



NEWS RELEASE



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Dr. Paul Israel to Speak at 2017 Archives and History Day

Keynote Address will be "New Jersey: A State of Innovation"

MANALAPAN, NJ – Monmouth County Clerk Christine Giordano Hanlon has announced that Dr. Paul Israel, Director and General Editor of the Thomas Edison Papers, will speak at the County Clerk's 2017 Archives and History Day, on Oct. 14. Dr. Paul Israel will present the keynote address, "New Jersey: A State of Innovation," at 1 p.m. He will also participate in the History Forum at 12:10 p.m. The event will take place at the Monmouth County Library HQ in Manalapan.

"Dr. Israel is a perfect speaker to complement this year's theme and exhibit, 'New Jersey in Focus: Inventors and Innovators in Monmouth County,'" said Clerk Christine Hanlon. "I am sure he will give an interesting and memorable presentation, just like our past Archives and History Day keynote speakers."

Dr. Israel will discuss the history of technological innovation in New Jersey. He will begin by detailing how New Jersey became a center for technological innovation in the nineteenth century with the development of new transportation and manufacturing technologies. His talk will then focus on how New Jersey became a leader in telecommunications and electrical innovation long before the emergence of Silicon Valley. In particular he will highlight four important institutions—Speedwell Village, Edison's Laboratories, Bell Labs, and RCA Labs. Dr. Israel will conclude his talk with a brief discussion of present-day technological innovation in the state.

In addition to publishing Edison's papers and biographies about him, Dr. Israel teaches the history of technology at Rutgers and has written numerous other articles and books, including *From Machine Shop to Industrial Laboratory: Telegraphy and the Changing Context of American Invention, 1830-1920* (Johns Hopkins University Press, 1992). In these works, he has been examining technological creativity, the origins of modern innovation, technological enterprise, patent regimes, and the intersections between science, technology, and business.

This year's Archives Week events from Oct. 10 to 19 will focus on the history of Monmouth County inventors and innovators and will feature a movie screening and seminars for people of all ages. More than 60 local and state history organizations will set-up displays on topics relating to New Jersey history and their organizations. With 300 expected attendees, Clerk Hanlon encourages all local historical organizations to participate in the event and to sign up for an exhibitor table.

"Archives and History Day is designed for the public to connect with archivists, historians, and other preservationists," said Gary D. Saretzky, Monmouth County Archivist. "This event is a great opportunity for local organizations to showcase their work and educate the people about their efforts to preserve history."

The event will also include awards presentations and a tour of the Monmouth County Archives, for which a reservation is required.

The deadline for New Jersey historical organizations to sign up for an Archives and History Day exhibitor table is Oct. 2, if tables remain available at that time.

For more information on participating and to sign up for an exhibitor table, please visit the Monmouth County Clerk's Archives Division on the web at www.VisitMonmouth.com/Archives or contact the Monmouth County Archives at 732 - 308 - 3771 or email CountyClerk@co.monmouth.nj.us.

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