



Weekly News

Tremont First National Bank

The First National Bank in Tremont held a groundbreaking ceremony for their Lincoln Banking Center on Wednesday, December 15th. The new location at 710 Woodlawn Road in Lincoln, IL is expected to open during the summer of 2022.



Tremont Comprehensive Plan Update

The Comprehensive Plan for the Village of Tremont continues to be a work in progress. Surveys will remain open through the end of December. If you haven't had an opportunity to provide feedback, please take a few moments to complete the questionnaire so this valuable data can be compiled.

We are grateful for the large turnout at the Community Open House on November 11. Almost 100 people attended and supplied a great deal of information at the various interactive booths set up by the Tri-County Regional Planning organization.

To date, 235 surveys have been completed and submitted – 133 of those by THS juniors and seniors. The input from our future leaders is critical and the support from the school in allowing presentations and discussions on the planning process has been greatly appreciated.

Now, the committee would like to make one final push to other residents to seek their thoughts and opinions. Anyone who lives or works in the District #702 area is encouraged to complete the survey.

The local planning team is taking December off while this data is being collected. The process of compiling and analyzing the data will begin in January with the new plan presented to the Village Board in late spring. The Comprehensive Plan allows the Village to extend its influence 1.5 miles beyond town limits to allow for future residential and business growth. The survey data can be accessed by all

organizations to use for their own internal decisions.

To fill out the survey, [Click here](#) or pick up a hard copy at the Village Hall – where you can also drop it off.

Did you know...?

The Mystery of the Missing Festival

A promotional article from the Peoria Star newspaper and an ad in the Tremont News in December of 1897 seem to be all that is left of what was advertised as a spectacular, extraordinary, stupendous Kris Kringle Karnival, sponsored by the department store Harned, Berger & Von Maur. The “Karnival” promised to be an event like no other in Peoria’s history; one that would bring thousands of people from as far as St. Louis and Chicago to Peoria year after year. The pre-event publicity raved about a huge, no-expense-spared-extravaganza. (Detailed in the last two articles here.)

And yet, there is no mention again of the 13-day “Karnival.” What happened? Did the carnival take place? Was it a big flop? Did no one come? The large department store Harned, Bergner and Von Maurer has a timeline of their company’s history online, and there are online articles about the city’s Christmas parade history. But, again, no mention of the huge Kris Kringle Karnival, which was to include several days with Kris Kringle on parade.

In fact, most accounts of Santa parade history point to Peoria’s rightful claim as “the longest running Santa Claus Parade in the United States.” That parade, too, was held in 1887, when the parade, sponsored by the Schipper and Block department store, was held on the Illinois River to celebrate the opening (or some say the future site) of the new Upper Free Bridge, near today’s McCluggage Bridge. There were boats and water floats, and Santa made his grand appearance on one of the barges. The parade ended at the new bridge or bridge site.

The following year Schipper & Block held their Santa parade on land and Santa rode through town on a horse-drawn carriage. Some sources disagree, saying the true “Santa Clause Parade” actually began in 1893.

But it is still a mystery as to why there is no mention in history of the huge Kris Kringle Karnival in Peoria, also in December of 1897.

Apparently, two large Peoria department stores entered into a Christmas war of sorts. It was Schipper & Block vs. Harned, Bergner & Von Maur. A rivalry commenced as to who could out-do who. Could it be that, in 1897, Harned, Bergner & Von Maur’s huge gamble on the Kris Kringle Karnival failed and there was more fanfare for the ultimately successful Schipper & Block’s river parade?

Whatever the reason, it seems that “Kris Kringle” lost out to “Santa Claus” in Peoria, Illinois.

Sources: Local History Collection: Peoria Public Library, Nov. 20, 2018
Santaswhiskers.com, Peoriamagazines.com Nov.-Dec. 2016

We will continue to search for more information on the Kris Kringle Karnival.

~ Merry Christmas from the Tremont Museum and Historical Society



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.

Story Hour

Thursday: December 23rd

This fall, we'll be hosting Story Hour in the meeting room on the second and fourth Thursdays of each month. No registration is required, so join us whichever days you'd like!

Any questions? Call 925-5432, or email Miss Lizzi at tremontlibrary.childrens@gmail.com

Make-It Monday

Make-It Mondays are back for another season, but this time we're inviting you to the library to create with us in person!

Children ages 7+ are invited to join Miss Nicole on the second Monday of each month after school to learn about and create a S.T.E.A.M. project. There is no registration, just drop in!

This Fall's projects:

- December: Animal Dioramas

Monday

MS Christmas Concert - 7:00PM

Tuesday

MS Wrestling home vs EPG, Beardstown - 5:30PM

Saturday

Merry Christmas!

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

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