A Celebration of History

By Arlene Wright

The organization known as Historic Brighton is now about a year old. Our vision was to establish a way to bring the history of our community to the citizens of Brighton, and to celebrate that history through programs, research and publications. The tremendous response to our efforts tells us that this community wanted such a group to exist and is willing to help it become successful. While still in its infancy, we are 80 members strong and growing every day. We have had four well-attended events thus far, with more planned for the near future.

Historic Brighton has the blessing of the Town of Brighton and is receiving support from The Landmark Society of Western New York. Members of the Brighton Historical Society have embraced Historic Brighton as a possible means to carry on its good work. Thanks to the talented and hard-working Board of Directors, the vision is becoming a reality. Brighton has a rich history, both culturally and architecturally. Many people don’t realize that the Town of Brighton predates Monroe County by seven years. It was founded twenty years before Colonel Nathaniel Rochester saw his city chartered. Brighton was the largest Town on Monroe County until annexation reduced its boundaries to what you see on today’s maps. We were a booming Erie Canal town with thriving brickyards and nurseries and farms. Today, Brighton is a community of fine neighborhoods and schools. We’re proud of our cultural diversity and the resulting enrichment.

Our hope is that all members of this community with a love for history and pride in this town will join Historic Brighton and keep the celebration going.

Arlene Wright is the founder of Historic Brighton.

Stone-Tolan Picnic
August 17

Mark your calendar now for the next Historic Brighton event—a family picnic at the Historic Stone-Tolan House on Tuesday, August 17. Come at 6 p.m. for a social time, including by guided tours of the house, a “pot-luck” supper (bring a dish to pass). Historic Brighton will provide plates, silverware, hot dogs, buns and lemonade. The short program will include a storyteller and a presentation on Brighton History by Mary Jo Barone.

FREE to all Historic Brighton members!

Historic Brighton
Founded 1999
Arlene A. Wright, Organization Founder
Leo Dodd, President
Monica Gilligan, Vice-President
Ken Gep, Treasurer
Janet Hopkin, Secretary
Maureen Holtzman, Program Chairperson
Diana Robinson, Membership Chairperson
Dee Dee Teegarden, Hospitality Chairperson
Josie Leyens, Hospitality Chairperson
Mary Kay Taber, Public Relations
Mary Jo Lanphear Barone, Brighton Town Historian