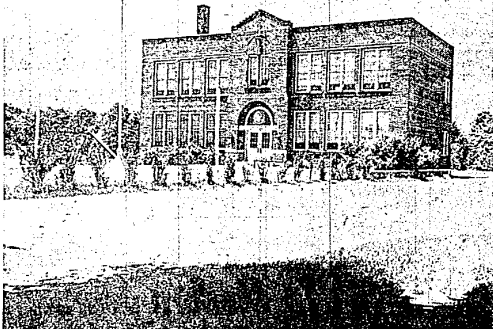


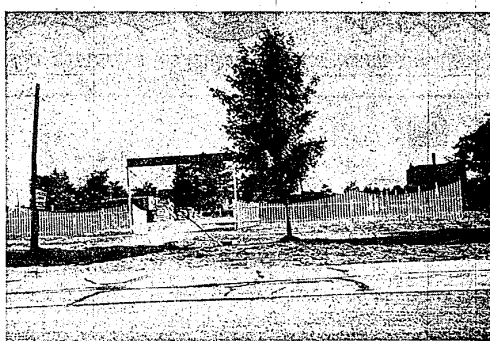
Remember These?-the 'Good Old Days' in Livonia



AN HISTORICAL MARKER was erected last year at the site of Livonia's Newburgh Cemetery on Ann Arbor Trail west of Wayne Rd. The reason? Livonia pioneers organized the burial society that established the cemetery as long ago as 1832—and it continues to be properly maintained. Containing 2.35 acres of land, the cemetery contains the remains of three Revolutionary War veterans and more than 50 persons who fought in the Civil War. Although 75 tombstones were vandalized some seven years ago, most have been restored.



LIVONIA CENTER — 1940: That's when this photograph of one of the community's old schoolhouses was taken. Modern-day residents can still see this brick structure if they peek behind the new Board of Education building on Farmington Rd. south of Five Mile.



FIVE MILE AND Farmington Roads —now one of the major intersections in modern Livonia — once looked like this —and not too long ago, either. Sitting on the southwest corner of the intersection, where a modern shopping center now stands, was Harvey Jahn's lumber yard. The Jahn family later built a hardware store at the location. The old Livonia Center School, now part of the Board of Education complex, is visible at the rear of the picture.



LIVONIA'S ROYAL FAMILY of bowling looks like this today—25 years after opening the area's first bowling establishment, the Livonia Lanes. The group includes: (from left) Warren Hoffman, Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Hoffman, Cass Hoffman and Mrs. Lois McAllister.



OLD WATER TOWER, which is shown in the process of being torn down in this photograph, once stood on the corner of Five Mile and Farmington Roads. This and the other photographs on this page were kindly lent to The Observer by Mrs. Elizabeth Donnelly, who has lived in the city for more than 30 years.



STANDARD SCHOOL, one of the first "little red schoolhouses" to be built in Michigan has stood for many years on Six Mile and Newburgh Roads.

BIRTHDAY SPECIAL

WATCH REPAIR SPECIAL

Complete Overhaul

IRVING JEWELRY

27566 Schoolcraft, at Inkster

VALUABLE COUPON

Best Wishes

Best Wishes from the Senior Citizens Club of Livonia on the 25th Anniversary of The Observer Newspapers.

Pvt. Pierre W. Brunet, son of Mr. and Mrs. Anthony J. Brunet, 18643 Shadylane, Livonia, has completed advanced training as a cannoner at the Army Artillery and Missile Center at Fort Sill, Okla.

Livonia Lanes 25 Years Old

By W. W. Edgar

Strolling down through Memory Lane the other evening, alternately grinning and choking back the tears as events of the past came tumbling through the years, I came upon two men standing in front of a vacant place of property just west of Farmington, on Plymouth Road.

This was back in 1940, long before we knew of such a place as Pearl Harbor. . . . F.D.R. was just completing his second term in the White House and Livonia Township (B.I.—before incorporation) was a sprawling rural country side, with twenty-seven farms under cultivation and its 8,000 population was almost like one big family.

round seats for the bowlers, telescopes, spectator seats, pin racks, and lockers finished in matching colors and the alleys will have center ball returns.

"William Miller is the architect and James Kinahan is the contractor (both of Rosedale Gardens). The building will be 59x129 feet with plenty of parking."

(Cont. on Inside Back Cover)

BIRTHDAY SPECIAL

STROMBECKER RACE CAR KIT

Regular 2.95

\$2.49 With Coupon

MERRI-FIVE HOBBY SHOP

31208 Five Mile Rd., Merri-Five Center

VALUABLE COUPON

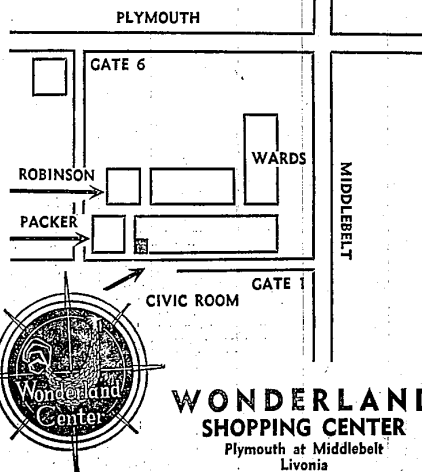
LAST FOUR DAYS!

1965

AUTO LICENSE

NOW ON SALE AT WONDERLAND CIVIC ROOM

HOURS: Open Tues., Wed.; Sat. from 10 to 5 p.m.
Mon., Thurs., Fri. 10 to 3:30 p.m.



WONDERLAND SHOPPING CENTER

Plymouth at Middlebelt
Livonia

THE TWO MEN were standing there chatting and looking and just wondering and one of them spoke up:

"We're thinking of building a bowling establishment here—about eight lanes."

Nothing like that existed in Livonia at the time. In fact there were no recreation facilities except for those who liked horses and went riding over the many paths in the wooded areas.

"Yes," the taller of the two remarked, "we've been bowling up in Plymouth and are no longer pleased with conditions and the lanes, so we thought we'd build our own, for the folks down here."

Thus was born the Livonia Recreation, at 31360 Plymouth Road and the two hardy pioneers in the recreational field were Clarence Hoffman, then the owner of a meat market in a nearby grocery, and Victor Petschulat, a representative of the Kurtz Company, manufacturers of venetian blinds.

Petschulat has long since gone to his reward, but "Hoff" is still carrying on as the instructor and the kindly statesman of bowling who sees that you get a proper fit when purchasing a new bowling ball.

On this morning, in the long ago, when they studied the layout of the land and the "bowling alley" was just a dream, several miles away another group was pioneering in another field and it wasn't long until this dream, too, came into being as Livonia's first newspaper, "The Livonian."

IN THE APRIL 24, 1940, edition, appeared this story on the front page:

"Announcement was made last weekend by Clarence Hoffman and Victor Petschulat, of Rosedale Gardens, of plans to construct a new bowling alley."

"It will contain eight of the finest bowling alleys in the country and will be installed by the Brunswick Company that is celebrating its 100th year in business this year. Features of the alleys are

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