



Weekly News

School Referendum Update

Annual Tremont FFA Alumni & Supporters Meeting Scheduled

The March 19th referendum for Tremont CUSD 702 will present voters with a question about whether or not they approve of an increase to the district's limiting tax rate from this year's 4.22% to 4.62% in 2025. As mentioned in previous updates, this increase coincides with a decrease in the district's bond tax rate, which means the overall tax rate will be lower even with the passage of the referendum. If approved, the increased limiting rate will generate revenue for the district for enhancing and adding programming for students and for addressing facility needs.

We often discuss tax rates, but one question that comes up quite a bit is in regard to how people's actual tax bills will be impacted. It's difficult to project future increases to property assessments, but the chart below shows projected tax savings compared to taxes paid in 2024 if property values were to remain relatively steady over the next few years.

Projected Property Tax Savings with Passage of March Referendum		
Property Value	Savings 2025 vs 2024	Savings 2026 vs 2024
\$100,000	\$23	\$47
\$200,000	\$47	\$93
\$300,000	\$70	\$140

Overall Tax Rate Projections with Referendum	
2024	4.93%
2025	4.86%
2026	4.79%

*Current Overall Tax Rate = 5.13%

As you can see in the chart, as the bond tax rate drops over a two-year period because existing building bonds will be paid off, taxpayers are projected to save on property taxes that go to the school district. Tremont already has one of the lowest school district tax rates in the area and that rate would drop further with the passage of the March referendum.

One of the particularly challenging features of this referendum is that there is no mechanism to include anything about the decreasing bond rate in the ballot language. As a result, the language used on the ballot will make it appear that the tax rate will increase. While the limiting tax rate will increase, the overall tax rate will drop because of the decreasing bond tax rate that occurs at the same time.

Future updates will address the ballot language issue in more detail, but it's worth noting that the language could be confusing to voters. The question will be presented on the ballot as a simple "Yes" or "No" question with a "Yes" vote signifying you support the referendum's passage and a "No" vote signifying you oppose the referendum's passage.

Public meetings will take place between now and March with the next meeting likely being in early-mid January. We will share information about those details once they are determined.

More information about the referendum will continue to be made available on the school district website as well -- www.tremont702.net.

You can also email questions to d702referendum@d702.org.

Did You Know...?

Never Before in Tremont

It was a day to be remembered for years to come. On Tuesday, March 25, 1930, Tremont had a record snowstorm. During that ferocious weather, three funerals of three prominent Tremont residents were held all on the same day.

The previous Saturday, March 22, left Tremont residents stunned. Lucy Brenkman died suddenly at her daughter's home at 11:00 a.m. She had been in failing health. Then at 4:00 that day, Peter Gauger, who had been critically ill with tuberculosis, passed away. At 7:00 p.m., Carrie Hayward died from "the infirmities of old age" (As described in the *Tremont News*.) All three were well respected citizens of our village.

The Tremont News of March 27, 1930 described each of the deceased:

Carrie Hayward was, "of a fine Christian character, she will be greatly missed, for though never much of a talker, her kindly helpfulness endeared her to many." "Peter Gauger was a man that was held in high esteem and well liked by his many friends. He was a good brother and a kind friend to everyone." And Lucy Brenkman was described as "...a loving mother and a kind neighbor, always ready to lend a helping hand to those in need and only kind words for all who came in contact with her."

On the day of the funeral, Chicago reported 19 inches of snow and winds at 53 mph. Springfield reported 17 inches, and Peoria reported 14 inches. Because of the severe snowstorm here, many friends and relatives were unable to attend these funerals. But the *Tremont News* did mention that..."a goodly number braved the storm to show respect to one who had lived so long in their midst," in reference to Carrie Hayward. That storm is still listed as one of the worst snowstorms in weather records.

And, as the *News* stated, "Three deaths in one day for Tremont is something that perhaps has never happened before."

Tremont Museum and Historical Society
Lori Fuoss, 2023



The Tremont Historical Society is sponsoring ~
“The UNCONQUERABLE: The Kickapoo in Central Illinois,”
 presented by Bill Kemp, Librarian, McLean County Museum of History.

Have you ever wondered about the Native Americans who were living in Central Illinois even as the first settlers arrived? According to history, this whole area, especially along the Mackinaw River, was dotted with wigwams. Bill Kemp will answer your questions!

Bill spoke to an appreciative audience here last year about the incredible 1833 meteor shower, with *“The Night the Stars Fell.”*

All are welcome. Refreshments served.

NOTE THE PROGRAM DATE: TUESDAY, JAN. 16, at 7 PM
Tremont Community Center



Tremont Sports All-Stars: You Help Decide!

The Tremont Museum's spring special exhibit will be "Tremont's Sports Hall of Fame."

Please send us your nominations! Who should be featured?

If you would like to nominate a middle school, high school, or community team or individual from any time period, please call or text Lori at 309-840-0094. State who you are nominating and reasons why they should be included in the exhibit. We need the information by the end of January to prepare the exhibit.

We are amazed at the skills of some of the athletes that we are aware of, which means it will be a difficult job to decide who needs to be included in the exhibit. Your help is important, because we do not want to overlook those who should be featured. There are some really great stories to be told!

Tremont District Library News

Baby & Me Group (ages 0-3)

Wednesdays, 10:30 - 11:30 am

A support group for new and experienced parents.

Story Hour (ages 3-6)

Thursday, Jan 11, 10:30 - 11:15 am

Story Hour is perfect for ages 3-6. Miss Maddie reads stories, sings songs and rhymes, and does activities that all encourage early literacy and improves socialization skills in the youngest library patrons. We know a group setting is new for lots of kiddos this age, so wiggles are welcome!

Minecraft in the Meeting Room

Saturday, Jan 13, 9:30 am - 12:30 pm

Starting at 9:30am: ages 10+

Starting at 11am: ages 7+

Program end: 12:30pm

Starting at 9:30am, ages 10+ can join Miss Lizzi in the Meeting Room for Minecraft. Then, at 11am ages 7+ can join in until the end of the program at 12:30pm. Ask Lizzi ahead of time if you have any questions about our weekly Minecraft days. Continue reading to learn more about this program!

We started our library Minecraft Realm back in November 2021 and it was a huge hit! Kids ages 7+ are invited to come help it grow! Bring your own device and connect to our library Realm. First-time participants and their parents will need to sign a Code of Conduct before joining.

Tremont Area Park District

Turk Gear available at TAPD

Various sizes in t-shirts, long sleeve t-shirts, and hoodies

Prices range from \$10 - \$25

JOIN TREMONT FITNESS

Cardio, weights, and classes offered. Workout hours 5 AM - 10 PM.

Rates: \$25.00 per month

-Additional member living in household: \$5.00

***All minors must have parents signature to obtain a membership. Must be 16 to work out*

without a parent. Ages 14/15 must work out with an adult.

Fitness Class 10 Punch Pass: \$40.00

Tremont Community Senior Meals



Meals are served every Monday, Wednesday and Friday at 11am at the Tremont Community Center. These are for anyone 60 and up, there is no cost! If you want to join us you can stop in and sign up or call 309-674-1131 ext 231 for more information or to sign up.

If you would like to help support these meals, there are a few ways to get involved!

1. You can volunteer. Help us serve food and clean up from 10:45-12:15 in a relaxed and fun environment.
2. You can donate. Donations of disposable dinnerware (plates, cups, silverware, dessert plates, large and small take-home containers, rectangular tablecloths and napkins) can be dropped off at the Tremont Share Closet during their open hours. If you want a more detailed list of our current needs, you can see our Amazon wish list [here](#).
3. You can entertain. We like to host fun activities from 11:45-12:15 on Fridays and are always looking for creative and fun ideas to fill that time.

If you have any questions about donations or want to get involved, you can reach out to Braden at scsoulmanager@gmail.com.

Community Calendar

Monday

MS Volleyball @ East Peoria - 4:15 PM

MS Boys Basketball HOME vs Metamora - 5:30 PM

HS Girls Basketball @ Flanagan-Cornell - 5:30 PM

HS Boys Basketball - Freshmen @ Peoria Christian - 6:00 PM

Tuesday

Boys Varsity Swimming @ Metamora - 4:30 PM

MS Volleyball HOME vs St. Thomas - 5:00 PM

HS Boys Basketball @ Flanagan-Cornell - 5:30 PM

Wednesday

HS Wrestling @ Mackinaw, HOI DUALS with Heyworth, Ridgeview - 5:30 PM

Thursday

MS Volleyball HOME vs Eureka - 4:15 PM

Boys Varsity Swimming @ Rock Island - 5:00 PM

MS Wrestling @ Lincoln vs Lincoln, LeRoy - 5:30 PM

HS Girls Basketball @ El Paso-Gridley - 5:30 PM

MS Boys Basketball HOME vs Midwest Central - 5:30 PM

Friday

MS Boys Basketball @ Dee-Mack - 4:30 PM

MS Volleyball HOME vs Illini Bluffs - 5:00 PM

HS Boys Basketball @ El Paso-Gridley - 5:30 PM

Saturday

HS Boys Basketball @ HOI Conference - TBA

HS Girls Basketball @ HOI Tourney - TBA

HS Wrestling @ Mahomet Seymour - TBA

MS Wrestling @ Erie Tournament - 9:00 AM

HS Boys Basketball - Freshmen @ Eureka for Freshmen Tourney - 9:00 AM

Boys Varsity Swimming HOME vs Burlington Invite - 1:00 PM

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.

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

Tremont Winning Communities | P.O. Box 76, Tremont, IL 61568

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