

**TEWKSBURY HISTORICAL SOCIETY TO HOLD ANNUAL MEETING & HOST
TALK BY LINDA J. BARTH on *A History of Inventing in New Jersey: From
Thomas Edison to the Ice Cream Cone*
January 19 – 1 pm**

For immediate release – questions call Shaun (908) 439-3054

The Tewksbury Historical Society will host a talk on New Jersey author Linda J. Barth new book *A History of Inventing in New Jersey: From Thomas Edison to the Ice Cream Cone* on Sunday, January 19, 2014 at 1 pm. The talk will be preceded by the Tewksbury Historical Society's Annual Meeting, to be held at Society Headquarters 60 Water Street Mountainville.

This is the first of many lectures and events the Society is holding in conjunction with the 300th anniversary of Hunterdon County. The meeting and talk are free and open to the public. Refreshments will be served.

Many people are familiar with Edison's "invention factory" in Menlo Park, where he patented the phonograph, the light bulb, and many more innovations. Yet many other ideas have grown in the Garden State, too—New Jerseyans brought sound and music to movies and built the very first drive-in theater. In addition to the first cultivated blueberry, tasty treats like ice cream cones and M&M's® are also Jersey natives. Iconic aspects of American life, like Bubble Wrap®, the boardwalk, the Band-Aid®, and even professional baseball itself started in New Jersey. Life would be a lot harder without the vacuum cleaner, plastic, and air-conditioning, and many other important advances in medicine and surgery were developed here. Join author Linda Barth as she explores groundbreaking, useful, fun, and even silly inventions and their New Jersey roots.

Linda Barth has been a fan of New Jersey for a long time. As a fourth-grade teacher, she tried to focus students' attention on the positive aspects of

our state: its diverse geography, agriculture, industry, and famous firsts and inventions. A lifelong resident of the Garden State, Linda has served on the board of Celebrate NJ!, a grassroots movement that builds pride in and fosters a brighter future for New Jersey through educational programs and promotional initiatives. She has written two books on the D&R Canal for Arcadia Publishing and two children's picture books: *Bridgetender's Boy*, published by the National Canal Museum in 2005, and *Hidden New Jersey*, from Charlesbridge Publishing in 2012. *A History of Inventing in New Jersey: From Thomas Edison to the Ice Cream Cone*, published by the History Press, was released in August 2013. She has also contributed to the *Encyclopedia of New Jersey*.

Membership in the Society is open to anyone interested in the history of Tewksbury Township. The cost is \$ 15 annually for an individual membership or \$ 25 for a family membership. Members receive a quarterly newsletter and advance notice of all programs and events the Society holds throughout the year. The Society holds three regular meetings per year on the 3rd Sunday in January, March, and May with a 4th program in November.

The Tewksbury Historical Society is a New Jersey not-for-profit corporation and was organized for the purpose of furthering research into and the preservation and dissemination of the history of the Township of Tewksbury. For more information and directions call (908) 832-6734 and leave your name and phone number or email us at tewksburyhistory@earthlink.net.

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