

# **Weekly News**

# TREMONT FIRE DEPARTMENT OPEN HOUSE



# TREMONT FIRE DEPARTMENT OPEN HOUSE! SUNDAY, OCT. 8th

# 1 - 4 PM | 300 S Sampson Street

- FREE POPCORN, HOT DOGS, & CHILI
- FIRE TRUCK RIDES
- KIDS CAN SPRAY A HOSE
- ✓ TOUR OUR FACILITY
- TALK ABOUT VOLUNTEERING!









#### **Area School District Tax Rates**

#### Area School District Tax Rates Sean Berry, Superintendent

Last year, I shared some information about area school district tax rates and how Tremont's is actually one of the lowest around. Last year, out of 30 area communities, Tremont ranked 27th in school district tax rate. This year, Tremont dropped one spot lower to 28th out of 30. Only Midwest Central and Eureka are lower among the 30 communities used for comparison.

With that being said, the purpose of this article is not to suggest that property taxes aren't high. I pay property taxes here as well, so I'm very much aware. It's important to remember, however, that the system of funding schools in Illinois is based primarily on those property taxes. It's not an ideal system, but it's the system we exist within.

A lot goes into the calculation of the tax rate and it can be complicated to explain. Under

PTELL (tax caps), the relationship between equalized assessed value (EAV) and inflation (CPI) is instrumental in determining the tax rate each year. The high inflation we've experienced in recent years and the larger than normal increases in property values are both part of a larger formula that determines the tax rate. While CPI exceeded 5% for the second consecutive year (and only the second time since tax caps were enacted in 1998), the district's estimated EAV increased 9.9%, which is much higher than normal.

The relationship between the two means that the tax rate next year will decrease further. This year's school tax rate is 5.13% of assessed value, but next year it's projected to drop to 4.93%. Obviously, everyone is aware by now that assessments skyrocketed recently for most of us. As a result, our tax bills will still increase even with the lower rate, but the tax cap formula helps to limit that increase. It's more like a "loose lid" than a cap, but it does help control tax bills.

School funding in Illinois is heavily dependent on local property taxes. Over the last 20 years, the proportion of school district revenue from local sources has increased significantly due to years of shortages in state funding. For the current year, local sources of revenue will account for about 66% of the district's revenue. Most of this comes from the annual property tax levy. State funding accounts for about 29% of revenue while federal sources make up about 5%. 20 years ago, local funding accounted for 53% and state funding was 43%, so you can see how the burden has shifted over time.

I mentioned earlier that Tremont ranks 28th out of 30 area communities when it comes to school district tax rate. For context, if you had a \$200,000 property in Morton, you'd be paying \$235 more in school property taxes this year than you would on a \$200,000 property in Tremont. A \$200,000 property in Pekin would cost you \$615 more. In Delavan, that number jumps to \$624 more. That amount increases to \$932 more if you had that property value in Washington District 51/308. Again, I'm not making an argument that property taxes aren't high. But hopefully this information helps you see how we stack up relative to other communities in the area.

Property tax revenue is used to provide quality educational programs, maintain facilities, and provide student transportation. We are proud of what we offer our students and families and will continue to do our best to be responsible stewards of district finances. Thank you for taking the time to read this article. I know it's a sensitive subject for many right now with the recent assessment increases, but hopefully this information provided some context and perspective.

#### TREMONT PARK DISTRICT

#### Turk Gear available at TAPD

Various sizes in t-shirts, long sleeve t-shirts, and hoodies Prices range from \$10 - \$25

#### JOIN TREMONT FITNESS

Cardio, weights, and classes offered. Workout hours 5 AM - 10 PM.

Rates: \$25.00 per month

-Additional member living in household: \$5.00

\*\*All minors must have parents signature to obtain a membership. Must be 16 to work out without a parent. Ages 14/15 must work out with an adult.

Fitness Class 10 Punch Pass: \$40.00

#### **Tremont Parks & Recreation Center**

22522 IL Rt. 9 Tremont, IL 61568 (309) 925-3811

#### Office Hours:

- Mon-Tues-Thurs 8:00 am 12:00 pm & 4:00 pm 7:00 pm
- Wednesday 4:00 pm 7:00 pm
- Fri 8:00 am 12:00 pm & 4:00 pm 6:00 pm
- Saturday 8:30 am 11:00 am
- Sunday Closed

#### Did You Know...?



Matthew Baer
Prominent Early Tremonton, Utah Settler, Originally from Tremont, Illinois

Last week's article told of a group from Tremont, Illinois, who left to settle in northwestern Utah around 1901. Because they were mostly from Germany originally, and because they were Apostolic Christians whose church services were conducted in German, they were referred to as the "German Colony". They founded the town of Tremont, named after the town they had left. This group of men included Gideon Winzeler, Louis Getz, Henry Baer, Samuel Imthurn, Mathew Baer, Jacob Meister, and their families

Just four years later, the post office felt the need to change the town's name to Tremonton to avoid confusion with the town of Fremont. After about ten years, a serious division in the world-wide Apostolic Church caused an irreparable split, and most of the former Tremont, Illinois residents returned to their former hometown. A few, such as Matthew Baer, remained.

An article from the May 10, 1923 *Tremonton Leader* paid tribute to Matthew Baer, one of the Tremont(on) founders, who had recently been killed in a freak car accident on the same day and time that his daughter needed emergency surgery. The paper referred to him as "one of the most widely-known and respected citizens in the northern part of the state." Baer was born in Baden, Germany and came to "the Peoria area (Tremont)" in 1896. He became manager of the several hundred acres of Sommer & Sommer farm interests just west of the city.

The Sommers were owners of the Keystone Wire and Iron Works of Peoria. Later, Baer used his engineering background to form the Baer Drainage Company, along with the Sommers. He had the contract for virtually all of the large drainage projects in the state of Utah. He was chief organizer of the Tremonton Products Company and was also president of Tremonton Cider Vinegar Company, Director of the Tremonton Telephone Company, President of Tremonton Dairy Products, and had served on the city council for four years.

A little over a year before his own death, he had lost his wife. They left behind thirteen children. According to his obituary, hundreds were expected to attend his funeral.

He was an original town founder who thrived in the area and left his mark forever on the town of Tremonton and the state of Utah.

~ Tremont Museum and Historical Society Lori Fuoss, Reprint

#### **Tremont Museum**

#### **Check Out the Updated Displays**

Eight volunteers have spent the last month working on rearranging and designing new displays. Be sure to stop in and spend a Sunday afternoon learning about our uniquely founded town. The Museum will be open 2nd - 4th Sundays from 2-4 PM. Admission is free, though donations are encouraged!

# **Tremont District Library News**

#### **Graphic Novel Book Club (ages 8-12)**

Tuesday, October 3, 3:30 - 4:30 pm

Graphic Novel Book Club is a great way for 8-12 year olds to meet other Graphic Novel enthusiasts and share their feelings about new and old books! Ran just like a classic book club with a group discussions, but with the addition of snacks and a craft!

#### Baby & Me Group (ages 0-3)

Wednesdays, 10:30 - 11:30 am

A support group for new and experienced parents.

#### **Tween Time: Mosaics**

Thursday, October 5, 4:30 - 6:30 pm

All new for Fall 2023...Tween Times! Tweens ages 8-12 are invited to stop by the library for events made just for them!

In October we'll be featuring Mosaics. Make a colorful picture out of tiles and air dry clay. You can take your mosaic home to dry or leave it here and pick it up later. This is a drop-in program and likely will not take more than 30 minutes. Make sure your child has a way to contact you if you plan on leaving the building!

Upcoming Tween Times this Fall:

- Nov. 2nd: Pokemon: The Card Game
- Dec. 6th: Tween and Teen Paint Night

# **Tremont Community Senior Meals**



Meals are served every Monday, Wednesday and Friday at 11pm at the Tremont Community Center. These are for anyone 60 and up, there is no cost! If you want to join us you can stop in and sign up or call 309-674-1131 ext 231 for more information or to sign up.

If you would like to help support these meals, there are a few ways to get involved!

- 1. You can volunteer. Help us serve food and clean up from 10:45-12:15 in a relaxed and fun environment.
- You can donate. Donations of disposable dinnerware (plates, cups, silverware, dessert plates, large and small take-home containers, rectangular tablecloths and napkins) can be dropped off at the <u>Tremont Share Closet</u> during their open hours. If you want a more detailed list of our current needs, you can see our Amazon wish list here.
- 3. You can entertain. We like to host fun activities from 11:45-12:15 on Fridays and are always looking for creative and fun ideas to fill that time.

If you have any questions about donations or want to get involved, you can reach out to Braden at <a href="mailto:scsoulmanager@gmail.com">scsoulmanager@gmail.com</a>.

# **Community Calendar**

# **Monday**

HS Golf vs Sectional - TBA

MS Cross Country HOME vs Metamora Grade School, Peoria Academy - 4:15 PM

MS Girls Basketball @ Midwest Central Middle School - 5:30 PM

HS F-SO Football HOME vs Eureka High School - 5:30 PM

HS Volleyball HOME vs Clinton High School (JV/Var) - 6:00 PM

# Tuesday

MS Girls Basketball @ Washington Middle - 5:30 PM

HS Volleyball @ Fisher (JV/Var) - 5:30 PM

# Wednesday

No Events

### **Thursday**

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

MS Girls Basketball @ Illini Central - 5:30 PM

### **Friday**

HS Golf State - TBA

MS Cross Country Sectional - TBA

HS Football @ Dee-Mack - 7:00 PM

# **Saturday**

HS Cross Country @ Heyworth - TBA

#### **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.

Tremont Winning Communities | info@tremontil.com | http://tremontil.com

# Unsubscribe web@mavidea.com Update Profile |Constant Contact Data Notice

Sent byinfo@tremontil.compowered by



Try email marketing for free today!