



## Weekly News

### **Tremont Board of Education**

#### **Tremont Board of Education – Meet the Candidates**

Sean Berry, Superintendent of Schools

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. In a typical year, we would host a Meet the Candidates session, but this year we are planning a virtual event instead.

Each candidate will be interviewed separately. These interviews will be recorded and then edited together in a single video that will be made available to the public later this month. Community members may submit questions for the candidates by sending an email to: [MeetTheCandidates@d702.org](mailto:MeetTheCandidates@d702.org)

Questions should be submitted by March 19th. We will select the most frequently asked questions from those submitted and try to address a variety of topics in the interviews.

### **Tremont Betterment Association Disbursement Form**

If you are a local organization wishing to request money from the TBA, please [click here](#) to view and fill out a form.

### **Summer Rec Baseball & Softball Registrations**

#### **Summer Rec Baseball and Softball Registrations are Open!**

Register online at [www.tremontpark.org](http://www.tremontpark.org) or stop in the office during staffed hours. Registration forms will also be available in the vestibule and can be left in the drop box along with payment. Flyers were also sent home with school age children.

Registrations need to be completed by March 31st, 2021. Keep looking at the website for the team evaluations.



## Did you know...?

### Captain Wibray of Tremont Part 2

In last week's newsletter, we learned of Captain James Wibray, a respected sea captain from New York. He ended his sea career with a disastrous accident in which the captain of the pilot boat that was guiding his ship through New York Harbor\* was drunk. Wibray's ship ran aground on a rocky reef, seriously endangering the passengers, crew, and ship. Wibray heroically steered the pilot boat and his own ship to safety. In gratitude, the passengers presented him with a fine silver coffee service made by the well-known silversmith, William Gale, and engraved with a message of gratitude.

When his wife, Elizabeth, heard of this event, she encouraged James to give up the sea. There was great excitement among many in New York to travel West to settle at that time. So in 1835, James and his family packed up and headed West, by way of the Erie Canal, the Great Lakes and Chicago, to a new colony on the open prairie called Tremont.

James had obtained a grant of 400 acres of property just two miles east of the town, possibly on the north side of what is today Lake Windermere Road, and built a farm there which he called Ashwood Stock Farm. His "remarkably fine" frame home had an eight-foot-wide porch all the way around it and a fireplace in each room. The farm boasted a water tower with pipes leading to the basement of the home. James farmed and raised Clydesdale horses and stock, a far cry from his former seafaring occupation.

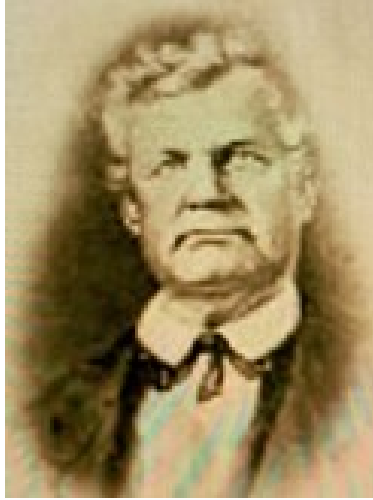
He soon became involved in the new community and became Tazewell County Treasurer from 1839-1843. Yet, the sea was a part of who he was, and he still returned to it for occasional jobs.

James died of cancer in 1858. One newspaper account called him, "...the very emblem of a real sailor and gentleman...". His wife, Elizabeth, was 67 at the time, with seven living children. She was active and alert when her death came in 1884 at age 92. Both are buried in Mount Hope Cemetery in Tremont. Prior to Elizabeth's death, she gave pieces of the valuable and cherished sterling silver coffee service to each of her children.

Approximately 110 years later, in 2001, Elizabeth Doremus, great, great, granddaughter to James and Elizabeth, who had inherited the 28-inch-diameter silver tray, decided to take action and complete the story. She knew the other eleven pieces had to be among the widely-scattered Wibray descendants, so she set out on the improbable task of finding them. Through a great deal of research and many coincidences, she was able to locate most of the pieces of the elaborate set and connect with unknown members of her Wibray family as well. Her remarkable story is recounted in her book, *Captain Wibray's Family in America*. Most of the information for this article has been taken from that book and from a letter describing the Wibray home, written to the author by Wibray descendant Ralph Parkhurst.

*\* In various accounts, the ship New Jersey was guided into or out of New York Harbor or even at the mouth of the Mississippi River, but the rest of the story is the same.*

~Tremont Museum and Historical Society



## Tremont Library

### 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, March 18 - 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

- April 1st: Confetti KnickKnack Tray
- 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 Vanderbeeker's 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: March 26, & 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.

- March: Sculptures
- 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.

## Notice of Public Hearing - Annexation Agreement

Notice is hereby given that on Monday, March 15, 2021, at 6:45 P.M., a public hearing will be held by the Village of Tremont Village Board at the Tremont Community Center, located at 216 S. Sampson Street in Tremont, Illinois, for the purpose of considering and hearing testimony regarding a proposed Annexation Agreement between the Village of Tremont, Illinois and GT Services of Illinois, Inc. The proposed agreement calls for the annexation of certain property commonly known as 22387 Old Route 9, Tremont IL 61568.

To view the notice of public hearing, [click here](#).

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### Monday

Public Hearing - 6:45PM  
Tremont Community Center

### Tuesday

HS Volleyball home vs Lexington - 5:00PM

### Thursday

HS Volleyball home vs LeRoy - 5:30PM

### Saturday

HS Volleyball @ Dee-Mack - 9:00AM

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### 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.

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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>