**Thomas Edison NHP News Release**

For Immediate Release

Contact: Karen Sloat-Olsen

Phone: 973 736-0550 x17

Email: karen\_sloat-olsen@nps.gov

**CELEBRATE EDISON DAY - JUNE 1**

WEST ORANGE, NJ - Join the National Park Service in celebrating Edison Day on Saturday, June 1, 2013, at Thomas Edison National Historical Park, 211 Main Street. Activities start at 9:30 a.m. and will continue through 4:00 p.m. at both the Laboratory Complex and the Glenmont Estate.  Admission is free and activities take place rain or shine. No advanced reservations required but some programs may have limited seating. Check in at the Visitor Center on arrival for a schedule. Parking is available at the Laboratory Complex on Main Street. Free shuttle bus service to the Glenmont Estate will be provided.

Throughout the day musicians will be recording on a wax cylinder phonograph just as it would have been done over 100 years ago. Musicians include the John Ehlis Ensemble (trumpet, sax, mandolin, guitar, euphonium and percussion), Sherita (acoustic quartet), Garden State Saxophone Quartet, Scott Robinson and Julian Thayer (bass, theremin), and Oliver and Gene Lake (sax and drums.)

Join park archivists for Before Mad Men, a 45 minute program on Edison advertising, and learn how his company used color, interesting graphics and snappy copy to promote the phonograph, storage battery and other lab products.

Award winning films from the Black Maria Film Festival will be presented. Special talks will explore camping with Thomas Edison, the geothermal heating and cooling system at Glenmont, the marginalia found in the books in Edison's library and the history of the recording industry.

Visitors can explore the Laboratory Complex buildings; take a guided tour of the Chemistry Laboratory; tour the house and grounds at Glenmont; and visit the garage to view some of the Edison cars, including two electric cars dating back to the early 1900s. Special programs and activities will be offered for children throughout the park.

At 4:00 p.m. the Friends of Thomas Edison National Historical Park will sponsor a talk on the contributions that Thomas Edison made to modern innovation management with Deborah Dougherty, Professor, Management and Global Business Department, Rutgers Business School, Rutgers, the State University of New Jersey. A Members reception will follow.

This year local community groups have been invited to share information about their organization. This is a great way to see what West Orange has to offer!

For additional information on Edison Day and visiting the park please visit [www.nps.gov/edis](http://www.nps.gov/edis) or call 973-736-0550 extension 11.

Thomas Edison National Historical Park is a National Park Service site dedicated to promoting an international understanding and appreciation of the life and extraordinary achievements of Thomas Alva Edison by preserving, protecting, and interpreting the Park's extensive historic artifact and archive collections at the Laboratory Complex and Glenmont, the Edison family estate.  The Visitor Center is located at 211 Main Street in West Orange, New Jersey.

The Laboratory Complex is open Wednesday through Sunday from 9:00am to 5:00pm.  Glenmont, Edison's home, is open Friday through Sunday from 11:30am to 5:00pm. Tickets for Glenmont must first be obtained at the Laboratory Complex visitor center before going to Glenmont. For more information or directions please call 973-736-0550 ext. 11 or visit our website at[www.nps.gov/edis](http://www.nps.gov/edis).

The Friends of Thomas Edison National Historical Park, is a not-for profit organization dedicated to supporting Thomas Edison NHP in the preservation, restoration and promotion of Thomas A. Edison's laboratory and home through advocacy, volunteer service and fundraising. The Friends also strive to foster an appreciation of Thomas A. Edison and his achievements by assisting in the planning of special events and providing programs that satisfy the needs and interests of its members and the local community.

-NPS