

# Two Native Americans Offer Healing Solace

By Leslie Ann McMillan and Marie Sheahan Brown

Our visit to the Shinnecock Indian Nation reservation near the eastern end of Long Island unexpectedly confirmed what we had read in a brochure at the Smithsonian's National Museum of the American Indian.

Entitled *IndiVisible: African-Native American Lives in the Americas*, the words and photos memorably illustrate how the tragic common bonds of displacement and oppression have often become empathetic family bonds among Africans and Indians in America.

Honest understanding can bring healing from unimagined sources.

Like other Native Americans, your Small Business Exchange Northeast editors, twin sisters, can share sad stories of loss, indignity, and betrayal experienced by our Chinook Indian ancestors.

For example, our many-greats-grandfather, Chinook Chief Comcomly, welcomed explorers such as Gray and Vancouver, Lewis and Clark,

and the Astor Expedition when they reached his territory along the Pacific coast at the mouth of the Columbia River. Within a few decades, ninety percent of the Chinooks had perished from strange diseases introduced by the newcomers.

After Chief Comcomly died, his traditionally flattened skull was stolen from his grave in 1835 and shipped to the Royal Naval Hospital Haslar Museum in England. Damaged by bombing in World War II, it was returned to America in 1953 and eventually to his Columbia River homeland among five generations of his descendants.

A Smithsonian research report, *The Chinook Sign of Freedom: A Study of the Skull of the Famous Chief Comcomly* (1960), recounts the events and evidence that accumulated during this troubling journey of more than a century.

Even today, the Chinook Indian Nation is struggling with indignity. Like the Shinnecocks, our people have been trying for decades to win federal recognition as Native Americans—not, as some might think, so we can sell all of the vices at lower prices on new tribal lands, but for the sake of simple truth, justice, and sovereignty.



The Shinnecock Nation finally gained federal recognition in 2010, one of 574 such tribes. We are not yet there—despite more than two hundred years of peaceable history and the existence not only of our people but also of Chinook salmon; Chinook

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EXPRESSION OF INTEREST FOR M/W/SDVOB/LBE FIRMS

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IS CURRENTLY INVITING ALL CERTIFIED PORT AUTHORITY OF NEW YORK AND NEW JERSEY MBE, WBE, AND SDVOB, AND ALL LBE SUBCONTRACTORS, VENDORS, SERVICE PROVIDERS

To complete and submit their EXPRESSION OF INTEREST for the **AirTrain Newark Replacement Project in the cities of Newark and Elizabeth, New Jersey PANYNJ RFP No. 70027**

All interested firms are asked to contact us at [EWRAIRTRAIN@TUTORPERINI.COM](mailto:EWRAIRTRAIN@TUTORPERINI.COM) to receive a copy of our business registration form as well as answer any questions that you may have. Come and join our team!

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IS CURRENTLY SOLICITING COST PROPOSALS FROM QUALIFIED AND CERTIFIED SBE/DVOB SUBCONTRACTORS, VENDORS, SERVICE PROVIDERS

**Bridge Deck Reconstruction, Milepost 83 to 88 Project in the City of New Brunswick and Township of Edison, Middlesex County, New Jersey New Jersey Turnpike Authority Contract No: T100.523 Bid Date: December 9, 2021**

ALL QUOTATIONS ARE DUE BY CLOSE OF BUSINESS Friday, December 3, 2021. For further information concerning subcontracting and/or purchasing opportunities, and to register as a subcontractor or vendor, please respond to [solicitations@tutorperini.com](mailto:solicitations@tutorperini.com) or contact Jackie Cotto at 914-739-1908. Come and join our team!

## SKANSKA

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IS SOLICITING COST PROPOSALS FROM NEW YORK DBE SUBCONTRACTORS AND VENDORS

**Design-Build Services for Accessibility Upgrades at Eight Stations Package 2 MTA Construction and Development Contract No. A-37135 Bid Date: December 1, 2021**

**Description of project:** Work in this contract includes the installation of new elevators, replacement of existing elevators, Americans with Disabilities Act (“ADA”) upgrades, and state of good repair improvements at eight stations in New York City and the performance of long-term elevator maintenance for the new elevators. The eight (8) stations are Westchester Square (Bronx); Eighth Avenue Station Sea Beach Line (Brooklyn); 181st Street Station (Manhattan); Woodhaven Boulevard (Queens); Court Square (Queens); Queensboro Plaza (Queens); Marcy Avenue (Brooklyn), and Flushing Avenue (Brooklyn).

**Bidding opportunities:** masonry, structural steel fabrication, miscellaneous metal fabrication and installation, railings, carpentry, roofing, intumescent fireproofing, doors, glass and glazing, painting, tiling (ceramic/mosaic/granite), resilient flooring, acoustical ceilings, detectable warning panels, toilet accessories, furniture, signage, bird deterrents, waterproofing, chemical grouting, HVAC, electric, communication systems, plumbing and fire protection, noise monitoring, vibration monitoring, vector control, ACM abatement, survey, MPT materials, concrete supply, historic preservation, sidewalks, paving, utilities, testing and inspection, crack and spall repairs, haul and disposal/trucking, dumpsters, CPM scheduling.

If you are interested in bidding on this project, please contact Skanska's Outreach Coordinator: [Julia.Omanoff@skanska.com](mailto:Julia.Omanoff@skanska.com) • EOE/M/F/Vet/Disabled

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IS SOLICITING COST PROPOSALS FROM NEW YORK DBE SUBCONTRACTORS AND VENDORS

**Van Wyck Expressway Capacity and Access Improvement to JFK Airport Contract 3 NYSDOT Contract No: D900053 Bid Date: December 15, 2021**

**Project overview:** The project involves design-build services for the Van Wyck Expressway (VWE) Capacity and Access Improvements to JFK Airport—Contract 3. The project is located in Queens County, New York. The project will consist of constructing one additional travel lane, with high-occupancy vehicle (HOV) restrictions, in each direction of the Van Wyck Expressway (VWE) between Kew Gardens Interchange and JFK Airport, reconstructing and/or relocating the exit and entrance ramps within the project limits, constructing or reconstructing nine (9) bridges to accommodate the mainline widening, retaining wall reconstruction, noise barrier installation, and various utility work such as ITS (Intelligent Transportation System), drainage, and sewer.

**Bidding opportunities:** asphalt paving, concrete base pavement, trucking, fills, hauling and disposal, containers, landscaping, structural concrete, ready-mix concrete supply, concrete reinforcement, utilities, structural steel supply and erection, MPT, electrical, ITS, roadway lighting, signs and guardrail, sign structures, deep foundations (pile/micropiles, etc.), line striping, curb and sidewalks, sawcutting, sawcut grooving, bridge demolition, pavement demolition, support of excavation, precast barrier, cast in place barrier, bridge bearings, bridge expansion joints, fence, concrete retaining walls, asphalt milling, trailers, cleaning, furniture, computer services, clearing, hazardous material remediation (asbestos, lead, etc.), concrete sealing, contaminated soil disposal, environmental testing, vibration monitoring, settlement monitoring, survey, photography, rodent control, security, BIM modeling, painting, waterproofing, structural steel repairs, crack and spall repairs, community liaison, bird deterrent system, noise barriers, ornamental fence.

If you are interested in bidding on this project, please contact Skanska's Outreach Coordinator: [Julia.Omanoff@skanska.com](mailto:Julia.Omanoff@skanska.com) • EOE/M/F/Vet/Disabled

## NORTHEAST EVENTS FOR YOUR BUSINESS

2021

**SBA and SOS Monthly Webinar**  
Thursday, December 2, 2021, 9:00 am–11:00 am  
Online  
Main Sponsor(s): US Small Business Administration, New Hampshire Secretary of State Corporation Division  
Contact: Miguel Moralez, 603-225-1601, [miguel.moralez@sba.gov](mailto:miguel.moralez@sba.gov)  
Fee: Free; registration required  
Starting a new business? Looking for capital and finance options? Looking for general advice on starting or maintaining your business? Hear from representatives from the local SBA office and the New Hampshire Secretary of State Corporation Division. This workshop (currently held online during the pandemic) is offered on the first Thursday of every month. To join this free webinar, copy and paste the link below into your browser, then register for tickets for the date of your choice to receive the access code. <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/monthly-workshop-on-sba-programs-resources-at-sos-tickets-138501643143>

**Selling to the Federal Government Webinar**  
Thursday, December 9, 2021, 1:00 pm–4:00 pm  
Online  
Main Sponsor(s): US Small Business Administration  
Contact: George Tapia, 610-382-3086, [george.tapia@sba.gov](mailto:george.tapia@sba.gov)  
Fee: Free; registration required  
Did you know that the federal government is the largest purchaser of goods and services in the world? Interested in learning how your business can market your services or goods to the federal government? Register on line at <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/how-to-sell-to-the-federal-government-tickets-21790713611> SBA helps to ensure small businesses get fair opportunities to share federal government prime contracts. Topics will include: How to Register, Small Business Certifications, Finding Opportunities, Marketing Your Firm, Federal Supply Schedules, Getting Paid, Tips to Prepare Your Offer, How to Seek Additional Assistance. All training sessions are held via Microsoft Teams Meeting. Participants must ensure Microsoft Teams is functioning correctly prior to attending the scheduled class.

**How to Access the Woman-Owned Small Business Federal Contract Program**  
Tuesday, December 14, 2021, 2:00 pm–3:00 pm  
Online  
Main Sponsor(s): US Small Business Administration  
Contact: Patrice Dozier, 404-331-0118, [patrice.dozier@sba.gov](mailto:patrice.dozier@sba.gov)  
Fee: Free; registration required  
To help provide a level playing field for woman business owners, the federal government's goal is to award at least five percent of all federal contracting dollars to woman-owned small businesses (WOSB) each year. This webinar will provide you information on the certification process for the WOSB federal contract program. Before you can participate in the women's contracting program, you must either use the SBA FREE online application or be third-party certified. Both methods require you to use the [beta.certify.sba.gov](https://beta.certify.sba.gov) new portal. Once you register, you will be sent the link for the webinar.