

Acknowledging Our Community

We would like to take this opportunity to extend our heartfelt thanks to the many individuals who reach out to us each week. Your phone calls and emails, filled with personal stories, cherished family photographs, and Brighton memorabilia, enrich our community and make a lasting impact. Each item is reviewed and placed in our archives for future use in our displays or writing a story about an item. Most of the photos are placed on our Facebook page that Jim Vichich maintains.

Items we have recently received were from Nancy Kimble Jacobs along with her sister Diane, a copy of a scrapbook from their father, Whitney Kimble, of his years as the President of Brighton State Bank. Included were a number of Annual Reports and other bank items.

A former resident, Joan Pinney Rice recently passed away at the age of 97. Her family, living in California, reached out to us to explain that their mother had a number of Brighton items that they are willing to give to us. Joan was married to Dr. Rice a local physician but she cared about Brighton enough to save photos, and books from our area. We will share with you these items as we receive them. We are always willing to scan your items and return them to you, or you can share your photos with us via your phone.

David Doss, a member, sent us a reprint of an article from the Brighton Argus that pertains to Plank Road (Grand River) that was a Toll Road. This information will be helpful when our display at CoBACH will feature Grand River. Grand River Avenue ran from Detroit to Grand Rapids. Grand River is Michigan's own Route 66. Sometime, exit I96 and enjoy the scenery!

Another thank you goes to John and Linda Rawcliffe for their donation of a speaker from the Lakes Drive Inn. John locates items from estate sales and E-bay that are related to the Brighton area.

Keep the information flowing to us, renew your memberships, and volunteer your time when possible. Each and every one of you are important to us and have a story to share. Consider writing something for Page 4 of our newsletter. We love when readers send us stories of their memories of growing up in Brighton that we can share with readers.

Thank you for your continued support and enthusiasm. Together, we preserve and celebrate the rich history of Brighton.

Note: Special thank you to Ron Cyr serving as a board member who recently resigned. Ron will continue as a volunteer.

Reminder: Our upcoming Jewelry Sale is May 2 through 8, 2026. This is held at the CoBACH Center and is our yearly fundraiser. Please contact Nancy if you have items to donate.

Nancy Fredenburg
President, BAHS
517-304-5044

BAHS Annual Meeting — March 15, 2026
Lyon Schoolhouse, 11455 Buno Road
Luncheon 1—2pm; Meeting at 2—2:45pm

Bring an item to share for "Show and Tell." Yes, just like grade school! Bring an item that has special a meaning or a historical item to share with everyone.

FREE CoBACH Exhibit

March — April
"Map Your Way Thru Brighton"
(Variety of Vintage Brighton Maps)

CoBACH Winter Hours March

Thurs. — Friday 5—8pm
Saturday 11am—5pm
Sunday 2—5pm

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

CHECK OUT FACEBOOK

Frequent postings regarding Brighton History.

Brighton Area Historical Society

HAPPY BIRTHDAY
To all those celebrating in MARCH!

Thanks and Recognition

MEMBERSHIPS: (Reflect dues paid for year 2026 unless otherwise noted.)

IND/FAMILY: Dale Borst, Pam Lee Campbell*, Joe Collins, John/Pam Currey*, Dave/Kelly Detter, Pat Franklin, Robert Johnson, Dennis/Maria Littleworth, Michelle Madden*, Rudy/Doreen Meffert, Frank/Monica Ninteman, Lee/Donna Perry, Tom Reinke, Richard Soucy*

PATRON: Jim/Emily (McNally) Brown, Frank DeLuca, Mary Miller

SPONSORSHIPS: Platinum: Livingston Cty. Convention & Visitors Bureau; **Bronze:** John/Linda Rawcliffe

WELCOME New Members*: Pam Lee Campbell, John/Pam Currey, Michelle Madden, Richard Soucy

REMINDER: You can still renew your 2026 dues or become a new member. Please see the form on Page 3 or click on the QR code. 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 2026 and beyond.

- Jerry/Carole Damon, Lake Trust Credit Union for their 2026 Platinum Sponsorship.
- Livingston County Convention & Visitors Bureau for their 2026 Platinum Sponsorship along with their dues.
- John/Linda Rawcliffe for their 2026 Bronze Sponsorship along with their dues.
- Syndy Bisoski and Sherri Wisser for donating jewelry for the Spring 2026 Vintage Jewelry fundraiser.
- Jim/Emily (McNally) Brown for their donation to Pleasant Valley Cemetery Restoration, Friend of Lyon School and CoBACH Events along with their dues.
- Robert Johnson for his donation to Pleasant Valley Cemetery Restoration, Larry Lawrence Scholarship Fund, Friend of Lyon School, CoBACH Events and Friend of Old Village Cemetery along with his dues.
- Dennis/Maria Littleworth for their donation to Friend of Lyon School in memory of Bethel School along with their dues.

Dates to Remember

PLEASE SEE PAGE 1 FOR WINTER CoBACH HOURS

CoBACH Center: FREE Exhibit: March—April: "Map Your Way Through Brighton." (Variety of vintage Brighton maps.)

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

March 15, Sunday; Noon at Lyon School: BAHS Annual Meeting & Election of officers. See Details on front page.

May 2—8; CoBACH Center: Vintage Jewelry Sale. This is our annual fundraiser. If you have jewelry you would like to donate, please contact Nancy Fredenburg at 517-304-5044.

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 — Michael Craine — Jerry & Carole Damon — Patricia LewAllen DeFoor (GA) — Frank & Jo Del Vero Bill & Margaret Dixon — Nancy LewAllen Dresden — Joan Engel — Rebecca LewAllen English — 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) — David LewAllen — Ray & Bessie Maltby — Jere & Kay Michaels — James & Janis Miller Randy & Linda Veno Needham — Roland Owens — 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) Kimble Appraisal Group, Inc.** — Lindhout Associates** — Lawrence Auto Body ** — Livingston Cty Convention & Visitors Bureau (2026) Masonic Lodge No. 247** — MI Concrete Lifting (2025) — Patrick Financial Group, LLC ** — Power House Electric, Inc. (2025) Premier Financial Planning (2025) — Preview Properties (2025) — Promess, Inc.** — Refrigeration Research ** — Serra Brighton Automotive (2025) Tee-Bone'z Tavern (2026) — Wallflower Mercantile** — Wealth & Wellness Group (2025)

2026 Sponsorships:

Platinum: Jerry/Carole Damon, Lake Trust Credit Union, Livingston Cty. Convention & Visitors Bureau — **Gold:** Judith Coebly/Gary Reutter

Silver: Kathy Lueker Pearson, Pauline Schaffer

Bronze: Pamela Bell, Tony/Beth Ferreyra, Caitlyn Perry-Dial, Norma Pless, John/Linda Rawcliffe

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 payable to:

Brighton Area Historical Society
P. O. Box 481
Brighton, MI 48116-0481

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

E-mail Address: _____

I would like to receive Trail Tales via: E-Mail _____ US Mail _____

Type of Membership Plan: ___ New ___ Renew

___ \$5 Student ___ \$15 Military/Veteran ___ \$20 Individual
___ \$30 Family ___ \$50 Patron or More
___ \$75 Business/Professional ___ \$500 Life

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).

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

We are looking for volunteers: If you would like more information, please contact **Nancy Fredenburg at 517-304-5044.**

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:

___ \$10 ___ \$100
___ \$25 ___ \$250
___ \$50 ___ Other \$ _____

Donation in memory /honor of: _____

For Membership, donation, or sponsorship via PayPal, scan the QR code which will take you to the BAHS website.



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

Vice President
Lynn Strong

Secretary
Thomas Reinke

Treasurer
Steve Black

Webmaster
Debbie Armstrong

Directors
Tony Ferreyra
Mindy Kinsey
Jim Vichich

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
PAID
Permit #303
Brighton, MI**

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



History of the Brighton Area Historical Society's Annual Vintage Jewelry Sale

In early 2017 at the Brighton Area Historical Society's Annual Meeting during the "Call to Order" portion of the meeting, Vicki Vichich offered the idea of a fundraiser she called a "Vintage Jewelry Sale". The idea originated from a meeting at the University of Michigan where there was a used jewelry sale in the lobby where the meeting was held. After her mother's passing, Vicki had a lot of costume jewelry from her mother and thought this would be a way of using the jewelry to raise funds for the historical society. Vicki has a background in the making custom jewelry and some knowledge of the jewelry business. She suggested that she would assembly a team to clean, repair, price and tag each donated items received from the Society's members and the community. (Original Team members: Vicki Vichich, Judith Coebly, Sue Zimmerman) The Society would then in the spring around the "Ladies night out in Brighton" hold a sale at CoBACH and see what happened.

Surprise, Surprise we had nearly 5000 items donated, a very large turn-out and sold more than we thought possible. The sale was again held in 2018 and 2019. The pandemic shut us down in 2020 and 2021. In early May of 2022 were we again up and running as we were in 2023 and 2024. Last year, 2025 was our highest grossing year and saw our largest attendance.

To make this event successful it takes a very dedicated group of volunteers that work a large number of hours preparing the donations of bracelets, necklaces, rings, watches and earrings, etc. for sale. A crew then does the set up at CoBACH and another large crew puts in many hours running the sale.

The 2026 Vintage Jewelry Sale will be led by Beth Ferreyra. This will be Beth's second year to chair the event. Vicki and her crew are still very involved, researching, cleaning and packaging donated jewelry. **The Event will be May 2nd through May 8th at the CoBACH Center 202 Main Street next to the Mill Pond.**

Proceeds from the jewelry sale are used to support the operations of the Brighton Area Historical Society in funding historical preservation projects, maintaining historical sites and our museum, organizing educational programs and engaging the community in celebrating and learning about Brighton's rich history.

The success of the Annual Vintage Jewelry Sale depends on the generosity of community members. If you have vintage, antique, or contemporary jewelry you wish to donate, your contribution will help support the preservation of Brighton's history and enrich the event's offerings. To donate jewelry, contact Nancy Fredenburg at 517-304-5044 for any questions or to arrange a pickup. Your support is greatly appreciated and will make a meaningful difference.

(Thank you to Jerry Damon for assembling the history of the jewelry sale.)

