



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>

Did you know...?

Tremont Female Seminary

The Female Seminary was supposed to stand in the center of the Tremont's public square, demonstrating the great value placed on education in Tremont, right from its beginnings. In today's context, the word seminary is used to mean a college that prepares students to be ministers, priests, or rabbis, according to dictionary.com. However, in 1850 when the Tremont Seminary was established, the word had a much different meaning. In the 1800s and early 1900s, education for women was not very common. A Female Seminary was a private educational institution.

On April 3, 1850, the first meeting of the "Stockholders of the Tremont Female Seminary was holden." 96 shares of stock were sold, most individually, within just a few weeks. Almarine Hayward was hired to construct a 44 X 28 foot two story building in the public square (today's City Park.) However, many citizens of Tremont objected to that location for a private school. That was the first of the issues the fledgling school encountered. Very shortly, some stockholders were not paying their assessments and the budget had to be cut from the beginning.

Another location was found at the southwest corner of Park and Locust Streets, where the large grain storage bins are today. The first principal was Miss Harriet Kingsbury with an annual salary of \$350. Miss Abby Kingsbury was hired to teach for a salary of \$300. The seminary opened on November 17, 1851 with 27 students, though the building was not quite finished. The school year consisted of three 14-week terms. Early historians say it was one of the finest institutions of its kind in all of Illinois. The pupils came from all over the country.

The impressive list of subjects and their charges were:

Latin, Algebra, Geometry and Trigonometry -\$7.00

History, Logic, Rhetoric, Physiology, Anatomy, Natural Philosophy, Chemistry, Botany, Moral and Intellectual Philosophy - \$5.50.

Reading, Writing, Arithmetic, Geography, Grammar - \$4.50.

Extra charge for Music, French, Drawing & Painting - \$4.50.

And all taught by one teacher! She taught for one year and was replaced by Miss Lucy Andrews.

In 1853, the tuition fees were dropped to \$5.00, \$4.00 and \$3.00.

The challenges were many, such as, some stockholders failed to pay or only paid while their own children attended, a lack of equipment, and low enrollment. There was a depression in the late 1850s, and though many efforts and sacrifices were made, in 1858, the school closed. It reopened at least twice, but a recession followed, the Civil War was brewing, enrollment dwindled, and it could not sustain itself.

On May 20, 1861, the school's prize possession, its piano, was rented out quarterly for lessons in the school building by several teachers. The board approved the loan of much of the equipment to the Tremont High School, which at that time was located in the vacated Courthouse. Later, that

school evolved into the Tremont Community Unit District 702.

On July 5, 1862, it is recorded that the board requested of an original board member, Mr. Tompkins, to move his hogs from the Seminary yard. Months later, the property and equipment sold at a public auction on May 20 1864.

The Seminary building was moved to the site of the old Bell School, which had been destroyed. The old seminary was used for several years as a public grade school and stood on East Walnut Street, where the Baptist Church addition is today. That school was used until 1892, when a new school was built where the Tremont Grade School stands today.

The Tremont Seminary had high ideals, and though in the end it failed, it set the standard for excellence in education in Tremont.

~ Tremont Museum and Historical Society

*Credit to a 1916 article from Illinois Central College by Fred W. Soady, Jr., Historian.
The museum has an interesting display of Tremont Schools, which can be viewed once the current exhibit ends.*



Variance Hearing

The Village of Tremont Zoning Board will conduct a Variance Hearing

Where: Tremont Community Center – 216 S. Sampson St. Tremont, IL.

When: Thursday, September 3, 2020 – 7:00PM

The purpose of this hearing is whether to grant:

The construction of a ground mount solar array within the Village of Tremont.

LEGAL DESCRIPTION: PIN# 11-11-13-413-050

Commonly Known as: 400 W. Pearl St. Tremont, IL. 61568

PETITIONER is Tremont High School and Hawk Energy Solutions Solar

All parties having an interest in this above matter are to attend said meeting, on the time and date at the location specified above, to voice their concerns.

Respectfully,

Glen Gullette
Code Enforcement Officer
Village of Tremont

Apron Strings and Kitchen Things Exhibit

Come see what everyone is talking about! The “Apron Strings and Kitchen Things” exhibit is at the Tremont Historical Museum. Admission to the exhibit includes the Agriculture Building. Enter at the main museum.

Extra cleaning measures are being taken and masks and social distancing are advised.



Early Childhood Screening

Tremont School District #702 will be holding an Early Childhood Screening on Thursday, August 27, 2020. All children ages 0-5 living in District #702 are eligible. This is not a Turk Center or Kindergarten Screening. The purpose is to screen developmental levels in motor skills, general knowledge, social skills, and speech/language skills in order to assess the need for special education services. Further evaluation may be recommended. If you have concerns in the areas listed or would like reassurance that your child is progressing well, you can call and make an appointment.

For more information, [click here](#).

Notice of Village Zoning Board Public Hearing

The Village of Tremont Zoning Board will hold a public hearing on Sept. 3, 2020 at 7:00PM at the Tremont Village Hall, 211 S. Sampson St., Tremont, Illinois, concerning two requested modifications of the regulations of the Village's Zoning Ordinance pursuant to Section 1306 of the Tremont Zoning Code. The modifications would allow the subdivision of the property commonly known as 604 W. Pearl St., Tremont, Illinois (PIN 11-11-13-413-058) into two parcels, the north parcel having a rear yard of zero (0) feet, and the south parcel having a front yard of zero (0) feet.

By order of the Zoning Board of the Village of Tremont, Tazewell County, Illinois.

Chairman
Zoning Board

Tuesday

HS Golf Home vs Illini Bluffs - 4:00PM

MS Cross Country Home vs Dee-Mack - 4:15PM

MS Softball @ Washington Middle School - 5:00PM

MS Baseball Home vs Washington Middle School - 5:00PM

Wednesday

HS JV Golf Home vs Pekin - 4:00PM

Thursday

Saturday

Farmers Market - 8:00-11:00AM
City Park

MS Softball Home vs Beverly Manor - 10:00AM

MS Baseball @ Beverly Manor - 10:00AM

HS Girls Swim Coop Home (Pekin) vs Rock Island - 11:00AM

Apron Strings Exhibit - 1:00-4:00PM
Tremont Museum

Sunday

Apron Strings Exhibit - 1:00-4:00PM
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