

Hayes-Genoter History and Genealogy Library

Pelham talk will focus on Civil War

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PELHAM -- A Civil War expert will give a special lecture tomorrow to mark an important Civil War anniversary inside the town building that represents "the largest Civil War Memorial in the state," Pelham Historical Society President William Hayes said.

The Historical Society and Pelham VFW will co-host Civil War historian Steven Robert Closs for a 90-minute presentation, at 7 p.m., in the Historical Society Building, 5 Main St,

Hayes noted that April 12 was the 150th anniversary of the firing on Fort Sumpter, South Carolina by Confederate Forces that commenced the Civil War. The Historical Society Building on Main Street was built by Civil War veterans as a small town library and Civil War Memorial.

"It is the largest Civil War Memorial in the state and it's on the State of New Hampshire Register of Historic Places," Hayes said. "Also, we have an application pending with the National Park Service in Washington, D.C., seeking to have the building placed on the National Register of Historic Places."

Hayes said doors will be open at 6 p.m. so the public can view ongoing renovations and formation of a museum on the building's first floor.

Closs, a retired 24-year Nashua police officer and Merrimack resident, is a 20-year member of the Civil War Round Table of New Hampshire, and has lectured on the subject at public schools and historical societies around the state.

The Civil War historian's presentation is expected to end about 8:30 p.m.,
at which time those present will be invited to attend a social hour at the VFW Post directly across the street,