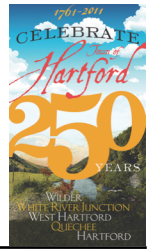




# Hartford Historical Society

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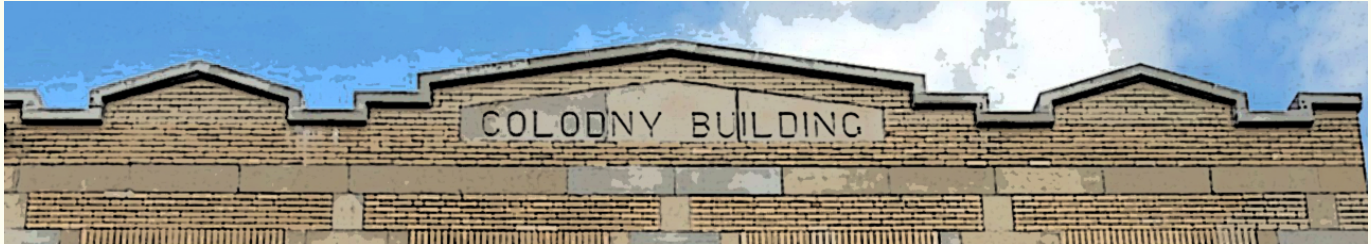
HARTFORD • QUECHEE • WEST HARTFORD • WHITE RIVER JUNCTION • WILDER



Volume 35, No. 3

SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

July-August 2022



## Colodny Family Brings Fashion To White River Junction

Private Calman Colodny was just twenty-four in February 1919 when he traveled from his Army base in Florida to visit his uncle Leon Colodny in Newport, VT. By April, Calman was honorably discharged from the Army and moving to White River Junction. In May 1919, Calman and his brother Abraham, known as Harry, opened a clothing store in the Adams Block. They called the business the Surprise Store and stocked it with quality clothing from wholesalers in Boston and New York.

Calman and Harry had learned the clothing business from their uncle Leon who had several successful stores under the name American Clothing Company. Calman had spent time there as a clerk. Uncle Leon Colodny was an experienced clothing buyer and his former partner, Robert Kamber, owned a large wholesale clothing company in New York City.

Things happened fast for Calman and Harry Colodny. Born in a town called Kozhan-Gorodok in what is now Belarus, they migrated to the United States around 1910. Both served overseas in the U.S. Army during World War I and Harry had been wounded. After the war, they immediately went into business.

During the first year, the young partners made monthly buying trips to New York and Boston. In 1920, Harry went back to Kozhan-Gorodok and brought his parents to the United States. The elder Colodnys looked for a home in Vermont but settled in Springfield, MA. In October 1921, *The Landmark* reported that Calman and Harry were visiting their

parents in Springfield for the Jewish high holidays. Perhaps this was when Calman met nineteen year-old Rose Cooley who had migrated to the United States from what is now Russia and then lived in Springfield. Calman and Rose were married in Springfield on March 31, 1922.

Following a wedding trip to New York City, Philadelphia, and Atlantic City, Calman and Rose Colodny returned to White River Junction and settled for a short time in the Junction House. Calman became sole proprietor of the Surprise Store when Harry sold his share of the business and moved to Burlington where he opened a store called Colodny Brothers on Church Street.

The Surprise Store, which offered fashionable clothing and shoes at reasonable prices, enjoyed great success. Calman and Rose became active in the community and learned to speak English without an accent. The family moved into a house on Hillcrest Terrace where they welcomed a daughter named Sylvia in 1924.

As a veteran, Calman became active in Hartford Post 26 of the American Legion and eventually served as commander. He also joined the Hartford Lodge of B.P.O.E., the United Brotherhood lodge, Free and Accepted Masons, and the Cascadnac Chapter, Royal Arch Masons.

Rose Colodny was active in the American Legion Auxiliary and served for a time as the director of the organization's chapter of the Fédération Interalliée

*Continued on page 4.*

## From the Editor . . .

Back in the day, if you wanted stylish clothes or sturdy shoes, Hartford residents mostly went to the Surprise Department Store in White River Junction. Lebanon had Currier's department store and Hanover had the Champion store. This issue we look back at the perseverance of Calman Colodny who founded the Surprise Store with his brother Harry in 1919, and Calman's wife Rose who doggedly ran the store from 1945 until her death in 1982.

In the 1920s and 1930s, there were few Jews in Hartford and no synagogue. *The Landmark* reports that Calman and Rose often celebrated Jewish holidays in Springfield, MA where both had family and there was a strong Jewish community. And few women ran businesses as Rose Colodny did from 1945 until her death in 1982. The Colodny story is one of remarkable ability and resilience.

Our account is based on newspaper articles, an interview with Sylvia Colodny conducted by the HHS

in 2005, an interview with Charlotte Colodny's daughter Cindy Arone, and conversations with locals Donna Keefe Marzouk and David Briggs.

You might be surprised to see some of the things in the collection of the Hartford Historical Society, and you will have a chance at our annual Open House on July 10, from 2-4 p.m. I hear that some vintage Hartford uniforms will be on display. We hope you will attend, and anyone interested can help Pat Stark and other volunteers get the Garipay House ready.

Hope to see you at a special presentation by David Briggs who will look back at the arrival of Ol' 494 in White River Junction when he was eleven years old. See our calendar for details.

Is your mailing address yellow? If so, please take a minute to join or renew your membership using the PayPal form on our website. The address is on our back cover. Thanks!

*Scott Fletcher, Editor*



## WR&J Weathervane Found

When the White River Junction train station reopened in 1937 after being destroyed by fire, the cupola was topped with a copper weathervane in the shape of a locomotive. The weathervane was stolen in 1983 and later replaced with a replica. The original piece appeared in the catalog for a Sotheby's auction earlier this year among items from an estate sale and has been placed on hold while the theft is investigated. The weathervane was made in Boston in about 1910.

### 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

Post Office Box 547, Hartford, VT 05047-0547

<http://www.hartfordhistory.org>

[info@hartfordhistoricalsociety.com](mailto:info@hartfordhistoricalsociety.com)

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# Fredrick Schleipman Honored as Hartford's Eldest Resident

By Mary Nadeau

The Hartford Historical Society presented 102 year-old Fred Schleipman with the Hartford Cane in honor of being the town's eldest resident. The ceremony was held on June 29 at Valley Terrace in front of family and friends.

Fred was born on June 11, 1920, and spent his childhood in Yonkers, NY. When asked about his most vivid childhood memory, Fred recalled the day in 1935 when he and fellow high school students were shepherded outside to see the German dirigible Hindenburg pass overhead. They were mesmerized until the swastika on the tail came into view and then the mood became somber. Two years later, the Hindenburg burned in a catastrophic fire.

Dartmouth, Cornell, and West Point offered Fred scholarships, but the depression meant that he had to work, so he took a job at a nursery on the west side of the Palisades.

Fred's next employment was with Otis Elevator, where he was trained as an apprentice toolmaker for their various



*Fred Schleipman with a Porter garden telescope. He formed Telescopes of Vermont to create these graceful devices, which combine a reflecting telescope, a sundial, and a graceful floral garden sculpture.*

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***Dartmouth, Cornell, and West Point offered Fred scholarships, but his parents decided that, due to the country being in the throes of the Great Depression, he had to go to work instead of furthering his education.***

engineering at Columbia in the evenings. It was a grueling schedule, and he would arrive at home around 11 p.m., after having completed his homework assignments on the long bus ride. Although Fred wasn't able to complete a degree from Columbia, he acknowledges that the experience provided him with a great deal of valuable information.

Meanwhile, his father, who had worked for Otis Elevator, decided that he wanted to be a farmer, so he quit his job and bought a farm in Monterey, MA. Fred joined his father in the new enterprise, and they started out by raising chickens before making the switch to

machines. He continued with Otis for several years, working 12-hour shifts from 6 a.m. to 6 p.m. Still wanting to pursue his dream for higher learning, he studied mechanical

keeping twenty-two dairy cows. One morning, however, they discovered that the cows had all died due to an outbreak of pneumonia. This stripped the family of their income so the father decided it was time to retire. Fred recalls that farming provided him with much practical experience and he became a jack-of-all-trades, especially in equipment maintenance, carpentry, and as a veterinarian.

After farming, Fred went to Sterling Engineering in Connecticut, where he applied for a position as a machine operator. When the interviewer asked how much he expected to be paid, Fred offered to work for one week for free and then, "You tell me what you'll pay me." As a result, he was given some of the toughest jobs, but at the end of the trial period, he was rewarded with a top machinist salary. Soon he became superintendent of the night shift, and after one year, director of the entire plant. The company offered to have Fred pick out a piece of land on which they would build him a house but, by then, Fred and his wife Dorothea had two small children, Russell and Karen, and the Schleipmans felt that the educational system in the community was not adequate, so they turned the offer down.

*Continued on page 8.*

*Colodny Family continued from page 1.*

Des Anciens Combattants. In English, this is Interallied Federation of War Veterans Organisations or F.I.D.A.C. Founded in France after World War I, F.I.D.A.C. promoted peace and international understanding among allied nations until it was disbanded during World War II. Rose Colodny spoke at many community meetings and special events about the work of this international federation to prevent another world war.

In April 1926, Calman Colodny purchased the Civil War era Grover Building on South Main Street in White River Junction with plans to tear it down and rebuild. In December 1926, Calman and Rose had a second daughter they named Charlotte. The new Colodny Building, with a distinctive art deco façade, opened on April 14, 1927. It was an ornate buff-colored brick building with bronze-framed display windows and the words COLODNY BUILDING across the front. The Surprise Department Store filled the first floor and basement while the second and third floors had professional spaces.

Men's and women's clothing each occupied half of the first floor while the basement was devoted to children's clothing and toys. Calman Colodny ran the store while engaging with the community. When Hartford High School won the state basketball championship in 1929, Calman presented the players with neckties emblazoned with HHS.

In 1935, Rose Colodny was in charge of golf at the V.A. and Auxiliary Convention in White River Junction. In May, she gave birth to a son named Charles. When Howard Pease died in 1935, Calman informed the Landmark that Howard had quietly paid the Surprise Store for clothing for children from Hartford and Wilder.

In September 1936, Rose Colodny was severely injured in an automobile accident in Meriden, CT caused by a careless motorist. After convalescing at home, she returned to a standing ovation at the V.A. Auxiliary meeting in December, and friends threw a surprise party that month in her honor.

Oldest daughter Sylvia Colodny became an accomplished pianist and excelled at typing and shorthand. She graduated from Hartford High School in 1942 and took a job with the local U.S. Office of Price Administration where she monitored wartime pricing of essential foods and commodities.

An exceptional student, Charlotte Colodny was elected president of the American Legion Auxiliary Juniors in 1941 and graduated from high school in 1944. In the fall, she left for college in Massachusetts. Also in 1944, Rose was voted second vice president of the American Legion Auxiliary.

As World War II ended in 1945, the Surprise Department Store celebrated its twenty-sixth anniversary. But Calman Colodny suddenly died on June 3, 1945 and the future of his family and their popular store became uncertain. *The Landmark* reported that Calman died in a V.A. hospital in Northampton, MA after an illness of several months. Few people knew his death was alcohol related. Calman Colodny's funeral and burial took place in Springfield, MA.

Rose Colodny had not been active in the family business, but she quickly grasped the challenge, rallied her employees, and carried on. In an interview with the Hartford Historical Society in 2005, Sylvia Colodny recalled that her mother did everything at the store including managing staff, keeping accounts, and maintaining inventory through buying trips to New York and Boston. She had a loyal and capable staff including Doris Mock, Ruth Keefe, Helen Fortier, Rachel Eastman, and Clifford Valley Sr. and Jr.

Rose also continued to serve in the American Legion Auxiliary and was elected as an alternate delegate to the Department Convention in Montpelier in



*Top, Rose Cooley came to White River Junction after her marriage to Calman Colodny in 1922. Center, this ad appeared in the Landmark the week that Calman Colodny died in 1945. Bottom, Sylvia Colodny cuts the ribbon to open the Colodny Building after its sale to the Vermont Housing Authority in 1992.*

August, 1945. That same month, adventurous Sylvia Colodny enrolled in flying lessons.

In 1948, Rose Colodny married Sam Bresky, an immigrant from Poland who she met while visiting family in Springfield, MA. Sam offered to help Rose run the business, but she insisted on retaining control. In 1949, Sylvia started working at the store as Rose continued to run the business from her small office at the top of the stairs.

When Sam died in 1955, Rose and Sylvia continued to live together on Hillcrest Terrace. Sylvia never married. Both women were petite, smart, outgoing, and independent with lively senses of humor.

After college, Charlotte Colodny moved to New York City and found work at an advertising agency. She visited White River Junction frequently and always considered it home. Charlotte married in 1966 and entered a New York hospital in 1967 to have her first child. After giving birth to a daughter named Cynthia, Charlotte suddenly died of an aneurism.

Sylvia Colodny was close to her sister, and she and her mother were devastated. They had long since welcomed Charlotte's husband Paul into the family and now they did the same for Charlotte's daughter Cindy and her younger half-sister Jill.

Family members told Cindy about her mother. "Charlotte was full of life, she was beautiful, and she was always the life of the party," Cindy says. Cindy and her family visited White River Junction frequently and they usually went straight to the Surprise Store where Rose let Cindy and her sister pick out an item of clothing or piece of jewelry.

"Grandma Rose was the sweetest person," Cindy says. "She was like love itself." When someone in town needed clothing, Rose gave it to them on credit, knowing these bills might not be repaid. Rose loved animals and always had a dog.

When her mother died in 1982, Sylvia jumped into the breach just as Rose had in 1945. Sylvia told the Hartford Historical Society that her mother never showed her how to run the business, but she was determined and showed a natural aptitude.

"I was devastated by Rose's death," said Cindy. "You know how there are people you just want to spend time with? That's how I felt about Grandma Rose. Most women lie about their age, but Grandma Rose used to joke around and add a few years so people would say how good she looked. She was amazing and strong."

"Aunt Sylvia was the one who let us do mischievous things like put M&Ms in the blender," Cindy recalled. "Sylvia was a character and smoked like a chimney.

She had a business head just like Grandma Rose did. She was adventurous and liked to tease. She had lots of friends, including some from elementary school that she kept in touch with until the end."

For Sylvia's eightieth birthday, Cindy threw a surprise party at Crossroads Café, which was one of her aunt's favorite restaurants. Sylvia greeted many of the patrons and staff before noticing a table filled with friends, gifts, and decorations.

Charles Colodny, youngest child of Calman and Rose, was gifted in mathematics as a student but little is known about him as an adult. The Barre Daily Times notes that he, "made the most improvement" during a sojourn at Camp Billings on Lake Fairlee in 1942. He participated in local wrestling and boxing events, and regularly visited relatives in Springfield, MA as late as 1946. At some point, however, Charles was diagnosed with mental illness and committed to Vermont State Hospital in Waterbury where he lived until his death in 1989.

Sylvia Colodny ran the Surprise Store for ten years before a changing business climate led her to sell the building to the Vermont Housing Authority in 1992. Department store chains entered the Upper Valley starting with J.C. Penney in 1969, and Walmart opened in West Lebanon in 1993.

With help from the town of Hartford and the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, the Colodny Building was refurbished and apartments were offered on the second and third floors. In 2004, the Center for Cartoon Studies moved into the historic first floor and basement.

In 2003, Sylvia was hospitalized with a brain tumor, but she regained her health and continued an active life on Hillcrest Terrace until passing away in 2009 at age eighty-four. Cindy recalled that Sylvia's hair remained naturally dark brown until the end.

Standing outside the Colodny Building today, one can imagine the height of Hartford elegance in the 1920s. The graceful wavelike pattern on the wall above the display windows contrasts with the sober bank building next door. The building preserves the memory of a capable and determined family.

The Colodnys were among the only Jews in Hartford, and the store was one of the few local businesses run by women in the mid-twentieth Century. Cindy says, "I don't think they ever felt different for being Jewish."

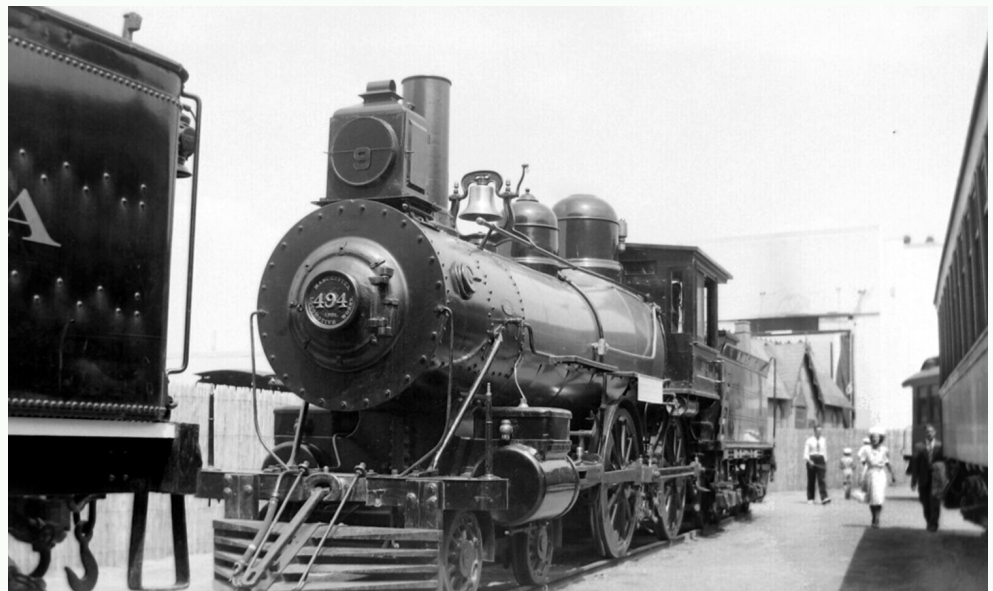
The Colodny family left an indelible mark on the town as it evolved from Victorian times to the modern era, and their inspiring story is a rich part of Hartford's history.

# Ol' 494 Visits the 1939 New York World's Fair



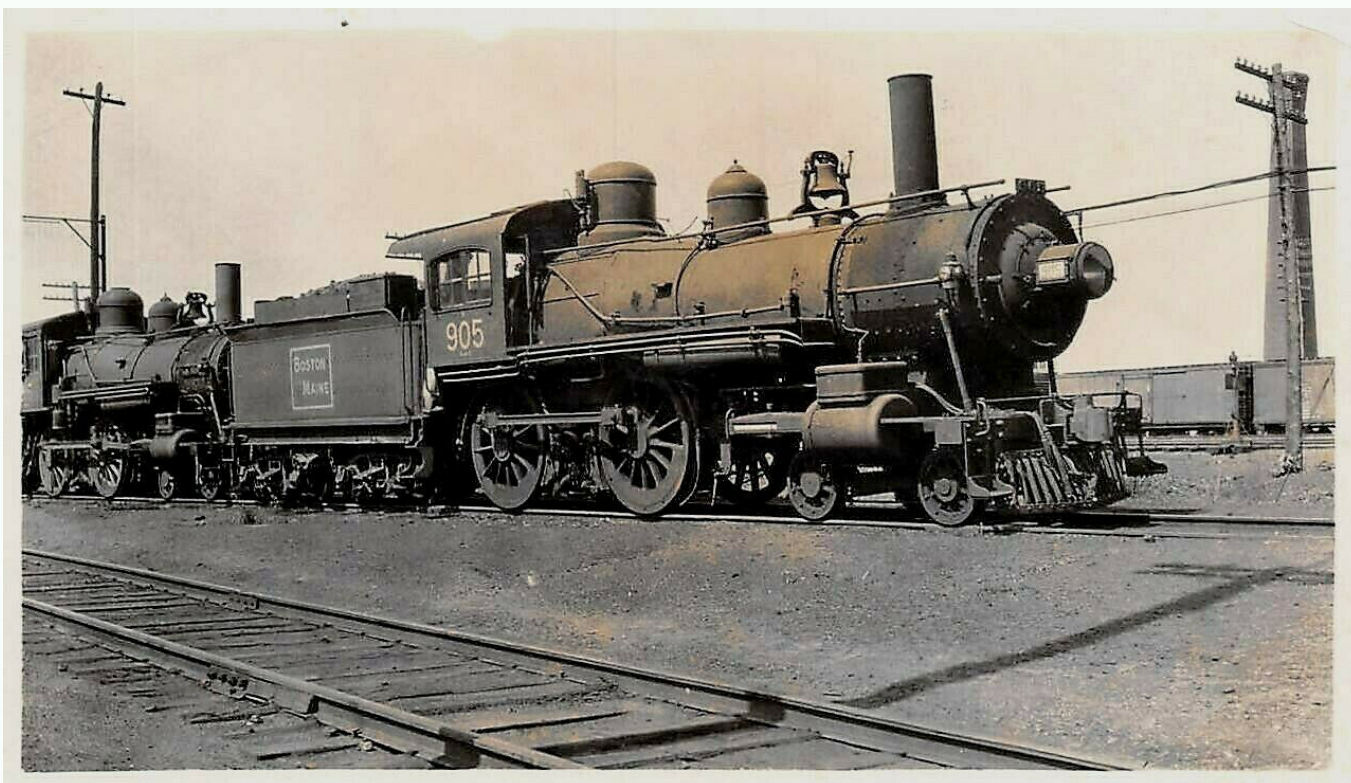
In 1938, Arnold Wilder was part of a small group of railroad enthusiasts who discovered a recently retired Boston & Maine steam locomotive known as Engine No. 905 in storage in Portsmouth, NH. Wilder recognized the engine from Bretton Woods, NH where he had seen it on a siding. Once, Engine No. 905 had done the daily run from Boston to Portland, ME. Later, it was used to push coal from Bretton Woods to the Marshfield Base Station at the foot of Mount Washington for use by the cog railway.

Engine No. 905 was built in Manchester, NH in 1892. She was originally Engine No. 494 built for the Eastern Railroad, but was later acquired by the Boston & Maine Railroad. Her number was changed to Engine No. 905 in 1911. She made her last run in 1938.



*The 1939 New York World's Fair had a seventeen-acre exhibit featuring historic and futuristic trains. Railroad enthusiasts discovered a retired steam engine in Portsmouth, ME and convinced the Boston & Maine Railroad to refurbish it for the fair, above, where it carried its original number, 494.*

*Opposite, Ol' 494 was Engine No. 905 from 1911 to 1938.*



That same year, Arnold Wilder and friends received permission from the Boston & Maine Railroad for a group of railroad enthusiasts to restore the engine so it could be displayed at the 1939 New York World's Fair. The engine needed cosmetic repair as well as the installation of vintage wheel trucks, oil lights, and other parts that had been changed over the years.

When the equipment and skills of volunteers proved insufficient, the Boston & Maine Railroad moved Engine No. 905 to its repair facility in Billerica, MA where it was refurbished as Engine No. 494. The work was expertly supervised by the assistant manager of the Billerica facility. "They did a tremendous job," said Arnold Wilder. "It was spit and polish personified." Workers took the steel cab off the engine, disassembled the coal tender, and replaced the rear trucks with original parts. Then, Engine No. 494 joined many other trains in a seventeen-acre display of the past and future of rail travel in America at the 1939 World's Fair.

The World's Fair was quickly followed by World War II and Engine No. 494 was placed in storage in a Boston & Maine repair facility in Fitchburg, MA. Some years after the war, railroad enthusiasts Dana Goodwin, Jim Duncan, and Arnold Wilder looked for a permanent home for Engine No. 494. There were many options but the committee was intrigued by the railroad history in White River Junction and by the interest of the Hartford Historical Society and other local

residents including Walton Rector of *The Valley News* and Hartford postmaster Charles O'Brien.

Engine No. 494 needed additional maintenance before being displayed so Hartford residents pledged \$500 for the work. The Boston & Maine Railroad accepted the payment and moved OI' 494 back into the Billerica repair facility. Arnold Wilder says that the actual expense of the renovation was quietly split among the diesel locomotives being serviced at the facility.

When the renovation was complete, Boston & Maine president Patrick O'Brien unexpectedly tried to present OI' 494 to a business associate in Edaville, MA. But Boston & Maine employees in Billerica remained loyal to Arnold Wilder and his colleagues. Working quickly, they sent Engine No. 494 to North Chelmsford, MA, then to Concord, NH, and finally to the Westboro engine house in West Lebanon, NH. The engine wintered there before crossing the river to White River Junction in 1957 where she was parked behind the Hartford police station.

Since then, Hartford residents have lavished attention on OI' 494. She was moved in front of the municipal building and then to her present location next to the White River Junction train depot. The engine was subsequently joined by a Boston and Maine caboose, reportedly built in 1921, under a canopy designed by local architect Frank J. Barrett.

*Fred Schleipman continued from page 3.*

Fred and his wife Dorothea, whom he had met while working at Otis Elevator, fell in love with Hanover during one of their job scouting trips, and she yearned to live there, so he turned his attention to Dartmouth.

***Never one to be idle, Fred is currently building a cello made of fir. He estimates that the cello will be completed in, “a couple more years,” and then he’ll learn to play it!***

However, on the way to his interview, the muffler dropped off his car! Luckily, as a former farmer, he never traveled unprepared, and without hesitation, he climbed under the car and fixed the problem with a length of wire that he had in the trunk. The day concluded on a more positive note when the chairman of the physics department hired him for their machine shop. Dorothea was very happy to be moving to the area, and they were able to find a home in nearby Norwich. Eventually Fred transferred to the Thayer School of Engineering where, in addition to being head of the machine shop, he taught accredited courses in production and engineering. Fred described his tenure at Dartmouth as, “wonderful work.”

After five years with the Thayer school, Fred went to work for Create in Etna, NH, an engineering firm which designs custom solutions for clients, ranging from Volkswagen to the Atomic Energy Commission.

However, on the way to his interview, the muffler dropped off his car! Luckily, as a former farmer, he never traveled unprepared, and without hesitation, he climbed under

After retiring from Create, Fred, who was also an amateur astronomer, undertook the reproduction of the Porter Garden Telescope, a gem of design he had seen at the Springfield Telescope Makers in Springfield, VT. An original is also housed in the Smithsonian. A marriage of art and science, this beautiful art nouveau functional bronze sculpture is a superb reflecting telescope, a sundial, and a graceful floral garden sculpture. The company he formed, Telescopes of Vermont, now crafts these instruments on commission. (See [gardentelescopes.com](http://gardentelescopes.com) for the whole story.)

Fred found the time to build the couple’s retirement dream home on a hill in Norwich, completing much of the interior woodworking himself. Dorothea passed away in 2004, but Fred continued to live in the house until he moved to Valley Terrace in 2021.

Never one to be idle, Fred is currently building a cello made of fir. Progress has been slow because he no longer has access to power tools. Fred estimates that the cello will be completed in, “a couple more years,” and then he’ll learn to play it!

Anyone meeting Fred for the first time would find it difficult to believe that this man is 102! He walks with only the aid of a cane (which he made), has few lines on his face, and still bears a remarkable abundance of hair. The staff at Valley Terrace added that Fred is always “well dressed.” Son Russell attributes his father’s longevity and continued good health to a lifestyle that included sensible eating habits and refraining from the use of alcohol and tobacco - plus good genes.

## Teasels For Sale

You know how, when you are spinning woolen thread or weaving woolen fabric, newly sheared wool can be rough or have loose bumps and bits of stuff that need to be picked off? To produce a soft, smooth woolen thread or fabric, people in the 1800s found a natural solution that sufficed until automated devices were developed. Spiny little seedpods called teasels could be gathered, bound in a wooden frame, and used to safely brush woolen thread or cloth. This tool is referred to as a fuller’s teasel. The process was called teasing and the product referred to as teased wool.

Teasels could also be attached to the surface of a grinding wheel. As the wheel spins and woolen fabric is held near, the teasels produce a smooth, even surface. This was called a teasel gig.

By 1830, Vermont farmers had imported thousands of Merino Sheep from Spain and clear-cut their land

so the animals could graze. Fluffy Merino sheep thrived in Vermont’s cold climate. Fortunately, teasels were abundant as large quantities of these pods were needed to process the fine Merino wool.

In the summer of 1841, Abel Howard of West Hartford advertised 100,000 teasels for sale. Gathered from the hills of Hartford, they presumably sold quickly and local wool was sent to market before railroads reached Hartford, the American economy changed, and Vermont’s Merino wool era ended.







## D.A.R. Honors “Real Daughter” Sarah Tilden Hazen

On Saturday, June 11, members of the D.A.R. placed a permanent bronze marker on the headstone of “Real Daughter” Sarah Tilden Hazen in a gathering at the Hartford Cemetery. The marker signifies that Sarah is the daughter of an American Revolutionary War soldier and a member of the D.A.R.

***A “Real Daughter” is the daughter of an American Revolutionary War soldier and a member of the D.A.R.***

Windsor County, VT on January 22, 1826. She is the youngest child (of a family of sixteen children) of Josiah Tilden, who was born in Lebanon, CT on April 19, 1760, and died on January 31, 1849.

Mr. Tilden's father, Stephen Tilden, removed from Lebanon, CT, to Hartford, VT, in 1767. This was the home of Josiah Tilden in after years. He married Elizabeth Tracy on January 14, 1790. She died June 2, 1800. His second marriage was in 1801 to Susannah Clark, daughter of John Clark and Deborah Mosley. She died on December 2, 1844.

Josiah Tilden was a private of the Vermont militia and served faithfully in the war of the Revolution. He was one of the minutemen and gave the alarm of the burning of Royalton. He served under Captain Chase and Colonel Marsh, and was ordered out for the battle

of Bennington, but the battle was fought before they reached the town.

Mrs. Hazen's home was in Hartford for many years and there she married Edward Hazen of that place on August 29, 1844. After his death in 1886, she removed to St. Johnsbury, where her three children reside. They are Mrs. A.B. French, George Edward Hazen, and Perley Fuller Hazen.

She is vice-president of the "Seventy Club," and takes much interest in church and social life. (*From the Internet—Members of the Seventy Club were all women of at least three score years and ten whose programs addressed a variety of interesting topics.*)

She is a member of the St. John de Crevecoeur Chapter D.A.R. of St. Johnsbury, attends every meeting, and often entertains all present with items of interest drawn from her retentive memory. The chapter is proud to number on its list of members this, "Real Daughter."

*On June 11, members of the Thomas Chittenden and the Saint John de Crevecoeur chapters of the Vermont State Society of the Daughters of the American Revolution placed a bronze marker on the headstone of “Real Daughter” Sarah Tilden Hazen, above.*



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*Hartford Historical Society*  
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Memberships run for a calendar year (Jan-Dec).

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The Hartford Historical Society is a non-profit, tax-exempt 501(c)(3) organization.  
 Mail this completed form, along with a check payable to Hartford Historical Society, to:  
 Hartford Historical Society, Attn: Treasurer, P.O. Box 547, Hartford, VT 05047-0547

THANK YOU!

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*Hartford Historical Society*  
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THANK YOU!

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## Yesterday's News

### Kernel Parker

J.C. Parker is having his corn husked by steam power. *The Valley Sun*, October 29, 1886

### Pretty Pease

C.W. Pease continues to organize himself into a "Village Improvement Society." His last move in this direction has been to convert the open space between the hotel and M.R. Cone's store into a beautiful little park. He has set out a variety of trees, including evergreens." *The Landmark*, December 1, 1883

### Three Strikes

The liquor seized some time ago at the Junction House was returned to Mother Earth last week by the select men, as it had been pronounced by three of our physicians unfit for medicinal use. Such is the kind of stuff that hotels keep to accommodate the high-toned travel whose tastes demand the choicest wines. The Hartford town agency is furnished with the best quality of liquors, from Gilman Bros., Boston, who are wholesale druggists and well known to the medical fraternity for honest dealing. *The Valley Sun*, October 29, 1886

### Give Them Credit

We have a bright prospect ahead of getting some money. We have been doing some printing for E. A. Holmes of West Lebanon, the financial manager of Hovelle's Theatrical Combination, and he is rather hard up these days, but seems to be perfectly honest and willing to pay. Griggs, the champion dauber, owes Jim Maguire, and Maguire owes Holmes, and another man owes Griggs. A sort of general shift, is to be made all around, to end up in Griggs giving his paper promise to pay to Holmes. Holmes is then going to sell Griggs' paper promise for cash "as soon as he can," and then give us the money in payment for what printing we have done. That is a clever arrangement. Wish we had understood it before the printing was done. We wouldn't have charged half as much as we did. Sell Griggs' note; O Lordy! *The Landmark*, April 3, 1886

### Banking on the Future

Our "heavy" citizens are agitating the organization of a bank, with a capital of \$100,000, and it seems with good prospects of success. Certainly it would seem that this is a good point for a bank, so convenient for communication in all directions. We hope it will succeed. We must have a bank here. We cannot trot to Windsor or Woodstock twice or three times a week to deposit the profits of *The Landmark*. Had we known there was no bank here we would not have come, but it is too late now. *The Landmark*, March 18, 1882

### Talk, Talk

Senator Justin Smith Morrill was a guest of the Junction House last Thursday night; he was on his way to his home in Strafford and was accompanied by his son Jas. F. The Senator is in his 84th year, but is still able to make a speech with the best of them. *The Landmark*, September 1, 1893

### Glad it Wasn't a Brussels Sprout

The wife of Mr. Jacob Dunklee, of Claremont NH, when a little girl about seven or eight years old, put a pea in her ear which at the time she could not remove, and it has remained there until last week, a period of fifty-two years, when it was taken out by herself and easily recognized as the identical pea put there in childhood. It has not essentially troubled her until quite recently. *Vermont Journal*, August 15, 1851

### Setting Sun

*The Valley Sun* of White River Junction ceased to exist as a publication last week, its list having been sold by its publisher. Royal Cummings, to L.O. Greene of the *Woodstock Standard*. *Vermont Journal*, November 6, 1886

### Maybe the President Will Stop By

Today the Junction house bears the name of Hotel Coolidge and a spacious sign in gold letters has been placed on the Main street front of the country famed building. *The Landmark*, January 8, 1925

## Hartford Historical Society

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### HHS Calendar

**THE GARIPAY HOUSE MUSEUM is open by appointment only. Please call 802/296-3132 or email us at [info@hartfordhistoricalsociety.org](mailto:info@hartfordhistoricalsociety.org). Phones/email are checked twice a week.**

**MONTHLY BOARD MEETINGS** are open to the public on the first Monday of the month at the Garipay House at 6 p.m. (Please check for exact date.)

**Sunday, July 10, 2022 - "Hartford Historical Society Open House."** 2:00-4:00 p.m. at the Garipay House. Exhibit of historical uniforms.

**Tuesday, July 19, 2022 - "Ol' 494 Comes to White River Junction."** Presented by David Briggs. 7:00 p.m. at the Greater Hartford United Church of Christ; 1721 Maple St., Hartford Village. Masks optional.

The **Genealogy Center** on the second floor of the Hartford Library is open Fridays from 2-6 p.m. and by appointment. Please call Carole Haehnel at 802/295-3974 or email her at: [chaehnel151@comcast.net](mailto:chaehnel151@comcast.net). Interested in helping residents explore their family histories? Please contact us at [info@hartfordhistoricalsociety.com](mailto:info@hartfordhistoricalsociety.com).

### Websites

**Hartford Historical Society:** <http://www.hartfordhistory.org/>

**HHS Membership Form:** [http://www.hartfordhistory.org/?page\\_id=437](http://www.hartfordhistory.org/?page_id=437)

**Hartford VT Historical Society Facebook Group:** <https://www.facebook.com/groups/hartfordvthistory>

**Hartford History Timeline:** <https://www.tiki-toki.com/timeline/entry/1456118/History-of-Hartford-Vermont/>

**Very Vermont - Stories from the Green Mountains:** <https://veryvermont.exposure.co/very-vermont>