

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
July 13, 2010

## “Navy Lady” rosebush planted to commemorate Canadian Navy’s Centennial Anniversary



*Caledon resident Alice McMahon (centre) of the Women’s Royal Canadian Naval Service, along with Mayor Marolyn Morrison (left) and Caledon Councillors (front row, l-r) Annette Groves, Doug Beffort, Allan Thompson and (second row, l-r) Gord McClure, Richard Paterak and Richard Whitehead following the ceremonial planting of the Navy Lady rosebush.*

Thanks to Caledon resident Alice McMahon, a significant rose bush now has a place of prominence at Caledon Town Hall.

The Navy Lady Rose, developed by Agriculture and AgriFood Canada, was chosen by the Women’s Royal Canadian Naval Service (WRCNS) to commemorate the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Canadian Navy. The WRCNS – commonly referred to as the WRENS – have dedicated this rose as a tribute to the men and women who have served, and are still serving, in the Navy. Similar ceremonies are being held across Canada during the Navy’s centennial year of celebration.

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Mrs. McMahon joined the Navy at 18 and, during World War II, served as a messenger at naval stations in Nova Scotia and British Columbia. In her address to Caledon Council, Mrs. McMahon brought awareness to the role of the WRENS, and read a passage from her published works about her naval service.

## **Background**

The WRCNS was established on July 31, 1942 and by the end of World War II there were more than 6,000 women serving as regular personnel and officers with the Women's Royal Canadian Naval Service.

For more information about the Navy Lady Rose, or the WRCNS, visit [www.thewrens.com](http://www.thewrens.com)

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