SEEKING KOREAN WAR VETERANS

Program Pays Tribute to Connecticut's Korean War Veterans

Secretary of the State Susan Bysiewicz announced June 8, 2010 that she is seeking Korean War veterans currently residing in Somers for the purposes of presenting them with Public Service Awards at a ceremony to be held in the near future. After more than 130 ceremonies since the fall of 2007, the Secretary of the State's Office is concluding the presentation of Public Service Awards to veterans of World War II and is now seeking to honor veterans who served in the Korean conflict between June 26, 1950 and January 31, 1955.

"Thousands of Korean War veterans in Connecticut made great sacrifices to fight Communist tyranny and protect democracy on the other side of the world, and they deserve to be honored and recognized," said Secretary Bysiewicz. "Many of our Korean War veterans returned to Connecticut and dedicated themselves to a life of public service which in turn improved the lives of thousands of others for decades. Today we salute them and we want to say thank you."

Secretary Bysiewicz is asking Korean War veterans residing in Somers to contact the Pat Juda in the Assessor's office at 860.763.8202 or email Pat at <u>pjuda@somersct.gov</u> with their name, address and phone number.

Invitations for the ceremony will be sent to Korean War veterans who provide their mailing address. At the ceremony, Secretary Bysiewicz plans to present each veteran with an award in recognition of their service during the Korean War and will invite the veterans to share their stories with friends and family attending the event. The upcoming event is a continuation of the Office of the Secretary of the State Public Service Awards Program, which began in 2001. Since then, more than 20,000 people in Connecticut have been honored for their public service, including: elected officials, professional firefighters, volunteer coaches, community and youth volunteers, board and commission members, emergency service workers, elections officials and World War II veterans.