



U.S Department
of Transportation

1200 New Jersey Avenue
Washington, DC 20590
202-366-0091



Saint Lawrence
Seaway Development
Corporation

PRESS RELEASE

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Contact: Kyle Savage
Telephone: (202) 366-0898

Saint Lawrence Seaway Development Corporation Planning to Honor Construction Workers Who Built the Seaway

The Saint Lawrence Seaway Development Corporation (SLSDC) will hold a memorial ceremony to pay tribute to the workers who lost their lives during the original construction of the St. Lawrence Seaway. The ceremony will take place at the Eisenhower Lock Visitors' Center, 190 Barnhart Road, Massena, New York, at 2:00 p.m. on Friday, June 3, 2016.

It took less than five years – from late 1954 until early 1959 – to complete the massive engineering and construction project creating a new waterway. An army of men and women – 22,000 carpenters, engineers, and laborers – worked on the Seaway project which was considered one of the most important publicly funded projects of the twentieth century. It has been brought to the attention of the SLSDC that the father of Bonnie Pearson of Ogdensburg, New York, Mr. David Hanna, was the first American worker who died while working on the construction of the Seaway. There are likely many other similar stories of these incredible workers waiting to be shared.

In an effort to recognize this monumental achievement and the people who made it possible, the SLSDC requests your assistance in identifying and sharing the stories of people you know who were involved in the Seaway's construction. Please contact Mr. Kyle Savage at the SLSDC, (202) 366-0898 or Kyle.Savage@dot.gov to provide this information. The event will be open to the public and there will be a dedication of a memorial plaque to honor the individuals who died during the Seaway's construction. Additional information will be available soon.

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