



PenFed Foundation
Because Military Heroes need heroes too

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PenFed and PenFed Foundation Honor Nation's Military Heroes with Legacy Cherry Blossom Tree Dedication at U.S. Soldiers' and Airmen's Home

The legacy trees were originally a gift to PenFed by the National Cherry Blossom Festival as a thank you token for PenFed's sponsorship at this year's Festival celebration.

May 27, 2013, Alexandria, Va.—In recognition of May's National Military Appreciation month, [PenFed](#) and the [PenFed Foundation](#) honored our nation's heroes with a legacy cherry blossom tree planting ceremony yesterday at the U.S. Soldiers' and Airmen's Home (USSAH) in Washington, D.C. Legacy trees are grown from cuttings taken from the second generation of cherry trees that line the Tidal Basin.

"As we take time to observe the Memorial Day holiday, we pause in remembrance, respect and honor of what our nation's heroes have given for our freedom," said Nicole Butler, senior vice president of Brand Marketing and Client Development, PenFed. "These cherry trees are being planted on behalf of PenFed and the PenFed Foundation not only to recognize the sacrifice but also the strength, endurance and pride we share as a nation. The military community and our veterans deserve all that we can give."

The dedication of three legacy cherry blossom trees was held at a public groundbreaking ceremony on land donated by the [U.S. Soldiers' and Airmen's Home](#).

Located in the heart of the nation's capital on 320 acres, the U.S. Soldiers' and Airmen's Home is a thriving community that offers 20-year retirees and certain veterans a haven of retreat. The legacy cherry blossom trees will adorn the retreat grounds for both veterans, and all others, to enjoy and reflect upon for generations to come.

Honorary attendees at the dedication ceremony included representatives from PenFed, the PenFed Foundation; the U.S. Soldiers' and Airmen's Home, and the president of the National Cherry Blossom Festival.

"These trees will make the Soldiers' and Airmen's grounds even more beautiful, helping our veterans to find a quiet place here in Washington," said Kate Kohler, chief operating officer of the PenFed Foundation. "We hope every year when these trees bloom our veterans remember that people care about them and honor their service."

"The National Cherry Blossom Festival has planted hundreds of cherry trees, connecting the community and creating new traditions for the next generation," said Diana Mayhew, president, National Cherry Blossom Festival. "We are pleased PenFed has joined this important effort to further the gift of trees beyond the Tidal Basin."

The National Cherry Blossom Festival is the nation's greatest springtime celebration. The Festival includes more than three weeks of daily events featuring diverse and creative programming promoting traditional and contemporary arts and culture, natural beauty, and community spirit. This year marked the 101st anniversary of the 3,000 cherry blossom trees that were given as a gift from the people of Tokyo, Japan to Washington, D.C.

To learn more about the Festival, visit nationalcherryblossomfestival.org.

About PenFed (Pentagon Federal Credit Union)

Established in 1935, PenFed is one of the largest credit unions in the United States with over a million members and more than \$15 billion in assets. PenFed provides an extensive selection of financial products to its members worldwide. Its core membership includes the Department of Defense, Army, Marine Corps, Navy, Air Force, and Coast Guard; Department of Homeland Security personnel, employees or volunteers of the American Red Cross, numerous military associations, and many others. PenFed is federally insured by the National Credit Union Administration and is an equal housing lender.

To learn more about PenFed and find out how to become a member, call 800.247.5626 or visit PenFed.org.

About the Pentagon Federal Credit Union Foundation (the PenFed Foundation)

The PenFed Foundation is a nationally recognized nonprofit organization working to meet the unmet needs of military members and their families through supporting wounded warriors and providing financial management assistance and home ownership aid. The foundation is also the primary sponsor of a new free hotel for veterans called the Lee and Penny Anderson Defenders Lodge, a \$17 million public-private partnership with the Department of Veterans Affairs in which the foundation is raising \$11 million to cover the cost of construction. PenFed (Pentagon Federal Credit Union) covers all labor expenses for the foundation so every dollar donated goes directly to supporting its programs.

To make a donation or learn more about the foundation visit: PenFedFoundation.org.

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