

**Return to our Roots**

Do you think spring will be early? I do.

Not that I have a crystal ball, but I have been digging holes in my garden, and building an 8-foot arbour for the past month. There was no frost in the ground, though there should have been. Strange times.

The good news is that we are ready to welcome spring and the accompanying public plantings (more to come), celebrate the 100th anniversary of the Royal Canadian Air Force (RCAF) on April 1st, witness a full eclipse of the sun on April 8th, and that is just to get started. [Read more.](#)



**Latest Updates**

**Solar Eclipse Tree Tricks**

If you've waited too long to get your pair of solar eclipse glasses, click this link to a fun internet find that shows Mother Nature once again provides everything we need, and yet another reason to love trees! [Read more.](#)



**Shine an Air Force Blue light, today**

On April 1, 2024, in honour of the Royal Canadian Air Force's 100th Anniversary, the organization has launched the Illumination Campaign which may earn it a Guinness World Record! [Read more.](#)

**RCAF Centennial Groves Made Possible with Support from Veterans Affairs Canada**



Thanks to a grant provided through Veterans Affairs Canada and the Commemorative Partnership Program, Trees for Life is joining the RCAF and six communities across Canada to help bring commemorative installations to life. Each of the RCAF "Centennial Groves" will incorporate some living element of trees, shrubs, tulips, and more to complement other permanent fixtures in high-traffic, public locations. The first four projects will be completed and unveiled this spring, with the final two scheduled for completion this fall. Stay tuned for announcements of future unveiling ceremonies!



To learn more about the RCAF Centennial Grove Projects, click [here.](#)



**Roots, Shoots & Branches**



**Get To Know Our Natives by Nature**

This month, we will Get to Know our native Tulip tree. [Read more.](#)

TFL's Champions Program honours individuals who have shown unwavering support and generosity to TFL to help turn our dreams into reality, be it by providing major gifts, multi-year commitments, or helping to spread the word and grow our network of supporters. This is our way of showing them our gratitude.

**Hero Spotlight**



**Honouring Herb McGee**

In recognition of the Royal Canadian Air Force Centennial, Trees for Life is honouring RCAF veterans in the Hero Spotlight. This month we're sharing Herbert McGee's story, Flying Officer (retired), who served at Pennfield Station, New Brunswick, which is one of the communities building a Centennial Grove.

Originally, from Saint Andrews, New Brunswick, Herb McGee is a 99-year-old veteran who served at Pennfield Station during the last few months of the Second World War. Pennfield Air Station is significant in the history of the RCAF because it was originally designed to train pilots for WWII action in Europe and the Battle of Britain. After the war, it was converted for civil use.

Herb joined the RCAF at age 18 and always wanted to be a fighter pilot. In the over 2 years that he served he was a tail gunner in several missions over France and Germany including bombing raids over France from August 10 – September 30, 1944, retiring as a Flying Officer. [Read more.](#)

**In appreciation of your Hero**

We are grateful to those who have shared the stories of their heroes and loved ones. To share a story for publication, contact us today.

[Share Your Story](#)

**Sponsors & Partners of Trees for Life**



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