



## Weekly News

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### Did you know...?

#### The Fate of Leslie Farms

Continuing from Last Week: Archie Robison Jr. never married. For years, he lived at the Victorian style "White House," together with his parents and his accomplished sister Mary, a professor emeritus of English at Bradley University. Mary also never married. After their parents died, the two siblings lived out their lives in the mansion at Leslie Farms.

In 1970, at the age of 83, Archie Robison, Jr., died of a heart attack. He was remembered as an important importer and breeder of purebred Percheron horses, as well as a revered horse judge. He was instrumental in building on to the long legacy of Leslie Farms, located at the corner of Springfield Road and today's State Route 9.

The property was willed to the state of Illinois after Archie's death. The portion of land with the grand white mansion was a separate parcel, set aside for his sister, Mary. And Mary continued to live in the 19-room family home until her death in 1986. Tragically, a devastating fire in January of 1987 destroyed the beautiful home. The one occupant who was home at the time escaped safely.

The 30 acres of land that had been willed to the state was not large enough to be a state park, so the property was offered to the Forest Park Foundation. The foundation planted 11 acres of trees there. In 1988, an attorney from the foundation coordinated a service project with Tremont Cadette Girl Scout Troop 193 to plant deciduous trees on the property.

A 1988 article in the Pekin Times stated, "Half of the original acreage was virgin prairie - it had never been plowed. No fertilizers or herbicides had touched it. The other half of the acreage had been plowed only four times since World War II, but again no chemicals had ever been used. It is one of the few remaining sites of true Prairie land that the Native Americans and early European settlers would have known."

At some point in the years following Mary's death, a small portion of the land began to be farmed by a Tremont farmer. A thick stand of trees now stands between Route 9 and the property, shielding it from view there. The simple road sign, "Leslie Farm Road," is all that indicates a major horse farm once operated there. The railroad tracks were torn up when the trains stopped running, and the busy Leslie Station is no longer there.

But recently, new life has been breathed into the area. In 2018, The Forest Park Foundation contacted the Tremont Lions Club to see if they would become stewards of the property. They agreed, and today the private property is a retreat for the Scout troops of Tremont.

~Tremont Museum and Historical Society



*Residence of JAS. W. ROBISON Sec. 10 Elm Grove Tp. Tazewell Co. Ills.*

*James Robison was the first of the Robison family to settle at Leslie Farms. He was great-grandfather to Archie Robison, Jr.*

*Illustration is from the 1870 Tazewell County Atlas*

## **Tremont Park District Volleyball**

### **2022 Volleyball Fun**

**Who:** 1st/2nd & 3rd/4th Grade Girls

**When:** Saturdays - September 17th to October 30th

**Time:**

- 1st/2nd: 9:00-10:00am
- 3rd/4th: 10:15-11:45am

**Where:** Tremont Grade School Gym

**Fees:**

- Tremont 1st/2nd: \$35.00
- Tremont 3rd/4th: \$40.00
- Non-Res: \$50.00

**Registration form with waiver must be signed by parent. Register online at [tremontpark.org](http://tremontpark.org) or at the TAPD office by 8/22/2022.**

For those girls who can't wait to play volleyball! This will be a fun stress-free environment to learn and improve in the sport of volleyball.

**Please bring:**

- A volleyball (with your name on it)
- Knee pads (if you have them but not required)
- Hair pulled back out of face
- Wear comfortable clothes and tennis shoes

Contact Nicole Powell with any questions at [countrycontainers@gmail.com](mailto:countrycontainers@gmail.com)

## **Summer on Sampson 2022**

**Summer on Sampson 2022 hosted by Louisa Jane Inc.**

It's time to mark those calendars! Join us for a pop-up shopping event hosted by us at Louisa Jane Studio and our new warehouse. An array of our favorite friends and their small businesses will be joining in on the fun and setting up shop right along with us. Coffee, boutique clothing, jewelry, flowers, ice cream and more is what Summer on Sampson is all about. Our mission for this market from the very beginning has been to be able to bring awareness and encourage support for local artisans who offer handmade, vintage or unique merchandise that isn't globally supported or marketed. We are excited for the opportunity to continue this and bring this to our favorite little town Tremont!

**Location:** Louisa Jane Studio and Warehouse

**When:** Saturday, August 6th 10:00-2:00 AND Saturday, August 20th 10:00-2:00

Louisa Jane will be offering a sweet summery BONUS: 20% off all IN STOCK merchandise, this includes EVERYTHING (Furniture, Lighting, Accessoires, and More)

### WE'VE GOT MORE NEWS!

We are opening up our new warehouse on Walnut Street to the public to be able to shop all our NEW inventory... The inventory is ENDLESS- fresh and never before seen!

#### Join us:

- Friday August 12th 10:00AM- 4:00PM
- Friday, August 26th 10:00AM-4:00PM

20% off all In-Stock Inventory

**Location:** Louisa Jane Warehouse - 104 West Walnut Street Tremont, IL 61568

We can't wait to see you all there!



**LOUISA Jane**  
*Mini* **Summer on Sampson**  
THE STUDIO / 206 SAMPSON STREET TREMONT, IL 61568

 <b>SATURDAY, AUGUST 6TH</b>  <b>10:00 AM- 2:00PM</b> <i>Hello Dolly</i> <i>SweetBean Collective</i> <i>Hello Beautiful</i> <i>Sucne Sweets and Socials</i> <i>Homegrown Honey Blooms</i>	 <b>SATURDAY, AUGUST 20TH</b>  <b>10:00 AM- 2:00PM</b> <i>Faine Coffee</i> <i>Kamaelas Kreamery</i> <i>Baking Bear</i> <i>Refined Peddler</i> <i>Copper Rabbit</i> <i>Maiden Reed &amp; Stem</i>
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## 2022 Girls Basketball Program

### 2022 Girls Basketball Program

Registration is open from 8/1 through 8/26 for 4th, 5th and 6th grade girls. Register at the Fitness Center Office during our open hours or online at [tremontpark.org](http://tremontpark.org)

**FEE: \$100.00** - Fee is due at time of registration or the first week of practice. This fee goes towards the cost of patched officials, insurance, tournament fees and gym usage fees.

**TEAMS** - Teams may be combined. We may have two or three teams depending on numbers. We currently have two coach volunteers and will be looking for additional help. The coaches will be announced once the teams are divided.

**GOAL** - The goal of this program is to provide girls an opportunity to learn and practice the fundamentals of basketball in a structured setting and to experience basketball at a competitive level against other teams their age. Our goal is to prepare the players for junior high and high school sports. Keeping kids active and participating in team activities is essential. Youth sports develop confidence and character and allow kids to have fun. Keeping our youth together will prepare them to play together in junior high and high school.

**INFORMATION** - Home games are played at Tremont High School. Practices are scheduled twice a week at Tremont Grade School Gym. Our away games consist of traveling to our surrounding communities within a 25-30 mile radius. Approximately 15-20 games are scheduled for each team. Games are normally played on weekends.

**PRACTICES** – 2 afternoons/week September-December - Tremont Grade School Gym, dates TBA

## Community Night at the Pool - Rescheduled

Mark your calendar for Community Night at the Pool, Monday, August 8th 6-9 PM!

Featuring: Kona Ice, The Pizza Guys Wood Fired, Jakd Entertainment with music, The unique twist balloon guy, games, and prizes!

Raffle Tickets are on sale NOW at the Pool or Fitness Office. Prizes include 2023 Pool Passes, Gift Card Pack (TAPD, Elis, and Perdue's Grill), and Punch Pass for 10 Visits to Fitness Center or Pool!  
\$2 Each, 6 for \$10 or 12 for \$20

All for a discounted admission price, family rate, or season pass entrance! Don't miss out on the FUN!



## Tremont District Library

### Baby & Me

Wednesday, August 3rd, 10:30AM

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.

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## Saturday

Farmers' Market - 9:00AM - 12:00PM  
City Park

Summer On Sampson - 10:00AM - 2:00PM  
Louisa Jane Studio and Warehouse

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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

Tremont Winning Communities | [info@tremontil.com](mailto:info@tremontil.com) | <http://tremontil.com>