



Weekly News

Did you know...?

Illinois Suckers

Abraham Lincoln once commented on his wife's desire for him to become president. "Just think of such a sucker as me as President!" In later years, people read his words and assumed he was being humorous or self-deprecating, as he sometimes was. In actuality, he was being completely serious! He was a sucker...an Illinois sucker. Newspapers throughout the country used the term regularly and referred to Lincoln as a "distinguished sucker," a "tall sucker," or a "genuine sucker."

Just as Iowa is the "Hawkeye State," and Kentucky is the "Bluegrass State," back in the 1800s, Illinois had its "Suckers." It was common to refer to Illinoisians in that way, and "Sucker State" was its best-known nickname.

You might think you have an idea of why that became our nickname, but there are at least three accepted theories of where the moniker originated. First of all, in those days, the word, "sucker" had not yet become a wide-spread term for someone easily deceived or naïve, as we view it today.

The earliest explanation for the term came in 1854 in a book called A History of Illinois by Governor Thomas Ford. He explained that it was a term for those who came to Southern Illinois to escape the plantations of the south. These poor farmers planted tobacco. "Suckers" was a term used for the sprouts that formed on the tobacco plant's stem, which sapped nourishment from the plant. These suckers had to be removed by the tobacco farmers and they too were referred to as "suckers".

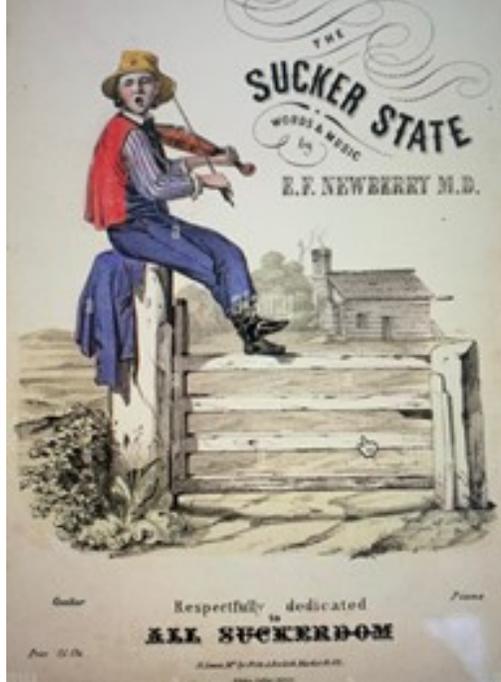
An article in the Newton Kansan from Newton, Kansas on February 25, 1875, has another explanation:

The state of Illinois received its slang name in this way: Many years ago, the prairies were, in many places, honey-combed by crawfish. Travelers across them were often troubled for want of water, and, knowing that the crawfish always went down to pure water, persons provided themselves with reeds which they inserted in these miniature artesian wells and sucked the water. For this they were called "suckers" by the people in the adjoining states, and at length Illinois became known as the "Sucker State."

And the final theory is based on the comparison of the large number of miners coming upstream on the Mississippi in steamboats from Southern Illinois to work in the Galena lead mines in the 1820s, and the Sucker Fish, common in Illinois Rivers. The miners, as well as the fish, headed upriver in the spring and headed downriver in the fall.

Whatever the reason, other nicknames have taken its place over the years, such as, "The Corn State," "The Garden of the West," "The Prairie State," and today's official "Land of Lincoln," for which we can all be grateful!

~Tremont Museum and Historical Society



Sheet music, date not known – likely early-to-mid 1800s

Tremont Townwide Spring Garage Sales

The Town-wide spring garage sales will be Friday and Saturday, April 29th and 30th.

If you would like to participate:

Please sign up at Village Hall or email your information to tremontgaragesales@gmail.com to have your sale put on the map and pay \$2 fee that will be put towards advertising. You must sign up by April 22nd to be printed on the map.

If you have further questions, you can contact Linda Drake at:

Email: tremontgaragesales@gmail.com

Phone: (309) 202-080

Tremont District Library

Evening Story Hour

Monday, March 28th: 6:00-6:45pm

Story Hour is an early literacy group perfect for preschool aged patrons. Under the direction of Miss Maddie, kids read stories, sing songs and rhymes, do activities, and practice their developing socialization skills!

These sessions are just like our Story Hour sessions on Thursdays, but in the evening! Themes will be different than our Thursday sessions, so no matter if you attend daytime Story Hour regularly or not, there will be something new for you to enjoy. No registration required, wiggles are welcome

Hogwarts' Half-Bloods (YA Book Club)

Ages 12-19 are invited to join us to discuss a monthly book (or two) pick and enjoy a drink from Eli's. Copies of each month's book are available at the library for anyone interested! If you'd like to keep up to date with Hogwarts' Half-Bloods, email Lizzi at lizzi@tremontlibrary.com to be added to our Remind group.

Upcoming reads:

- April 19th – “Happily Ever After”, “The Heir”, & “The Crown” by Kiera Cass
- May 17th – “The Maze Runner” & “The Scorch Trials” by James Dashner

Make-it Monday

3:30 - 4:30 PM

Miss Nicole loves to learn about the world around her and create cool things, and that's what Make-It Monday is all about! Join her once a month to make a cool S.T.E.A.M. related project! Upcoming topics:

- April: Thermochromic Slime
- May: Levers, Pulleys, Catapults Oh My!

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

Thursdays: March 31st

This spring 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

Birdhouses

We have so many beautiful birdhouses decorating the library!

Pick up your birdhouses April 1st

Summer Recreation Baseball & Softball Registration

Little Turks T-Ball (age 4-6 / Co-ed): \$50.00 Resident-**NOT OPEN YET**

6U Modified Coach Pitch (Co-ed): \$50.00 Resident

Boys 8 & under / Girls 8 & under: \$75.00 Resident

Boys 10 & under / Girls 10 & under: \$85.00 Resident

Boys 12 & under / Girls 12 & under: \$85.00 Resident

Please note: additional \$25.00 fee charged for non-residents

Registration ends 4/15/2022 due to shirt order processing

* Register online at www.tremontpark.org (please note there is a 3% processing fee)

* Stop in during staffed hours to complete a form and make payment.

* Watch website and Facebook for T-ball registrations

Community Shred Day

Tremont First National Bank will be hosting a community shred day at their Tremont office on Saturday, May 7 from 9AM - noon.

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

Monday

SB @ Mackinaw - 4:15PM

BB home vs Olympia - 4:30PM

Tuesday

HS Track @ Peoria Heights - 4:15PM

SB home vs Washington (V and JV) - 4:15PM

JV BB home vs Morton - 4:30PM

Wednesday

BB at Peoria Notre Dame - 4:15PM

SB at Olympia - 4:30PM

Thursday

JV BB home vs Dee-Mack - 4:30PM

Friday

JV BB home vs Pekin - 4:15PM

Saturday

SB @ University of Illinois Springfield vs:

Tri-City - 9:00AM

Monticello - 12:00PM

Hillsboro - 3:00PM

BB home vs East Peoria - 10:00AM

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

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