





Proposed Zoning Ordinance for the City of Northville





等 Coming to Downs in '60


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 GLAZED DONUTS . $33^{\prime}$ SPECIAL THIS WEEKI
AEF BRANDUMBO SIE
Instant Coffee ${ }^{10.0 \mathrm{OR}} \mathbf{1 . 2 9}$
 White or Colored
NORTHERN Vienna Bread iliar 17c


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| Imperial Stainless Steel Kitchen Fork Only 69c See display in slore |  |  |  |
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## Pioneers Had Other Plans for Wixom

(Continued from page 1) church along this wooden path.
Later, the church was moved to its present location; the school was abandoned and a new frame school was constructed near the site of the present school. This frame building was later moved to a site one block north. Ted's Country store now occupies the building.

Grand River Center
While a community sprouted near Sibley's corners, another center blossomed near the corner of Wixom road and the DetroitHowell plank road (Grand River). A post office called West Novi was erected.
N. G. Pinney established a large foundry near the corner now occupied by the Lincoln plant. Pinney later sold the business to Daniel Smoke and C. P. Larcum. Smoke soon sold out to Larcum and moved to Holly where he established a similar business.
About this time most settlers believed the corner would become a large village. However, the posi office was abandoned after several years.
But the real blow to the dreams of a community at this corner and the one at Potter road was the establishment of the Flint and Pere Marquette railroad which sliced diagonally across the territory.
Because the heavy foundry business was complemented by rail transportation, Larcum moved his business north to the railroad.
Other businesses sprang up in the vicinity of the tracks: a general store and post office operated by A. W. Arms; a jewelry store, a large wheat and plaster warehouse, and lumber yard, kept by Wixom and Sibley; Larcum's foundry and machine shop; a cheese factory; several blacksmith shops, depot, telegraph and express offices.

Wixom's residents, -who once
traveled to the nearby communities with their farm products, could boast in 1876 that close to 35,000 bushels of wheat and $40 ; 000$ pounds of wool were shipped from Wixom.

Frugal property owners had
great vision and optimism in donating lots for manufacturing purposes, the depot site, and other enterprises.

## Frugal Farmers

Tiffin, who moved with his parents to Novi township in 1879


This "Stage" notice, dated 1856, was submitted by John Wortman of Northville. He acquired the copy from the Henry Ford Museum in Dearborn, where the original now hangs. It advertises the Detroit and Lansing Stage for passengers going "north and northwest from Detroit to Howell, Lansing, Lyons and Ionia" by the Plank Road (Grand River). Time to Lansing: 12 hours. Time from Detroit to Saginaw: 10 hours.
at the age of seven months, recalls that farmers were always anxious to get the best prices for their hard-earned products.
"The farmers would get together and drive their herds of sheep to Walled Lake. They'd drive them right into the water and then wash their wool. It's kind of funny, but the sheep would get pretty dirty on the walk back. But they would pay a few cents more for 'washed wool'."
Tiffin, who recalls sneaking off with his chums to swim in the lake near the "bluffs" ("we didn't wear anything'). recalls that one of the most exciting sports of his youth was horse racing on the frozen lake.
One of the greatest attractions Wixom ever boasted, Tiffin believes, was the hardware store operated by Will and James Chambers. "People use to come from all over, from Milford and Northville, to shop there. They liked to go in and look everything over - even if they didn't buy anything."

Tiffin neyer married but maintains a clean, neat house which rivals the tidiness of any woman's home. Always active, despite partial paralysis of his hands by arthritis, the old man says he would "like to keep going here until the end. But if the arthritis gets worse maybe I'll have to give it all up."
Snuggling up close to the crackling pot-bellied stove, Tiffin explains that modern living can be pretty hard sometimes. "Just think," he said, "when I bought this house my tax was $\$ 1.75$. Now it's about \$70."
But like the earliest Wixom pioneers, Tiffin still manages to muster a smile as he plods for. ward toward tomorrow.
(Next week read about the earliest pioneers of Northville and the development of that community.)


