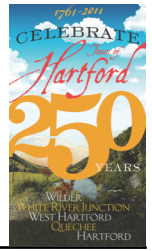




Hartford Historical Society

The Garipay House • 1461 Maple Street
Hartford Village, Vermont 05047

HARTFORD • QUECHEE • WEST HARTFORD • WHITE RIVER JUNCTION • WILDER



Volume 30, No. 6

SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

November-December 2017

White River and Connecticut River Rise to Highest Level in History Causing Great Property Damage

(From *The Landmark*, November 10, 1927)

Editor's note: November 2017 is the ninetieth anniversary of the 1927 Flood. These are reprints of reports in Hartford's local paper of that era The Landmark on this natural disaster.

At this writing, White River Junction and its surrounding villages are just emerging from the worst calamity which has ever visited this section. Damage estimated at well over a million dollars in the Town of Hartford, highways and bridges wiped out of existence, roads inundated, buildings wrecked or washed away, two persons known to have drowned. These are but a few of the results of the unprecedented flood which devastated thousands of acres in the town last Thursday and Friday.

Rain which commenced late Wednesday night and continued in a veritable downpour until Friday morning and then by spells until noon, precipitated 6.58 inches of rainfall during the thirty hour period of the storm, which covered practically all of Northern and Western New



All of Hartford's villages were damaged by the flood. Bridges were washed away in Hartford and West Hartford. A bridge in White River Junction provided the only passage across the White River. Six and a half inches of rain fell in less than two days.

England, wiping whole villages off the map, and destroying property estimated at hundreds of millions of dollars and taking an unknown toll of human life.

Continued on page 4.



Vermont's Poor Houses

By Stephen Taylor

Wednesday, November 8, 2017 at 7 p.m.

Stephen Taylor will present a talk on the care for the poor, ill, and criminal at the Greater Hartford United Church of Christ in Hartford Village. Wheelchair accessible. At left, the barn on a former poor farm in Hartford.

Editor's Note . . .

History isn't the same for everyone even in a small rural population. Listen to our November talk "Vermont's Poor Houses" on November 9, 7:00 p.m. about the experience of marginalized, people in Vermont's history. My first impression from reading the description in this issue is the population Stephen Taylor describes in his presentation was marginalized in both a thematic and, literally, a physical way.

This newsletter has two examples of recollections: our Hartford Cane recipient's life story and the feature on 1950s-style clothing by Clementina Filosa-Morton. Research has revealed that multiple recollection of memories over time changes the memories. In brief, each time you recall a memory, you remember your last recollection (not the original event), so your memory changes slightly every time you remember it. If you see an old photograph or hear an old song you hadn't seen or heard for perhaps decades, memories recalled in these circumstances can be more similar to the original event compared to often recalled memories. Think of this science of neural storage as you read first-hand local history and those who base their writing (and court decisions) on such.

It is noteworthy in Mrs. Filosa-Morton's recollection of walking from Wilder to White River Junction. It reads she walked "up" to WRJ even though WRJ is downhill in elevation. The author's recollection is not incorrect in my opinion. In history, perception often weighs more heavily than other factors.

In the article on 1950s style clothing Mrs. Filosa-Morton experienced life in Hartford in the 1950s as an Italian American. Italians and Italian Americans were one of the town's minority groups having moved here starting in the 1890s. New ethnic groups often take time to fully integrate into a community. For Mrs. Filosa-Morton, her experience draws one to conclude that one person, maybe more, felt her family and she belonged by the 1950s, at the latest, as reflected in her recollections in this issue. She comments that her experience was positive with "good feelings towards all." She doesn't comment on religious discrimination or church community acceptance, but if I could interview Mrs. Filosa-Morton further on her younger life as one of an ethnic minority, I would ask her about how a small primarily Catholic teenage population experienced dating, food, and similar issues at school and with their non-Catholic peers.

Gwen L. Tuson, Editor

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The Mission Statement of the Hartford Historical Society

To acquire, identify and preserve
information and artifacts related to Hartford's
past and communicate knowledge of local
history through programs, publications, and
other interaction with the community.

Hartford Historical Society

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Joe DesMeules Is Presented With the Hartford Cane

By Mary Nadeau

On September 7, 2017, Quechee resident Joseph P. DesMeules was presented with the Hartford Cane in commemoration of “Joe,” as he prefers to be called, being our community’s eldest citizen at the age of 97 by Hartford Historical Society president Martha Knapp. His name, date of birth (March 20, 1920) and the date of the presentation have been engraved on a plaque that hangs on the wall at the Garipay House alongside the cane. He was given a framed certificate as a permanent keepsake.

A native of Cambridge, Massachusetts, Joe served his country as a member of the “Greatest Generation” during World War II. He was playing hockey when he heard that Pearl Harbor had been bombed by the Japanese. Six months later, Joe joined the U.S. Navy.

Joe displayed an incredible memory as he described his war experiences. Arriving on Ford Island in Pearl Harbor, he witnessed ships being righted and refloated. Later he volunteered to serve on an escort carrier loaded with aircraft as replacements for those lost in combat. The carrier also refueled destroyers that were

devoid of every category of supplies, and the crew on the carrier would encounter pleas for anything that could be spared. Candy, gum and cigarettes would

The couple enjoyed hiking and Irene joined Joe for a hike up Mt. Moosilauki when he was 80 and she was 81.

be thrown onto their decks, while perishable foods, such as ice cream, were safely transferred over.

Eventually he was re-stationed to Ford Island, then to Oakland California, where he was trained to be a crewman and machinist. Next he was sent to the Patuxet Maryland Aircraft Testing Center for training and crewing on flying boats. Joe vividly recalls the jubilation that followed the surrender of the Japanese. The war over, he was honorably discharged from the Fargo Building in Boston.

Upon returning home, Joe had a job waiting for him with a local weekly newspaper. He remained in the newspaper business, eventually retiring from *The Boston Globe*, where he worked as a typesetter and proofreader.



Society President Martha Knapp presents the Hartford Cane to Joe DesMeules, age 97, at his home on September 7, 2017.

Joe met his wife Irene through a friend. The couple made their home in Winchester, MA, where they raised their sons, Mark and Peter. At the age of 62, he sold his home and relocated to Quechee to be closer to Peter, who resides in Pomfret. Together, Joe and Irene transformed their Cape Cod style house into a gracious home. Irene made all the curtains and decorative items, while Joe built furniture and handled the renovations.

Taking full advantage of the Quechee Lake amenities, Joe played hockey, tennis, and golf until the age of 80, when a damaged rotator cuff sidelined him. He was also an avid skier and skater. The couple enjoyed hiking, and Irene joined Joe for a hike up Mt. Moosilauki when he was 80 and she was 81. Sadly, Joe lost his beloved wife to Alzheimer’s after 68 years of marriage, just after her ninety-sixth birthday.

Joe is intensely proud of his family. Peter is an attorney with an office in Norwich, and Mark, who lives in Maine, has pursued a career in environmental science and activism. Together, they provided Joe and Irene with two granddaughters and two grandsons, whose mention puts a loving twinkle in their grandfather’s eyes. All are well educated and share the family passion for athletic activity.

Upon entering Joe’s home, evidence of his life-long passion for folk art is evident. He commented that it’s something he has enjoyed doing his “whole life.” The house is liberally decorated with his creations, from

Continued on page 8.

In the Town of Hartford, the White and Connecticut rivers commenced to rise Thursday afternoon, and during the evening the White River was rising at the rate of two feet per hour and late at night police officer Henry B. Leavitt formerly of the force in Manchester, NH, observed the fast rising waters and after conferring with selectman George

West Hartford was proportionately about as hard hit as any community in the state of Vermont.

G. Nichols and Fire Chief Fred A. Hutchinson the fire alarm was sounded, calling the firemen to the station and waking the citizens to the danger. Almost immediately after that time, the fire apparatus was removed to a place of safety, and within a short time, the rear of the fire station fell with a crash into the river, undermined by the swift current. This put the fire alarm system out of commission and it is understood that for the present, arrangements have been made with the railroads that in case of fire, the locomotives in the yard will sound their whistles as a fire signal.

Editor's note: A week later, The Landmark reports that West Hartford was the most severely damaged of Hartford's villages.

(From *The Landmark*) This little hamlet near the Sharon line suffered from the rushing waters much more severely than any other village in the town. In fact, West Hartford was proportionately about as hard hit as any community in the state of Vermont. Six houses washed away completely, the library, containing about three thousand volumes was carried off, barns floated off, the bridge washed away, stores flooded, and many of the residents with hardly sufficient clothing to protect them from the elements was the story of the flood in West Hartford.

Editor's note: The Vermont Historical Society records that 55 lives were lost in Vermont during the flood of 1927. One hundred and eighty-seven homes were lost along with 200 other buildings. Some 7,056 acres of land were washed away and 1,704 head of cattle drowned. Video of the flood can be viewed on YouTube at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=a9k80YezvWI>



Top, this boat provided assistance to residents of White River Junction. Hartford received assistance from the National Red Cross as well as some 900 students from Dartmouth College. Doctors recommended that all residents be inoculated against Typhoid Fever. The high water mark in 1927 was eight feet higher than the flood of 1913. Middle, West Hartford suffered the loss of six homes and a library. Bottom, a swollen White River threatens buildings in Hartford.

November Program Describes Vermont's Poor Houses

By Mary Nadeau

Before President Roosevelt's New Deal Programs such as Food Stamps and Medicaid, before the Vermont State Legislature approved laws to assist the disabled in the 1970's, before building the state mental health hospital in 1890, what did Vermont citizens do to solve poverty in Vermont? There is a history as to what happened before Civil Rights legislation demanded humane care for those who suffer brain trauma or have severe learning disabilities. One can stop and wonder how adults completely unable to care for themselves survived before our modern era, or what quality of life the mentally ill and those with alcoholism experienced. It is not often that our common history books explain what happened to such people if their families abandoned them. We hear stories of famous criminals who were sentenced to execution, but what happened to criminals not killed for their crimes who had no more means to support themselves?

You can find out some interesting facts about Vermont's and New England's solutions to these problems. Our program scheduled for Wednesday, November 8, will deal with the Poor Houses scattered throughout New England, including those in the Town of Hartford. Stephen Taylor of Meriden, New Hampshire, a member of the New Hampshire Speaker's Bureau, will be our presenter.

From its earliest settlements, the New England states struggled with issues surrounding the treatment of their poor. Early Northeasterners followed the lead of England's 1601 Poor Law, which imposed compulsory taxes for maintenance of the poor, but made no distinction between the "vagrant, vicious poor" and the helpless, honest poor. This confusion persisted for generations and led directly to the establishment in most of the towns of alms houses and poor farms, which would form a dark chapter in our history.

The general policy of many towns was "hiring out", which amounted to having the overseers of the poor hold auctions, resulting in the "sale" of the poor to the lowest bidder. This person would then use public funds to provide food (which was often inadequate), housing and clothing to these unfortunate souls, who would then be forced to work for their keep on their



The Hartford community is invited to learn about efforts to deal with poverty in Vermont at 7 p.m. on Wednesday, November 8 at the Hartford United Church of Christ. The barn, above, is on a former poor farm in Hartford.

"owner's" farm. Inadequate toilet and bathing facilities were commonplace. Even more unfortunate was the practice of housing together criminals, young children, vagrants, the "feeble minded" and town drunks. Diseases, including smallpox and tuberculosis, were rampant. Usually the poor farms were located on back roads and out of sight of most town residents. This practice removed the poor from public view and saved taxpayer dollars.

William Howard Tucker, in his book on the history of Hartford, tells of the Town of Hartford building a new house at the poor farm with an apartment especially for one Putnam Proctor Wilson, containing a cage. Two other inmates were housed there. Tucker writes, "These men were raving crazy most of the time, and there, caged up like wild beasts in narrow filthy cells, the writer often saw them, and viewing their scanty, ragged attire, their pallets of straw, and their pitiable conditions, was impressed that the inhumane treatment to which they were subjected, was sufficient of itself to make lunatics of all men..."

Fortunately, the turn of the Twentieth Century saw Vermont legislators assuming public welfare responsibilities, and state agencies were created to care for the poor, the mentally ill, the sick and those who had committed criminal acts. Vermont's last poor farm, located in Sheldon, was closed in 1968.

Hollywood Fashion Comes to Hartford in the 1950s

By *Clementina Filosa-Morton*



The Joan Crawford shoulder pads of the 1940s were overtaken by the sloped shoulder which was matched with a tight bodice then cinched-in waist and down-to-the-mid-calf or ankle skirt.

The Joan Crawford shoulder pads of the 1940s were overtaken by the sloped shoulder which was matched with a tight bodice then cinched-in waist and down-to-the-mid-calf or ankle skirt. The outfit was rounded out by white tennis shoes or white bobby socks sitting in penny loafers. There was also the choice of a slim skirt down to the mid-calf or ankles.

These styles went very well with the poodle cut, which many of the students liked, and largely replaced pony tails and braids which were on the way out.

Styles were definitely coming into a new dimension. While the influence of the movies was noticeable in the outfits we all wore in small towns, there were certain items which were just not feasible. Strappy, high heel shoes were seen often on the screen, but rarely in our town. The pants, that Marlene Dietrich and Garbo wore, were rarely seen in our town, and unfortunately, associated with a certain "looseness" of character. Can you imagine?

Neat was important to all of us, and many of the fellows actually wore suits, shirt and tie to class! Girls could not wear pants in school unless they were doing gym such as basketball and field hockey. Pants - dungarees - were restricted to home and Saturdays when you went to the Lyric for the Matinee. I used to steal a "big" shirt from my brother's closets, and with a pair of white tennis shoes, I started my two mile walk up street from Wilder to WRJ to the Lyric.

My favorite outfit for the cold weather was a pleated plaid skirt and down to the waist sweater over a baby doll collar, blouse. All rounded out by white bobby socks and penny loafers. No jewelry or makeup of course.

The adult ladies wore rouge and powder and lipstick; either a bright red or a natural shade which took on the lip tone of the skin. The same was true of the nail polish. It was the late fifties before a range of colors came out in lipstick and nail varnish as we called it.

Some of us girls wore lipstick, but nothing else and certainly not the mascara that the older ladies wore. My mother had some Tabu perfume which she wore in the evenings, but I was not allowed, nor any of the other girls that I knew of. A dangling earring was fine if your Dad didn't see you wearing earrings, but the only other jewelry was your boyfriend's ring around your neck - if you had one - boyfriend that is!



*Opposite, Elizabeth Taylor's pleated skirts inspired new fashion ideas in Hartford in the 1950s.
Above, Teen girls loved Betty Grable's poodle cut.
Right, Marilyn Monroe with lucite platform heels.*



house to whatever venue we were headed for: shopping, meetings, friends' homes, restaurants, etc. We used chains on the back tires, so rain, hail, snow, sleet did not keep us from going out several times a week to the various venues mentioned above.

Of course, the summer was much longed for, but modesty was still important, as in all other seasonal clothing. Even the two-piece swim suit did not allow any unacceptable skin to escape from the suit! The only time a little cleavage was allowed was in our prom gowns which were all gauzy and full, and we could wear strappy shoes then.

The days of Walmart and the \$12 dollar watch had not yet evolved. If your parents could afford a watch for your 16th birthday, then they went around to Bogles and spent the equivalent of an adult's weekly pay to buy you one. You only wore that watch on special occasions, like weddings, church, your birthday, and on the plane. The wristwatch rounded out your airplane attire which often included gloves and a hat for the ladies, like church, which required your best attire.

The fifties brought in TV and of course, if we saw an outfit on a favorite actress, we wanted it, even if it was not small town appropriate. We would ask Fonda or Mrs. Colodney to please have their buyers, when in NYC, to get us the latest fashions. When I saw Marilyn Monroe with her high platform heels all made of see-through plastic, I wanted them! But where, oh where would I wear them, without being laughed out of town?

We all envied the boys and their pants and even their tennis shoes which were bright red and went up above their ankles (known now as basketball sneakers). Of course, tennis shoes were not warm enough for winter, and if you did have them on, you pulled on your Stadium boots so you could keep warm. Women who had fur coats kept warm and cozy, and men who always wore hats outside, at least kept their sometimes bald heads and ears reasonably warm.

Nowadays, we can wear anything; a mini one day, shorts the next, and a maxi or low cut blouse another day. Our clothes reflect our personality and how we are feeling on any given day, or on any given time of the day. It is great to have that kind of freedom, and the restriction we felt, and the modesty we had to show, has been somewhat lifted in the styles of today. It is great that we can buy anything we want anytime we want, on line and our neighbors all over the world can do the same. Fashion is universal.

If you went out, you layered up with sweaters and scarves, but gloves or mittens, for me, were just woolen. If I decided to go sliding with my pals, I would have to come back to the house every hour or so, and dry the mittens by the wood stove. When insulated clothing came in, you could stay outdoors all day in cold weather and be comfortable.

Still, when I see a lady wearing a long skirt or dress with a nipped in waist, it brings me back. I was pleased to see at least one site that advertises fashions of the Fifties. The Fifties were a good time in our small town, and our fashions reflected those times of conformity and general good feelings towards all.

Still, the cold weather did not keep anyone from doing anything. We would go to the car from the

Editor's Note: The guest author was born and raised in Hartford, Vermont.

Kibby Equipment to Close After 50 Years

By Pat Stark

Kibby Equipment on Maple Street has been a steady White River Junction business on the north side of the White River for 50 years. This local business hosted a “Going Out of Business Sale” in fall 2017, so we will take a brief moment to look back on the history of this company’s buildings and the company history.

The property on Maple Street across from what was then the Hartford Elementary School (and is now the Hartford Municipal building) has had a number of owners in the twentieth and beginning of the twenty-first centuries. The first business owner in the early 1900’s was Daniel Burrows of Woodstock, Vermont. It was sold by George C. Clark, Esq. to Dutton & Fellows Tire Company on January 4, 1929. This company sold it to Dale and Hazel Nelson of Ridge Investments on October 13, 1958.

The building was sold to Gil Kibby on July 11, 1967. Kibby Equipment Co. became a division of Trumbull Nelson Co. Gil Kibby and David Brockway worked for Noble Belisle in West Lebanon, NH and decided to sell large equipment in White River Junction. Kibby Equipment Inc. was purchased by William and Phyllis Shambo on September 9, 1985. It has been a source for small equipment, parts and accessories for construction contractors, loggers and area municipalities since 1958.



In 1963, a fire started out in a small warehouse behind the main building then spread. The warehouse was destroyed and the main building was then renovated to expand the merchandise.

The brick building next door was owned by Adams, McNichol & Melen who had a monument business. Then it was sold to Richard & Pamela Kilbourn who used it for their fire extinguisher business. It was purchased by Kibby Equipment Inc. on January 19, 1981 and converted to an equipment repair shop. In 1988 the Stihl Chainsaw business was established as part of Kibby. It has recently served as a sales and service building for small equipment.

Fundraiser Bakers and Donations Needed

We seek baked treats, trail mix, and fruit for our Wed. Nov. 22 Sharon Rest Stop Fundraiser. Interstate travelers can help themselves and make donations until we run out of goodies. This is a high travel day before Thanksgiving. Please label any homemade goods with ingredients, particularly nut, wheat and other grain, egg, and dairy products. Please provide commercial ingredient lists. Bring donations to the Garipay House by close at 1:00 p.m. Tuesday, November 21.

The Lyman Bridge

The newest Connecticut River bridge between Hartford and West Lebanon was dedicated on Saturday, Oct 28, 2017 in honor of Elias Lyman, his legacy, and his successors. Lyman built the first toll bridge on that crossing in 1804 and successive bridges have been known by his name. If you have a photo of this newest dedication, please contact HHS at the Garipay House.

Hartford Cane (Continued from page 3)

beautifully carved birds, to realistic snakes and other lifelike creatures. Recently he has turned his attention toward making artistically decorated walking sticks. Joe’s creations are inspired by his love for the arts, and he takes great pleasure in giving the pieces away to family and friends.

We were delighted to find that Joe has a wonderful sense of humor and a special fondness for chocolate chip cookies. Martha and I thoroughly enjoyed the time spent with him and walked away with a feeling of affection and awe for this man who has lived a rich, full life, adores his family, and possesses a truly remarkable memory.



Old Fashioned Christmas in Hartford Village Set For December 2

By Martha Knapp

We are excited to invite you to our Third Annual “Old Fashioned Christmas” holiday event for all ages in Hartford Village on December 2. Once again, the Hartford Historical Society will partner with the Hartford Library and the Greater Hartford United Church of Christ to enjoy a fun-filled day with activities for all ages with our focus on our children. You are welcome to celebrate with us on Saturday, December 2, 2017 from 1:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

We have scheduled activities from 1:00 p.m. until 4:00 p.m. at the Hartford Historical Society (The Garipay House) including:

- Antique Toy Display
- Evergreen centerpiece craft for all ages
- Free hand-knitted hats and mittens for children from Mona Bouthillier
- Refreshments
- Tours of the museum

Scheduled activities from 1:00 p.m. until 4:00 p.m. at the Hartford Library include:

- Winter and Christmas Tales for all ages by storyteller Simon Brooks
- Doll House and “tin house” displays
- Christmas ornament crafts for all ages
- Handmade quilt raffle
- Wassail and refreshments

People will have three hours and usually find time to attend both venues.

At 4:00 p.m. the church bells will begin to ring to call us all to gather at the Greater Hartford United Church of Christ at 1721 Maple Street. The offerings there are:

- A Concert by the Bell Choir
- Christmas caroling with Lester Gibbs at the 1835 Johnson pipe organ
- Free Soup and sandwich supper for all at the church’s kitchen

We hope to have a nice crowd to enjoy the spirit of community!



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THANK YOU!

Curator's Corner

By Martha Knapp

Sometimes an object comes to us from our annual yard sale that becomes an artifact in our museum collection rather than an item for sale. And that is exactly what happened with this wooden rocking horse. We were given this oak horse with leather ears by Roberta

We were given this oak horse with leather ears with a note that said, "Made in Quechee."

Dubrowski and there was a note attached that said, "Made in Quechee by Mikell Ann Beckley who lived in West Hartford since 1972. (Took a course in woodworking at Hartford Tech Center.)"

We contacted Roberta R. Dubrowski to see if she would make out a donation form to make her donation to the museum, not the yard sale, official and we learned that Mikell and Roberta had been partners who were married in 2009 and remained together until Mikell's death in 2017. We also learned that Mikell was born in Woodsville, VT, attended local schools and graduated from UVM. She held a masters degree in social work from Adelphi University. She had a 30 year career with the State of Vermont, entering as a caseworker and rising to be the administrator of statewide programs to assist people with disabilities. She was active in municipal, local political, and church affairs having served on both the Hartford School Board and as chair of the Hartford Democratic Party.

We are very pleased to add this object to our collection and thankful for the history that accompanies this object about its maker, a Vermont native who passed away while a resident of Hartford for more than 40 years. We continue to develop our tours for children and this is a great addition to our museum that we are happy to share with our visitors.



Atticus Zimmerman, a visitor at the Garipay House, rides the hobby horse, a Hartford-made acquisition to our collection due to the Summer 2017 yard sale. Photo by Charles Zimmerman, Atticus' grandfather.

Thank You to Our Handyman Ron Locke!

By Martha Knapp

Ron Locke serves as the general custodian, groundskeeper, repairman and maintenance person for the Garipay House. He came to us through the Hartford Justice Center's STAR Program. He approaches his work seriously and he addresses guests, volunteers, and Board members at the Garipay House in a manner very upbeat and pleasant.

Ron surely has impressed everyone with his multiple capabilities and accomplishments well done. He keeps our landscaping well groomed. On the exterior of the building he has done a beautiful job repainting our front and rear porches, even including the staining of our exterior porch bead board ceiling. We have received many compliments about how beautiful our Garipay House looks in the neighborhood.

Ron also helps with many of our indoor tasks and is very careful doing multiple chores in the museum itself so that our collections are not damaged as he cleans and repairs. We are very appreciative to Ron and to the Hartford Justice Center. We hope Ron will be with us for a long time.



Hartford Historical Society

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HHS Calendar

OPEN HOUSE at the Garipay House

Until further notice, the Garipay House Museum is open to the public Monday through Friday each week from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. or by appointment. To be sure that we are open, look for the flag outside the building or contact us at 802-296-3132.

MONTHLY MEETINGS open to the public

Fourth Thursday of the month – **HHS Board of Directors meeting** at the Garipay House, 6:00 p.m. (Please check for exact date).

PROGRAMS

Wednesday, November 8, 2017 – “Vermont’s Poor Houses” presented by Stephen Taylor, 7 p.m. at the Greater Hartford United Church of Christ, 1721 Maple Street, Hartford Village. Refreshments.

Wednesday, November 22, 2017 - **Sharon Rest Stop Fundraiser**, Homemade baked goods, fruit salad, and other treats provided to I-89 travelers by HHS. Volunteers needed to bake and supply treats. For more information please call 802-296-3132 or email info@hartfordhistoricalsociety.com.

Saturday, December 2, 2017 – **Traditional Christmas Party at the Garipay House, Hartford Library, and Greater Hartford United Church of Christ in Hartford Village.** All three locations will be part of the event.

1 p.m. to 7 p.m..

The **Genealogy Center** in the Hartford Library is open Tuesday afternoons from 1-3 p.m.. Carole Haehnel will be happy to assist you in exploring the resources we have and in accessing information from The Landmark, which we have on microfiche. Ray Fifield can assist researchers. Just call the library to set it up.