

With the Autumn Leaves Festival as a backdrop, history buffs and festival attendees gathered in the Mount Airy Museum of Regional History courtyard Sunday afternoon to hear Billy Yeargin deliver a lecture about tobacco and American culture.

Yeargin, a professor with extensive knowledge of the history of the tobacco industry, was the guest speaker for the October "History Talks" program at the museum. He spoke at 2 p.m. on Sunday about tobacco's impact on American society over the years.

Though the event was originally scheduled to be held inside the museum, organizers decided to move it outside to the courtyard where many festival-goers sat throughout the weekend to eat and socialize. Some people who visited the courtyard on Sunday were surprised to find that a lecture was taking place there, and they stopped to listen while they ate festival treats. Others came specifically to hear the presentation.

Read more: [Mount Airy News - Museum hosts lecture on tobacco and culture](#)