



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>

i3 Broadband Construction Work

[Click here](#) for more information about the i3 Broadband construction work around town.

Tremont Rescue

As a thank you to the community for supporting the tax referendum that helps us stay a local service, we will abate 35% of our 2020 tax levy, which results in lower taxes this year to our tax-based households

Currently, we have 12 active EMTs and 8 active drivers. EMT certification in IL requires a background check, CPR certification, 172 hours education, and passing a State of Illinois certification exam.

If you're interested in joining Tremont Rescue or want to learn more, [click here](#) for more information.



Did you know...?

Who Were Tremont's Underground Railroad Conductors?

The nights were filled with secrets in our peaceful village of Tremont; the years from the 1840s to the mid-1860s were active ones for the Underground Railroad. At least five Tremont men led secret double lives because they served as "conductors" of the well-organized, illegal effort to spirit runaway slaves to their freedom in Canada. Conductors would provide meals, baths and a place to stay temporarily. Great danger was involved, obviously for the slaves, and for the conductors as well. Who were these men who were willing to act on their convictions?

John Albert Jones was a well-educated man, graduating with a Master of Arts degree from Columbia College in 1825. He moved from his birthplace of Washington, D.C. to Pekin, Illinois, where he was a

newspaper editor, and then he was appointed as Tazewell County Circuit Court Clerk and served at the courthouse in Tremont, and then in Pekin when the county seat was moved there. He served for twenty years until he left to practice law in Pekin. He rented a home in Pekin and then later moved to Springfield, where he was active in politics.

John and his wife, Anna Maria, were well-connected and entertained many well-known political figures of the time in their home. Abraham Lincoln, an itinerant lawyer at that time, stayed with the Joneses so often that the front bedroom came to be called "The Lincoln Bedroom." Lincoln was a treasured friend. In fact, Eugenia Jones Hunt, daughter of John Albert Jones, wrote a book about their time in Tremont and beyond and her life-long friendship with Lincoln titled, "My Personal Recollections of Abraham and Mary Todd Lincoln.*"

When Lincoln was elected President of the United States, Jones served as the government Superintendent of Statistics. During the second inauguration of Lincoln, Jones was one of three representatives of the Tazewell County Union League of America as part of the secret bodyguard to protect the newly-re-elected President.

Because of their political and abolitionist views, the location of the home, which was in the country (at that time), and some intriguing features of the home, it is widely thought that the Joneses were part of the Underground Railroad.

*Eugenia Jones Hunt's fascinating book is available for sale at the Tremont Museum for \$5.00.

Absalom Dillon was the brother of Nathan Dillon, known for being the first non-native in Tazewell County. Nathan came to Tazewell County in 1821 and founded Dillon, Illinois. Absalom arrived in 1824. Early histories note that Absalom Dillon opened a store first in Dillon, then in Pekin in the first year that town was founded.

An interesting connection to the Dillons is found in the history of Levi Coffin, who was known as the "President" of the Underground Railroad. He wrote about a visit to Absalom Dillon's home. "We found a small settlement of Friends and others who had 'Squatted,' as it is called, on government land. They had selected their land and were waiting for it to come into market. We were kindly received by our relatives and others at this place and I spent several days here very pleasantly."

Absalom's wife, Guelma Dillon, was a cousin, once removed, to Levi Coffin. Levi lived in an Abolitionist Quaker community in what is now Fountain City, Indiana. His home there is part of the Indiana State Museum system, and has been named as one of the top 25 historic sites in the nation by the History Channel.

With this known association with a member of the Underground Railroad, his own abolitionist views and word of mouth stories, Absalom was known to be a slave freedom leader.

The Tremont Museum has new displays on the conductors and the "Red Brick."

Next week: Freeman Kingman, Josiah and Levi Matthews
~Tremont Museum and Historical Society

Variance Hearing

The Village of Tremont Zoning Board will conduct a Variance Hearing at 7:00 pm., Thursday, June 24, 2021 at the Village Hall.

The purpose of this hearing is whether to grant:

A variance to Chapter 404.1 (a) To allow the construction of a detached garage to be 1344 square feet, which is 844 square feet larger than allowed in an R-1a zoning district

A variance to Chapter 1203.4 to allow more than one accessory structure in an R-1a zoning district.

LEGAL DESCRIPTION: PIN # 12-12-18-334-006

Commonly Known As: 213 S Chestnut St. Tremont IL. 61568

PETITIONERS are: Evan Litwiller

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

Respectfully,

Glen Gulette
Code Enforcement Officer

Tremont Library

Summer Reading: Reading colors your world!

Get excited for Summer Reading! For all ages, birth-adult! Registration starts June 1.

100 Books this Summer (Ages 1-5)

Read 100 books w/ your child, June 1-August 7.

Summer Reading Game (Ages 5-12)

Complete a reading goal & earn prizes, June 1-July 17

Adult & Teen Summer Reading

Adults & teens, read 3 hours/week for a chance to win prizes! June 1-July 17

Story Walks

Dates/Times: New story up each week, June 1st - July 12th

Location: South East Pond

Description: Enjoy the weather and a story with our Summer Story Walks! Walk or ride around the South East Pond and follow signs displaying fun picture books.

Story Hour

Dates/Times: Thursdays, June 10th - July 22nd

Location: Virtual

Description: Check out our Virtual Read-Aloud Facebook group for interactive Story Hour Rooms! Rooms include video read-alouds, rhymes, activities, and craft tutorials. Craft kits available at the library. Perfect for ages 3-6.

No Weekly Calendar Items

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>