Middletown Township Historical Society
MIDDLETOWN MONDAYS 2017

Lectures begin at 7:00 p.m.
at Lima Estates, 411 North Middletown Road, Media, PA 19063
Free and open to the public, no registration required.

Monday, February 27
CHESTER AT MID-CENTURY
by Nancy Webster, M.A., Independent Scholar

In 1850, Delaware County's government and all the related services (like lawyers), moved to the new centralized County seat in Media. Every one predicted that Chester was dead or dying - but it wasn't. Hear about the many events, all happening in a short time, that made Chester into the industrial powerhouse of the 19th an 20th centuries. From devastating floods to waves of new immigrants, from new technologies to new land use, Chester transformed itself in the space of a decade. Come hear how Chester changed from a sleepy town living on "catfish and Quarter sessions" to an "arsenal of freedom."

Monday, March 20
WILLIAMSON COLLEGE OF THE TRADES IN HISTORY
by Andrew Miller, M.A., Department of History, Neumann University

In 1888, Isaiah Williamson, a Philadelphia merchant and philanthropist, founded The Williamson Free School of Mechanical Trades. His purpose was to provide financially disadvantaged young men with the opportunity to become productive and respected members of society. The 220-acre campus on Middletown Road was purchased in 1889. Now the Williamson College of the Trades, they continue to provide full scholarships to their students which are held to the highest academic and technical standards. Middletown resident Andy Miller has written a photographic history of the Middletown school that has just been published by Arcadia. Join us as Andy, discusses Williamson and his research.

Monday, April 17
DELAWARE COUNTY'S CONTRIBUTION TO AMERICAN SOCIETY
AND CULTURE
by Rich Paul, Chairman, Delaware County Heritage Commission

The area of Delaware County, originally part of Chester County, has been overlooked in some respects as to its importance. Many tourists just pass through overlooking some very significant history in our county. Adding to this dilemma is the fact that we are neighbors to one of America's most important cities. However, that city was not even in existence when our first European settlers set up their colony. Delaware County is really "Where Pennsylvania Began."

In case of inclement weather or changes in the schedule please visit our website www.mthsdelco.org or call 610-316-5620.