

# **Weekly News**

# **Townwide Garage Sales**

The 2022 fall garage sales will be Friday & Saturday, September 23 & 24.

For a map of the sales, please click here.

# **Recycling Event**

There will be a one-day electronics recycling event October 1st from 9-12AM. It will be at the Festival Building, 2200 E. Washington St. in East Peoria. <u>Click here</u> for more information including acceptable items to bring.

# **Tremont High School - Retirement Celebration**

As most of you know, Jeff Hinman retired as Superintendent of Tremont District #702 in June 2020. We think it's about time to celebrate his retirement!

Jeff will be in the Homecoming Parade as the Grand Marshall on Friday, September 23 at 4:15pm. We'd like to honor him before the Homecoming football game with a community reception at the football field! Please stop by to join in the fun, visit with Jeff, and enjoy some cupcakes! Sandwiches along with other concessions are available for purchase starting at 5:15pm.

Date: Tremont's Homecoming - Friday, September 23, 2022 Time: 5:30pm Place: Tremont Football Field



# **Tremont Library**

Announcement: Tremont Library Refresh!

Tremont District Library is getting new carpet, paint, and a brand-new front circulation desk. This refresh is a goal the board and I have been working towards since I started here seven years ago. Our children's area is gorgeous and will remain as it is. But we will be changing the carpet and paint in the rest of the building after nearly a quarter century (25 years) of use. We only hope the carpet tiles we're installing will wear as long and as well!

In order to get this work done, the building will be closed starting Monday, October 17th. (When will we open? As quickly as possible! But we're not going to set a date until the work is almost done!) If you're wondering why we need to close: we have to (get to?) remove the books and media from all the shelves in the teen and adult areas, as well as all the public and staff computers, package it all up for temporary storage, let the carpet folks and painters work - then put it all back again after the work is done.

Guess what? Tremont Library cards will work at all area libraries, so during the closure is a great time to visit Morton, Pekin, Mackinaw, Delavan, or another area library of your choice! In fact, in recent years, Pekin and Morton have done full or partial closures for work in their buildings, and their library patrons visited Tremont Library to check out items! So now we're returning the favor. Area libraries know we are closing for a time and are expecting you!

But! If you don't want to leave town--or even your own home--the Library has **lots** of online services available 24/7 and anytime the building isn't open:

- Read thousands of ebooks and audiobooks through Libby, Axis 360, and Hoopla
- Read the Peoria Journal Star (and access hundreds of other newspapers) from home via Newsbank Online
- Download TV, movies, and music (via Hoopla)
- Access World Book Encyclopedia online, a great resource for kids-- we have two versions, one for K-4th Grade and one for 4-8th Grade
- Check out museum passes online to the Riverfront Museum--and access discounts to dozens of Illinois attractions

All you need to access resources from home is your library card and pin number. (If you don't know what it is, we can reset it for you!) If you need to contact a librarian during the closure, or any time until then, we're ready to help! Give us a call, e-mail, or message on Facebook.

Lastly, there will be no books or items due back during the closure. All due dates will be extended until we're open since we won't be able to take any returns during the closure. You can keep your items until we open again, or if that's not possible, drop them off at another area library.

Watch our website, Facebook, and front door for updates!

Maria Ford Library Director Tremont District Library

### **Tremont Library**

Lego Afternoons Monday, September 19th 3:30-4:30pm

Work together to build amazing creations! Try out new sets, stop motion videos, and other challenges. Ages 6+, no registration required.

Can't make it to this one? The next Lego afternoon will be November 14th.

#### Hogwarts' Half-Bloods (YA Book Club)

Tuesday, September 20th 6:30pm

Ages 12-19 are invited to join us to discuss a monthly book (or two) pick and enjoy a drink from Eli's. Copies of each month's book are available at the library for anyone interested! If you'd like to keep up to date with Hogwarts' Half-Bloods, email Lizzi at <u>lizzi@tremontlibrary.com</u> to be added to our Remind group.

#### **Story Hour**

Thursday, September 22nd 10:30 am - 11:15 am

Story Hour is perfect for ages 3-6. Miss Maddie reads stories, sings songs and rhymes, and does activities that all encourage early literacy and improves socialization skills in the youngest of library patrons. We know a group setting is new for lots of kiddos this age, so wiggles are welcome! Make Story

Hour a step you take in preparing your child for life-long learning.

### **Minecraft Days**

Saturday, September 24th 10am-12:30pm

Kids ages 7+ are invited to bring your own device and connect to our library Realm. First-time participants and their parents will need to sign a Code of Conduct before joining (see more below).

Minecraft Realms are a great way for builders to get together and create worlds. Realms are big though, and I (Lizzi) can't monitor every interaction. Participants will need to sign a waiver saying they promise not to use bad language, be mean to other players, or destroy other's creations. Parents will need to sign saying that they understand their child will be playing online with other children.

### S.T.E.A.M. Lab Plus (Ages 7+)

Mondays - October 10th, November 7th, and December 5th 3:30-4:30pm

All new! S.T.E.A.M. Lab Plus is perfect for ages 7+ that want to learn about the world around them. Participate in group activities to learn about the Scientific Method, learn about Cause and Effect, make something to take home, and so much more! No registration required.

(Looking for S.T.E.A.M. programming for younger kids? Check out S.T.E.A.M. Lab!)

### Baby & Me

Wednesdays, 10:30am

New and experienced parents are invited to join Miss Nicole on Wednesday mornings for a parent/baby support group. Meet other parents in the area, make friends, enjoy new toys, lots of books, and a must: free coffee.

The focus of this group is parents and young children ages 0-3, but other siblings are always welcome! No registration required, drop in whenever works best for you.

# **Tremont Museum**

### TWO BIG EVENTS!

**Program, Tuesday, September 20 at 7:00 PM – Abraham Lincoln, Judge David Davis, and Tremont** – Presented by Matt Haney of the David Davis Foundation in Bloomington, an expert on the subject. These men are a part of Tremont's rich history. Please come and bring a friend! Program is free of charge at the Tremont Community Center, hosted by the Tremont Historical Society. Donuts and Cider will be served.

New exhibit starting Sunday, September 25 from 2:00-4:00 PM and continuing on the 2nd and 4th Sundays through Nov. 13: The Morton Pottery Story. Tremont has a connection to the huge Morton Pottery factories that were once in Morton, Illinois. The story is interesting, and one that few know today. Please share this exhibit information! Special Exhibit Admission is \$5.00, and for seniors and children, \$3.00. We can only take cash or checks. – Tremont Museum, 329 South Sampson Street.

# The Morton Pottery Story

Tremont Museum Corner of S.Sampson + Madison

# Ongoing: 2nd and 4th Sundays | 2-4pm Sept.25-Nov.13

Opening Day Event Sunday | 2-4pm

Sept. 25

# Did you know ...?





From an earlier "Did you know ...?"

### The Demise of the Tazewell County Courthouse in Tremont

According to the August 9, 1889 Pantagraph, the old courthouse at that time, stood, "...vacant and alone, a mute monument to departed hopes and a silent memento of past prosperity."

It had once been a majestic building, and the center of Tazewell County legal activity with the likes of Abraham Lincoln, Stephen Douglas and Judge David Davis frequenting the court. What had happened? History tells us.

Obtaining the county seat for Tremont was quite an accomplishment back in 1835, just as the new village of Tremont was being settled. Losing it in 1889 was a blow that could have meant the town's death knell. An old history states that the loss came about starting as far back as 1839, "...when a complaint

was raised by the people of Pekin against the county seat being in Tremont, and there upon began a bitter warfare between the two places."

But, in the beginning, court was held in Tremont, and the town continually grew with businesses largely due to the influx of people coming to court. Having the county seat was the frosting on the cake for Tremont. But trouble was approaching, and finally a petition to move the courthouse to Pekin was circulated. There were so many signatures that a vote was finally taken. The majority of the county approved. The decision was made that the town of Pekin and the area around it would erect a courthouse without cost to the county, within two years. Pekin claimed victory and was recognized as the county seat in 1850. Foreseeing the possibility of a similar disagreement in the future, Pekin succeeded in having a law passed to allow them to keep the county seat permanently.

Bitter and disillusioned, many people, including Josiah James, one of Tremont's founders, left Tremont. Another prominent figure who left was John Albert Jones, owner of the huge "Red Brick" home with so much history.

John Harris, another founder, had originally donated the land for the courthouse. He appeared in court to try to recover the property, as he had given it specifically for the purpose of the courthouse. The court ruled against him, and Abraham Lincoln appealed the case to the Illinois Supreme Court. But the judge there ruled that the deed was not absolute; the county seat would remain in Pekin, and Harris could not recover the property.

It was then decided the courthouse in Tremont was to be used exclusively for the purpose of education. In a letter from a Mr. Shaw, dated 1850, he writes, "In a few days the courts will be removed and the courthouse vacated...there was some talk of using the building for a Normal School house (to train teachers), but the establishment of such an institution would require the contribution of a fund by the state, and the state is too poor and indebted to make grants of the kind..."

For several years, a Professor Snow taught there, until the school, the original Tremont High School, was unable to support itself. Many organizations used the large upper rooms for years, for club dances, amateur plays, and the yearly Catholic fair, among other activities. Later, the lower rooms were used as tenements.

An article entitled, "Historic Tremont" from the Peoria Herald Transcript of January 1905, described the demise of the courthouse in this way, "...little by little, as the years glided by and the proper and timely repairs were not made, it began to decay and crumble. The swallows that flitted by took possession of it. The woodpecker...defaced the columns that so majestically supported its roof...now, with its cupola gone, and its rooms uninhabited, it seemed to look at the observer in abject humility.

Finally, the building reverted to the heirs of John Harris. His daughter, Mrs. E.C. Saltenstall became the owner. But by then it was so run down it would have been dangerous to occupy. In 1895, the old building was razed and the lot sold. Tremont contractor William Brown built a house there. He was able to use the old building's wood and other items in its construction. Today, some of those pieces, including the courthouse door key, a boot scraper, and a stained-glass window, are now on display at the Tremont Museum.

Today, there are several homes on the former courthouse square. If you try really hard, you might be able to envision a courthouse there, facing Washington Street and looking down South James Street, surrounded by trees and the bustle of business to conduct.

In 1956, the Illinois State Historical Society placed a marker at the end of what had once been the 140foot-wide Broadway Street. The marker is all that is left to remind our residents of the courthouse that had stood there so proudly, and the long-ago lawyers, judges and clients that occupied it.

~Tremont Museum and Historical Society

### Monday

MS Baseball Regional

V Golf HOME (Sunset) vs Pekin - 4:00PM

HS Volleyball vs IVC - 5:00PM

Football F-SO vs Tri-Valley - 5:30PM

### Tuesday

V Golf vs HOIC Meet @ El Paso Country Club - 9:00AM

V Girls Swimming @ Galesburg - 4:30PM

HS Volleyball HOME vs Lexington (Fresh/JV/Var) - 5:00PM

Tremont Historical Society Program - 7:00PM Tremont Community Center

# Wednesday

V Golf HOME (Sunset) vs Eureka - 4:00PM

MS Cross Country vs Tazwood Meet @ Metamora - 4:00PM

# Thursday

MS Girls Basketball @ Pekin - 4:30PM

HS Volleyball HOME vs LeRoy (Fresh/JV/Var) - 5:00PM

Girls Swimming @ U-High - 6:00PM

# Friday

Townwide Garage Sales

MS Softball State

Homecoming Parade - 4:15PM

Retirement Celebration for Jeff Hinman - 5:30PM Tremont Football Field

V Football HOME vs Madison - 7:00PM

# Saturday

Townwide Garage Sales

Farmers' Market - 9:00AM - 12:00PM City Park

MS Softball State

**MS Baseball Sectional** 

V Girls Swimming @ Bloomington - 9:00AM

V Golf vs PORTA Invite (Shambolee) - 9:00AM

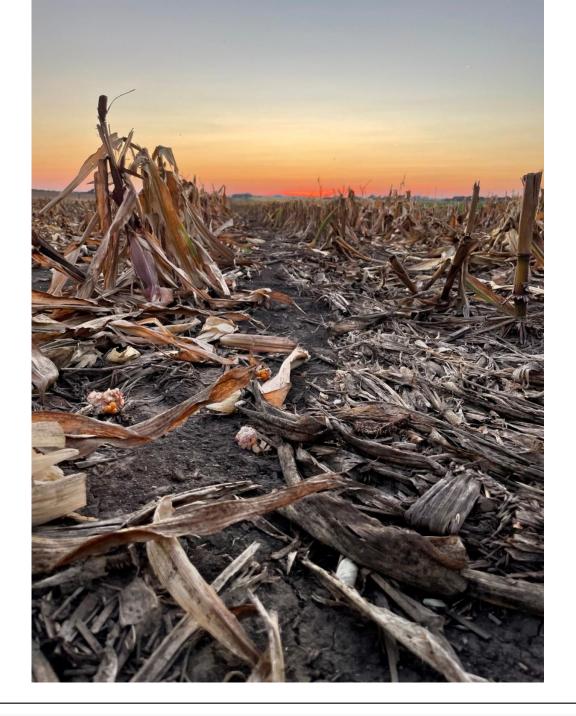
HS Cross Country @ Kewanee Invite - 9:00AM

MS Cross Country @ Olympia Invite - 9:00AM

### Sunday

Morton Pottery Story Opening Day Event - 2:00PM-4:00PM Tremont Museum

**Around Town** 



Please send us your news stories and they will be included in upcoming emails. Deadline to include information is Friday, 6:00PM for the following Monday.

We accept information from official Tremont, IL businesses, organizations, and advertisers. We will also post Public Auctions and Open Houses.

Thank you,

Haas IT Solutions, Inc. on behalf of Tremont Winning Communities

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