



The Long History of Labor Day in America

By US Department of Labor

Labor Day, the first Monday in September, is a creation of the labor movement and is dedicated to the social and economic achievements of American workers. It constitutes a yearly national tribute to the contributions workers have made to the strength, prosperity, and well-being of our country.

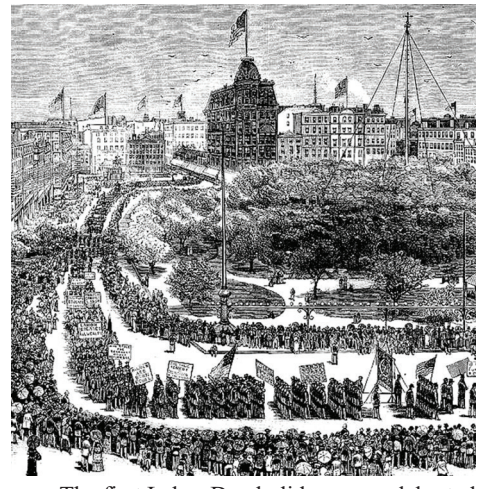
Through the years, the nation gave increasing emphasis to Labor Day. The first governmental recognition came through municipal ordinances passed during 1885 and 1886. From these, a movement developed to secure state legislation. The first state bill was introduced into the New York legislature, but the first to become law was passed by Oregon on February 21, 1887. During the year, four more states—Colorado, Massachusetts, New Jersey, and New York—created the Labor Day holiday by legislative enactment. By the end of the decade, Connecticut, Nebraska, and Pennsylvania had followed suit. By 1894, twenty-three other states had adopted the holiday in honor of workers, and on June 28 of that year, congress passed an

act making the first Monday in September of each year a legal holiday in the District of Columbia and the territories.

More than one hundred years after the first Labor Day observance, there is still some doubt as to who first proposed the holiday for workers.

Some records show that Peter J. McGuire, general secretary of the Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners and a cofounder of the American Federation of Labor, was first in suggesting a day to honor those “who from rude nature have delved and carved all the grandeur we behold.”

But Peter McGuire’s place in Labor Day history has not gone unchallenged. Many believe that Matthew Maguire, a machinist, not Peter McGuire, founded the holiday. Recent research seems to support the contention that Matthew Maguire, later the secretary of Local 344 of the International Association of Machinists in Paterson, New Jersey, proposed the holiday in 1882 while serving as secretary of the Central Labor Union in New York. What is clear is that the Central Labor Union adopted a Labor Day proposal and appointed a committee to plan a demonstration and picnic.



The first Labor Day holiday was celebrated on Tuesday, September 5, 1882, in New York City, in accordance with the plans of the Central Labor Union. The Central Labor Union held its second Labor Day holiday just a year later, on September

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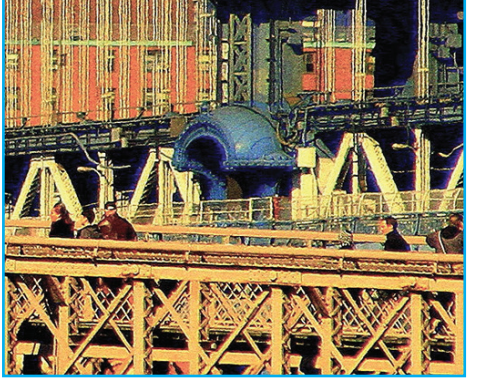
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Construction Services for Mechanical/Electrical Rehabilitation of the Spuyten Duyvil Bridge, and All Associated Work as Described in the Specifications, Drawings, and Solicitation Documents
 Amtrak Contract No: X138-17220
 Bid Date: September 8, 2017

Subcontracting opportunities include but are not limited to painting, electrical wires and controls, barges, safety boats, miscellaneous steel fabrication, strain gage and load testing, core drilling, and fiberglass grating. Please see contract documents for further opportunities.

Interested firms please contact John Papagiannakis at Skanska Koch Inc., john.papagiannakis@skanska.com • EOE/M/F/Vet/Disabled

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IS SOLICITING COST PROPOSALS FROM M/WBE SUBCONTRACTORS AND VENDORS CERTIFIED WITH THE NEW YORK STATE DIRECTORY

Coney Island Wastewater Treatment Plant Level 1 BNR Upgrade
 NYC DEP Contract No. SF-BNR-CI
 Bid Date: September 12, 2017

Description of project:
 This project, to construct a Level 1 BNR upgrade, is being implemented in order to meet specific total nitrogen (TN) limitations for discharges to Jamaica Bay. The work required includes, without limitation, the following:

1. Aeration system improvements, including the addition of baffle walls and mixers to the aeration tanks,
2. Construction of a new froth control system that provides a combined surface wasting of activated sludge (SWAS) and froth collection and transfer system in the aeration tanks, including tote based polymer systems, the rehabilitation of existing aeration tank plant effluent spray water system, and extension of spray water system to serve new SWAS wet wells,
3. New aeration grids including drop legs, grid distribution piping, and fine bubble membrane diffusers in the aeration tanks,
4. Ancillary structural, civil, electrical, instrumentation, and control work required to implement the above referenced Level 1 BNR upgrade improvements.

Many bidding opportunities available.
 If you are interested in bidding on this project, please contact Skanska’s Outreach Coordinator: Matthew.DeGudicibus@skanska.com

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IS SOLICITING COST PROPOSALS FROM NEW YORK STATE CERTIFIED M/WBE SUBCONTRACTORS/VENDORS FOR THE

Mid-Suffolk Electric Yard
 MTA LIRR Contract No. 6259
 Bid Date: September 12, 2017

Description of project:
 Expansion of the LIRR Ronkonkoma Yard by construction of eleven additional tracks, substations, storage buildings, and employee facility.

Many bidding opportunities available.
 If you are interested in bidding on this project, please contact Skanska’s Outreach Coordinator: Matthew.DeGudicibus@skanska.com

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IS SOLICITING COST PROPOSALS FROM DBE SUBCONTRACTORS AND VENDORS CERTIFIED WITH THE NEW YORK STATE UNIFIED CERTIFICATION PROGRAM

Flood Mitigation and Resiliency 148th Street Yard
 MTA NYCT Contract No. C-34839
 Bid Date: September 14, 2017

Description of project:
 The work consists of construction of perimeter flood protection wall, portal flood protection, and replacement of power cables and switches at the 148th Street Yard in the Borough of Manhattan. The work includes: extension of existing sheet pile wall along Harlem River, land side perimeter wall, replacement of track, providing stop log flood gate, new drainage and track work at portal, signal work, removal and disposal of power cables, third rail hand switches, duct banks, and installation of new power cables in new duct banks and new third rail hand switches.

Many bidding opportunities available.
 If you are interested in bidding on this project, please contact Skanska’s Outreach Coordinator: Matthew.DeGudicibus@skanska.com

NORTHEAST EVENTS FOR YOUR BUSINESS

2017

Doing Business with the Federal Government
 Thursday, September 14, 2017, 9:30 am–1:00 pm
 Cherry Hill Library, 1104 Kings Highway North, Cherry Hill, NJ
 Main Sponsor(s): Small Business Administration, New Jersey Small Business Development Center at Rutgers University Camden
 Contact: Bob Palumbo, 856-225-6221, rfp21@camden.rutgers.edu
 Fee: Free; registration required
 Do you want a piece of the \$500 billion federal marketplace? The US federal government is the largest buyer of goods and services in the world. Learn how your business can benefit from selling to the federal government. Learn the types of products and services it procures and how to tell if the government is buying what your business is selling. There are several databases and systems in which to register before you can do business with the federal government. Learn the acronyms and databases you’ll need so you can start selling. Find out how to identify upcoming opportunities and get ahead of the competition.

Government Contracting Can Grow Your Business!
 Thursday, September 14, 2017, 10:00 am–12:00 pm
 Crowne Plaza Hotel, 1 West Street, Second Floor, Executive Conference Room, Pittsfield, MA
 Main Sponsor(s): Small Business Administration
 Contact: Oreste Varela, 413-785-0484, oreste.varela@sba.gov

Fee: Free; registration required
 This free workshop will help you gain a better understanding of government contracting processes and resources available to assist you. General information will be provided in the following areas: What Is Government Contracting; Who, What, When, and Where; Steps to Success; Certifications—Woman Owned, Small Disadvantaged (8a), HUB Zone, Service Disabled Veteran Businesses; Registration; Webinars, Workshops, One-on-One Assistance; SBA Resources and Partners; Procurement Technical Assistance Center (PTAC) Co-Presenter; Small Business Development Center Network; SCORE Counselors to America’s Small Businesses. There will be one-on-one mentoring available after the presentations.

Boots to Business ReBoot Workshop
 Thursday, September 21, 2017, 8:00 am–5:00 pm
 US Custom House, 312 Fore Street, Portland, ME
 Main Sponsor(s): Small Business Administration, US Custom House
 Contact: Bradley Currie, 207-622-8551, bradley.currie@sba.gov
 Fee: Free; registration required
 Boots to Business Reboot is a one-day training program that provides participants an overview of business ownership as a career vocation. There are eight modules instructed by our SBA resource partners and future business counselors. The modules consist of: Introduction to Business; Opportunity Recognition; Market Research; Economics of Small Business Startup; Picking the Correct Legal Entity for Your Business; Financing the Venture; Next Steps: Introduction to Business Planning; Moving Forward: Resources to Support You.