



## Weekly News

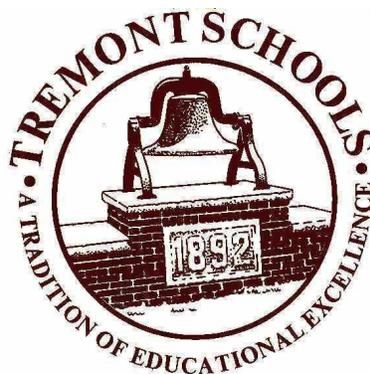
### **Tremont Board of Education**

#### **Meet the Candidates Video**

April 6th is Election Day and five candidates are running for three positions on the Tremont Board of Education. Three incumbents – Renee Kaiser, Todd Kilgus, and Volkan Sumer – are running for re-election while Michael Henderson and Jeff Reynolds are two newcomers challenging for a seat. Voters can select up to three candidates on Election Day.

Each candidate was recently interviewed virtually by district superintendent, Sean Berry, using questions submitted by the public. Their responses were recorded and compiled to create a Meet the Candidates video. The video can be accessed through the link below or through our school district website.

[Meet the Candidates Video](#)



### **Tremont Museum**

#### **A Perfect Sunday Outing**

On Sunday, April 11, 2-4 PM The Tremont Museum, Corner of S. Sampson and Madison Streets, and the Tremont Agriculture Museum next door, will be opened for the first time this since October. Admission for the two buildings is \$5.00 for adults, \$3.00 for students, and members are free.

Senior rates are available.

LOTS of new displays are ready for you!

#### **Did you know...?**

##### **Our Forgotten Neighbor, Auburn**

That field you drive by? It may have once been the site of a fledgling town, struggling to grow for years, then finally abandoned. Or it may have been a hoped-for settlement that never survived from the start. In fact, there once was a settlement just two miles north and a little east of Tremont, marked by what was known to all around as "the lone elm" on a low rise in the land. This was an impressive tree, standing in

solitude and visible for miles around. Today, the tree is gone and all that is left of the hoped-for village it marked is a well-kept field.

The Weekly Pantagraph took a look back from its perspective on August 18, 1889:

“Among the many towns in the vicinity which were laid out many years ago, flourished for a time and then were forgotten, is the village of Auburn, over in Tazewell County two miles northeast of Tremont. This little town was laid out in 1833 by Mr. D. H. Holcomb, who afterwards moved to California, where he died in 1852.” The Pantagraph article continues, “An inn was located at Auburn, which was a noted stopping place for all travelers between Danville and Fort Clark (Peoria) ... Auburn was a contestant for the County Seat of Tazewell County, and it had great hopes of securing it, but it eventually went to Tremont and afterwards to Pekin, which still holds it. Auburn has long since gone to decay and even its very memory has departed from all except the very oldest inhabitants.”

It is our guess, from various articles, that the settlement was located in the area to the south of Allentown Road and the west of today's Route 155.

According to [geo.illinoisstate.edu](http://geo.illinoisstate.edu), towns such as Auburn could end up in three ways. They could be rapidly abandoned, they could survive but later be abandoned or move to another location, or they could successfully survive. Approximately one-third of all towns platted were abandoned without ever having been occupied. One-third were occupied only briefly, then abandoned. Just one-third survived.

If there was a town established nearby, especially if that town was a county seat, the new town would very likely fail. Interestingly, Auburn was the first town to be laid out in the township in 1834. It started with a house, stables, and an inn/tavern, from what we can determine. However, the arrival of the very organized group from the East who founded Tremont in 1835 and then obtained the county seat in 1836 spelled doom for Auburn.

In 1834, only a year after Auburn's start, D. H. Holcomb must have become disillusioned with his dream, because he placed an ad informing his fellow citizens that he had sold his entire interest in the town of Auburn to Edwin L. Case, who may have been his father-in-law. In 1837, just after Tremont landed the county seat, Edwin Case saw the writing on the wall and placed an ad to sell 320 acres of “the finest prairie,” known as Auburn. In his ad, he stated, “The state road from Pekin running through Mackinaw and Bloomington to Danville passes through the center of this tract of land from east to west, and the state road from Springfield and through Tremont and Washington to Ottawa passes through the center north and south.” He continued, by discussing the proximity of a railroad line that was eagerly anticipated, but which never came to fruition.

In 1839, Edwin L. Case filed to vacate the plat of the town. Auburn became history, joining many other lost early villages in Illinois.

~Tremont Museum and Historical Society



Above: Tremont Township Plat map from 1864, years after the town of Auburn disappeared. The bottom left is the area around the Tremont City Park, which was once called the Public Square. The dotted line may be the proposed rail line, never built. Note in the blue outlined portion the area marked, “E.L. Case,” and “Jas. Pettyjohn,” the likely location of Auburn.

## Do you want to make a difference in your library and in the community?

Consider becoming a library trustee! Tremont District Library is seeking well-rounded, energetic applicants who can assist the Board of Trustees with the many challenges the Library will be facing in the next several years.

### Board members are responsible for:

- Working with the Director to develop long-range library plans and policy
- Assuring sound fiscal management
- Serving as a liaison between the community and the library

To be eligible to be a trustee applicant, you must be a resident of the Tremont Library District. An information packet, including Tremont District Library history, its services, its governing bylaws, and the duties of trustees is available at the library desk, or contact Director Maria Ford ([maria@tremontlibrary.com](mailto:maria@tremontlibrary.com)) for more information.

Board members are a dedicated group of community members. They vary in interest, profession and age, but are united in their devotion to the library. Please consider becoming a Trustee!

### Reserve the Library Meeting Room for Individual Use

Need some quiet time outside of your house? The library is opening up the meeting room for individual reservations. It's a great place to study, read, listen to music, or attend an online class or meeting.

At this time, the meeting room is for individual use only. Only one teen/adult at a time and no groups. (However, there is an exception for childcare. If you are caring for children from your own household, they may join you in the meeting room-- it's a great place for read-alouds!)

Times available:

- 10-12pm, 2:30-4:30pm, 5-7pm during weekdays, and 10-12pm during the weekends.
- One reservation is allowed per day, and two per week. Call 309-925-5432 to reserve a time.

### In the Loop Crochet Club

Thursdays, April 8 - May 20 -- 3-4PM

All ages welcome. We have room for more crafters in our crochet club! This program is now open to all ages, yes, that's adults too. Learn more about In the Loop and find the Zoom link:

<https://www.facebook.com/events/398151324827050/>

### Adult/Teen Take-Home Craft

Spots are filling up fast! Register for our other adult/teen crafts by calling or e-mailing the library

- May 6th: DIY Clipboard with Mod Podge

### To Be Continued...

A read-aloud book club for ages 7+. This season we'll be reading *The Vanderbeekers of 141st Street* by Katrina Yan Glaser. We will meet over Zoom on Tuesdays 3-4PM, each week March 16th – April 20th. Call 925-5432, email [tremontlibrary.childrens@gmail.com](mailto:tremontlibrary.childrens@gmail.com), or register in person to receive Zoom invites.

### Make-It Monday

S.T.E.A.M. related crafts and videos on the first Monday of each month. Want a Maker-Kit? Call the library (925-5432), email [tremontlibrary.childrens@gmail.com](mailto:tremontlibrary.childrens@gmail.com), or visit us in person to reserve yours today!

Past craft kits are available while supplies last.

- April 5th – Magnets
- May 3rd – Density

### Virtual Story Hour Room

All new! This season Story Hour is being offered through virtual Story Hour Rooms. These rooms include links to read-aloud videos, rhymes, craft tutorials, and other fun resources for your preschooler. New rooms will be released every other Thursday through May 20th along with craft kits. To access Story Hour Rooms, please join our Virtual Read-Aloud Facebook group or email

[tremontlibrary.childrens@gmail.com](mailto:tremontlibrary.childrens@gmail.com) to receive links.

### Fine Art Friday (Age: 7+)

Dates: April 30

Explore new mediums and new artists with this spring's Fine Art Friday series. Use materials from home or register in advance for an Art Box. If you registered in fall, this is a new session: please register again.

- April: Mosaics

## Community Shred Day

The 2021 Community Shred Day will be held at the Tremont First National Bank on Saturday, May 1, 2021 from 9:00AM-Noon. Please [click here](#) for more information.

## Monday

HS Volleyball home vs Fieldcrest - 5:00PM (Senior Night)

## Tuesday

MS Girls Basketball @ Mackinaw - 4:30PM

## Thursday

HS Volleyball @ Eureka - 5:00PM

MS Girls Basketball @ Germantown Hills - 5:00PM

## Saturday

HS Volleyball @ Ridgeview - 5:00PM

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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