

PLEASE SEE PAGE 1 FOR SUMMER CoBACH HOURS

CoBACH Center: **FREE Exhibit:** July **FREE Exhibit:** "The Office Before Apple." August through September display "Music in the Air."

Every Thursday during July; 9am—12nn: Lyon Schoolhouse Open for archiving & tours.

July 4th; Downtown Brighton: Look for BAHS participating in the annual parade.

July 23; Wednesday: BAHS Board Meeting at CoBACH Center, 6PM.

July 28; 9—12; Pleasant Valley Cemetery Headstone Restoration: Other PVC dates: August 25, Sept. 22, Oct 27.

Life — Business — Professional Members

Life Members:

Tom Archer — John & Deb Armstrong — Paul & Kathryn Bair (MI) — Tim & Kerry Bennett — Sharrell (Munce) Blakeley (CA) — Janice Beach Donald & Shari Black (FL) — Steve & Denise Black — Marilyn Campbell (IN) — Jack Collett — John & Jenny Conely — Kelsey Corrigan Timothy & Giannine Corrigan — Jerry & Carole Damon — Patricia LewAllen DeFoor (GA)— 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 — Jason Conrad Huntley, CFP — Kathy Jacoby (OR) — Claire & Aaron Jusino — Kate Lawrence Jim Leith (IN) — Stephen Leith — 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 Lueker Pearson — David & Marilyn Pettigrove — Bob & Donna Phillips — Douglas & Carole Rearick — Brigitte Ritsema Tom & Bonnie Riutta — Pauline Schaffer — Bruce & Betty Schuman — Anne Stratigos — Lynn Brady Strong — Jim & Vicki Vichich Michael & Jennifer Vichich — Karen Wirth — Alice Wyland

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

Brewery Becker** — Brighton Area Women's History Roll of Honor** — Brighton Area Chamber of Commerce (2025) — Brighton District Library ** Brighton Lions Club (2025) — Brighton Veterans Memorial Comm.** — Buckley-Jolley Group ** — Clark/Tait Eye Center (2025) Mark Francuck, DDS, PC (2024) — Kimble Appraisal Group, Inc.** — Liberty Title Agency (2024) — Lindhout Associates** — Lawrence Auto Body ** Masonic Lodge No. 247 ** — MI Concrete Lifting (2025) — Patrick Financial Group, LLC ** — Power House Electric, Inc. (2025) Premier Financial Planning (2025) — Preview Properties (2025) — Promise, Inc.** — Refrigeration Research ** — Serra Brighton Automotive (2025) Tee-Bone'z Tavern (2025) — Wallflower Mercantile** — Wealth & Wellness Group (2025)

2025 Sponsorships:

Platinum: John Cameron, MD, Jerry & Carole Damon, Lake Trust Credit Union, **Platinum Plus:** Wallflower Mercantile

Silver: Steve & Denise Black — Kathy Lueker Pearson

Gold: Judith Coebly/Gary Reutter

Support BAHS: Become a Sponsor, 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, become a member or a sponsor, please mail your check 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 Address: _____

Type of Membership Plan:

- | | | |
|--------------------------------|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> New | <input type="checkbox"/> \$5 Student | <input type="checkbox"/> \$50 Patron or More |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Renew | <input type="checkbox"/> \$20 Individual | <input type="checkbox"/> \$75 Business/Professional |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> \$30 Family | <input type="checkbox"/> \$500 Life |

Additional Donation to — Check as Desired:

- Pleasant Valley Cemetery Restoration
- Larry Lawrence Scholarship Fund
- Friend of Lyon School
- BAHS CoBACH Events
- Friend of Old Village Cemetery

Amount of Additional Donation:

- | | |
|-------------------------------|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$10 | <input type="checkbox"/> \$100 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$25 | <input type="checkbox"/> \$250 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$50 | <input type="checkbox"/> 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 Tales newsletter and through the sponsorship placard located at the City of Brighton Arts, Culture and History (CoBACH) Center (aka Old Town Hall).

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Platinum — \$1,000+ | <input type="checkbox"/> Gold — \$500+ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Silver — \$250+ | <input type="checkbox"/> Bronze — \$100+ |

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.

Current BAHS Leadership

- | | |
|---|---|
| President
Nancy Fredenburg | Directors
Ron Cyr |
| Vice President
Lynn Strong | Tony Ferreyra |
| Secretary
Thomas Reinke | Mindy Kinsey |
| Treasurer
Steve Black | Jim Vichich |
| Webmaster
Debbie Armstrong | 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:
 (517) 304-5044

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

**Non-Profit Org.
U.S. Postage
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Brighton, MI**

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



The following is Part 3 of the story of the Musch Family of Brighton. Thanks to Bob Musch who submitted this story to the Brighton Area Historical Society as well as the Brighton Alumni Association.

The Musch Family of Brighton, William “Bill”

As mentioned, Max and Dorothy had three sons, William, Richard, and Robert. They all started their careers working at Burroughs farms (Oak Pointe) while attending college and prior to moving on to the service and their lifetime careers. The days at Burroughs farms resulted in memories that are still talked about by many even today.

Bill started school while living on the Musch family farm past Chilson. He and his cousin Jerry Musch walked (over 2 miles) to the Beurmann one-room schoolhouse (located past Oak Pointe by Clifford Road). Note this was for grades one through four when they were only five to ten years old. Their teacher was their Aunt Irene Musch. Some of Bill's memories from that time in his life include being asked to light the stove to warm the room and having to learn to get along with about thirty students ranging from five to eighteen years of age (K-12) in the one-room schoolhouse. In the early 1950's the school systems consolidated, and Bill finished his elementary and secondary school education at Brighton Consolidated Schools for 5th grade and then on to Brighton High School for grades six through twelve. Bill's graduating class had 72 students, whereas the entire school district at that time had ~400 students.

One of the more memorable events for Bill while at the county school was the fire drills (all but one liked the fire drills). Since the school didn't have a phone, the oldest, George Prieskorn, had to ride his bike one-quarter mile to the nearest house (Denkhaus) and then ride back to the school. The rest of the kids were on the playground and could see his progress, encouraging him to take his time!

Following high school Bill went on to study for two and a half years at the University of Michigan, he then joined the Army from 1964-66. In his last 5 months of service, he was stationed at the New York City Induction Center where over 780 potential candidates were evaluated

for service each day. Bill remembers the days after basic training while stationed at Fort Irwin CA when his commanders were looking for anyone that could type to work in the office. Bill volunteered which allowed him the ability to see transfer orders. He volunteered for the NY assignment to stay in the states, but in retrospect it wasn't the best of times. He had to go to and from work in civilian clothes due to all the hate speech and protests against those in or associated with the military due to the Vietnam War. After serving he moved back to California where he continued his education at the Northrop Institute of Technology and graduated as an Aero-Space Engineer. Bill worked on the DC 9 and DC 10 aircrafts while at Douglas Aircraft (McDonald Douglas) for over 30 years. Aerospace was always his passion, back in high school it wasn't uncommon to see him light off several homemade rockets in the backyard.

Bill has been married for 55 years to Polly Ann Sanborn. They have two children.

(We will be publishing the remainder of the story in the next several issues of Trail Tales.)

