



TREMONT ILLINOIS

Weekly News

Did you know...?

Jacob Barkdoll, Tremont Businessman

Like many young men at the time, J.W. (Jacob) Barkdoll ran away from his Ohio home at the age of 15 to become a soldier in the Civil War. He joined the 38th Ohio Volunteer Infantry and saw a great deal of the war, participating in several major battles. In fact, he was a part of Sherman's famous "March to the Sea."

After the war years, he and his second wife, Catherine (Kate), moved to Mackinaw, Illinois, where he set up a blacksmith business. In 1891, he formed a partnership with L.B. Davidson there and sold buggies, wagons, and farm machinery.

It was the right business at the right time. And it didn't hurt that he was an astute businessman. It was such a booming business that he started a branch in nearby Tremont, which quickly was a great success; so much so that in 1893, Jacob, Kate, and their young daughter, Lula, moved to Tremont. They soon built a fine house at 301 South Warren Street. Later, they welcomed a second daughter, Glenna, completing their family.

Jacob purchased the vacant Episcopalian Church on the corner of West South and South West Streets and moved it to the corner of East South and South James Streets just opposite today's grade school learning garden. He constructed a building on the adjoining lots for his buggy and harness shop as well as a blacksmith shop. The church was transformed into a buggy showroom and a harness room. In addition, a small building to the west was used as a cream testing station.

Jacob became very involved in his new community. He served as mayor and also as postmaster. He was also a member of several service organizations. As his beautiful new home was located near the old Elm Grove School, he set up his own water system and pumped water to the school and to close neighbors as well.

When Jacob retired, Tremont resident Dean Stormer rented the buildings and had an International Harvester Implement Agency there. Mr. Barkdoll died in 1930 at age 82.

~ Tremont Museum and Historical Society

Sources: Tazewell and Mason Counties Portrait Biological Record 1894, Tremont Illinois Sesquicentennial Book 1835-1985, Tremont News article, Mackinaw Remembers 1827-2002.





*Jacob W. Barkdoll 1848-1930
Buried at Mount Hope Cemetery in Tremont*

Tremont Library

Stay up to date on all upcoming library programs by visiting us on Facebook or our online calendar:
<http://tremontlibrary.com/calendar/>

Baby and Me

Wednesdays, 10:30 AM

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.

Monday

GB home vs Tri-Valley - 5:30PM

Tuesday

BB home vs Tri-Valley - 5:30PM

WR home vs Olympia, Clinton - 5:30PM

Thursday

MS VB home vs East Peoria - 4:15PM

Boys Swimming at Pekin - 4:30PM

GB at GCMS - 5:30PM

Friday

BB at GCMS - 5:30PM

WR at Princeton

Saturday

MS WR at Olympia - 9:00AM

MS Boys BB home vs Eureka - 9:00AM

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