



BRIGHTON AREA FIRE AUTHORITY

615 W. Grand River Ave.
Brighton, MI 48116
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June 30, 2022

For Immediate Release

Norma Jean Pless to serve as 2022 Grand Marshal of the Brighton MI 4th of July Parade

Brighton graduate and former Brighton Township Clerk to serve as Grand Marshal of the Parade.

Norma Jean Pless, born November 29, 1931, in her family home on Buno Road (Brighton Township). She attended Lyon School and graduated from Brighton High School, Class of 1950. A very active participant in High School as an all-around student she was involved in band, choir, and yearbook staff to name a few. Her leadership has shown through from High School as she was class officer 3 years and was the 1949 Homecoming Queen.

Since graduating, she has organized and facilitated numerous class reunions, and in 1986 she co-chaired the BHS 100-year reunion and assisted in the rebirth of the Brighton High School Alumni Association. At the age of 90+ she remains active in many Brighton organizations and is looked upon by many in our community as one of the premier leaders and historians.

Her greatest accomplishment to our community was being instrumental in the preservation of the Lyon's School (her elementary K-8, 1937 - 1946) is now a Historical Site and is used as a classroom for Brighton Elementary School children so they can see what a one-room school was like in the early 1900's until the consolidation of schools in 1951.

Norma has four children Charles (Skip) deceased, Jim, Tedd and Kathy, eight grandchildren and 7 great-grandchildren. She was married to her high school sweetheart Charles Pless over 50 years. Charles deceased in 2002. She can be seen most days volunteering at the COBACH Center, with the Historical Society or at the Lyons School enhancing the BEST Brighton offers our community. Last year Norma fulfilled her life's dream to fly a glider and in nominating her, it is my dream that this outstanding woman will be recognized as the 2022 July 4th, Grand Marshal.

Elected Service: Local, county, state and national Election worker 1958 - 2020
Census Taker, 1960, and Brighton Township Clerk 1980 - 1987
Civic Groups: Member of the Order of the Eastern Stars 1950 - Present
Pleasant Valley Society Club 1950 - Present
Brighton Area School Alumni Association 1986 - Present
Charter member of Brighton Bulldog Boosters
Active 17 years as a Girl Scout, Girl Scout Leader and serving as a Board Member of Huron Valley Girl Scouts.
Member of Brighton Area Historical Society, 40 years
Brighton Women's Roll of Honor 2007 - Present
Helped establish Brighton Youth Center in the late 1950's
Member of 1st. United Methodist Church - Brighton



For more information, please contact Fire Chief O'Brian at 810-299-6640