



## Weekly News

### Village Minutes

To view the most recent village board meeting minutes, please go to <http://www.tremontil.com/tremont-board-of-trustees.php>

### Tremont Library Activities

Follow us on Facebook or visit our website, [At Home with Tremont Library](#), to see what online services we offer. Our collection of e-books are available 24/7.

#### At Home Bingo

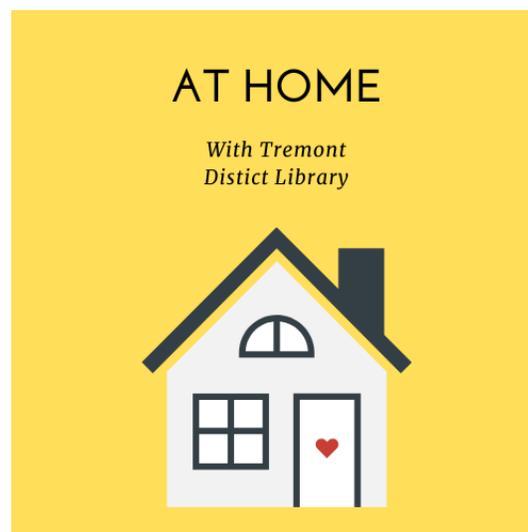
Starting Tuesday, April 21st, patrons of all ages are invited to play [At Home Bingo](#) with us!

#### Online Adult Programming

[Watercolors for Fun and Relaxation](#) with Director Maria.  
[Rock Dot Painting](#) with Director Maria

#### Online Children's Programming

Maker Mondays: Make a craft each Monday with Miss Nicole! [Visit Facebook](#).  
[Join our Read-Aloud Facebook group](#) to enjoy read-aloud picture books by Youth Director Lizzi and the Tremont Librarians! New posts on Wednesdays and Fridays.



### COVID-19 Local Resource Requests

**UICOMP Accepting Handmade Masks:** The University of Illinois College of Medicine is accepting donations of handmade masks. Details at [this link](#)

**Community Foundation of Central Illinois:** Requesting monetary donations for the Central Illinois Disaster Recovery Fund. Details at [this link](#)

**UnityPoint Health:** UnityPoint is seeking personal protective equipment (PPE) and other medical supplies. They are also in search of medical personnel to help them prepare in the event there is an influx of sick patients. Details at [this link](#)

**OSF Healthcare:** OSF seeking personal protective equipment (PPE), ventilators and other supplies. Details at [this link](#)

**Heartland Health Services:** Seeking personal protective equipment, medical supplies, hand sanitizer, and disinfectant wipes unopened. Details at [this link](#)

**Hopedale Medical Complex:** Please consider sending cards and well wishes to the residents at Hopedale Commons and Hopedale Nursing Home! A short note or a child's drawing would be appreciated. A drop-off location for these cards and well wishes is provided at Tremont High School, 400 W Pearl St. Tremont, IL 61568. Please feel free to drop items off just inside the front glass doors at the high school entrance between 9am-1pm Monday-Friday each week. Donations/items will be picked up every Friday around noon. Also requesting masks if you can sew. Check out the Central Illinois Mask & Gown Makers Group at <https://www.facebook.com/groups/551858748772429/>. If you have another idea of how you would like to help, please call 309.449.4290 or email [mpeterson-lindsey@hopedalemc.com](mailto:mpeterson-lindsey@hopedalemc.com) with ideas.

## Did you know...?

### Part 2: Through the Years...The Columbia Opera House



*Postcard photo taken soon after the Columbia Building was built. Note the dirt streets and the many trees on Sampson Street.*

Fred Trout thought of everything when he built and ran the Columbia Building. For example, because traveling vaudeville troupes and other groups arrived in town, usually by train, he saw to it that there were several sleeping rooms at the back of the building for them. Those who came into town also had a place to stay, if necessary. In addition, he had an elevator installed, to bring scenery and equipment in for some of the more elaborate shows. Sometime later, he built a livery stable conveniently located behind the Columbia Building. The Palace Livery was run by Cody and Fluegel.

According to original tickets at the Tremont Museum, to attend the Opera House grand opening ball was 25 cents. To attend Whistler's Orchestra playing for a ball, admission was 75 cents, and 25 cents for spectators. The museum has a number of Columbia Opera House items on display.

Meanwhile, under the busy opera house area were shops and businesses, which added greatly to the Tremont "downtown area." There was even room in the basement for a business. Known original businesses in 1899 were the Columbia Saloon, run by C.A. Fluegel from 1899-1900 and The Red Light Bakery and Restaurant from 1899-1901. Soon after, in 1901, C.N. Jewelry opened, and the Francis Perry Bakery. In 1902, the 1<sup>st</sup> National Bank opened where the Columbia Saloon had been.

The businesses were varied and many throughout the past 121 years! There were several bakeries and cafes, donut shops, flower shops, jewelry shops, a clothing store, a beauty shop, a barber shop, a farm store, a pizza shop, taverns and grocers. Even the Tremont Post Office was located in two different spots in the building!



*Photo of Opera House businesses in 1945 taken from William Koch's photo album loaned to the museum from Jim Petrov. Caption says Marilyn and Hanna Koch*

Fred Trout went on to build the building where the Tremont District Library is now housed. He was an active businessman in other areas of our community, as well. He certainly left his mark on Tremont even up to today.

Next week, Part 3

~ Tremont Museum and Historical Society

## **District 702 Update**

To view the April 27, 2020 update for Tremont District 702 from Supt. Hinman regarding COVID-19, [click here](#).

## **Tremont Garden Club**

Garden Club 2020 will be very different. Club plans have been rethought, rearranged and rescheduled for the year. There are annual events we are all going to miss. Merchants day, planters, as well as new events we were to be part of this year.

We are planning a new beginning in July to enjoy the remaining months to see each other and share our thankfulness that God has blessed our homes, friends and families during this difficult time. Looking forward to seeing everyone for fun, food and social time again in July 2020.

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\* This section will continue to provide suggestions for 'at-home' activities.

### **Monday**

Create a treasure hunt (leaving clues around the house or yard).

### **Tuesday**

Make a list of all the things you love about your significant other for a card or scrapbook. Make stuff up if you have to.

### **Wednesday**

Do shadow puppets in the dark.

### **Thursday**

Rearrange your sock drawer.

### **Friday**

Pitch a tent inside and have a campout.

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## Around Town



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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.

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Thank you,

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

Tremont Winning Communities | [info@tremontil.com](mailto:info@tremontil.com) | <http://tremontil.com>