

Cantigny 5K Proceeds Donated to Midwest Shelter for Homeless Veterans

WHEATON, IL, November 9, 2012 — Cantigny Park, part of the Robert R. McCormick Foundation, tonight awarded a check for \$7,500 to the Midwest Shelter for Homeless Veterans (MSHV) in Wheaton. The donation, presented during the park's Veterans Tribute, represents net proceeds from the 9th annual Cantigny 5K Run/Walk, held last Saturday.

"All of us here at Cantigny want to thank the runners and walkers who made this contribution possible," said Paul Herbert, executive director of the First Division Museum at Cantigny Park. "It's great to see the community rally behind a local grass-roots organization that does so much for veterans who need a helping hand."

The Cantigny 5K field was a sellout with all 900 positions filled. Cash donations to MSHV from participating runners and walkers totaled \$1,587 – money contributed on top of their required entry fees!

Pam KostECKI, MSHV director of operations and grants, accepted the \$7,500 check from Herbert.

"We are so grateful for this donation and the ongoing support of Cantigny," KostECKI said. "Dedicated partners like Cantigny are crucial to our efforts to leave no veterans behind to homelessness. We'll be using this money to provide much needed clinical services to the homeless veterans who reside in our transitional housing and who suffer from PTSD and other ailments."

MSHV also receives funding from Cantigny Post 556 of the American Legion, based at the First Division Museum at Cantigny Park. Post 556 generated more than \$12,000 to MSHV in 2012, not including in-kind contributions.

The legionnaires hosted a pancake breakfast at Cantigny during the 5K that attracted more than 500 patrons. Some of the money raised will go to MSHV, which is the primary community service activity of Post 556.

Including the Cantigny 5K, Post 556 donations and \$5,000 in Robert R. McCormick Foundation matching funds, Cantigny Park generated about \$20,000 in cash for MSHV in 2012.

MSHV, located in downtown Wheaton, operates a transitional housing program with counseling, access to health care, and education and job-training services for U.S. veterans of any era. Its mission is to serve those who served the nation, and their families, by providing housing and supportive services that lead to self-sufficiency. To learn more, visit the shelter's website at helpaveteran.org.

The 10th annual Cantigny 5K Run/Walk will take place November 2, 2013. Online registration begins in April at SignMeUp.com.

About Cantigny Park

Cantigny Park, part of the nonprofit Chicago-based Robert R. McCormick Foundations, is the 500-acre Wheaton (Illinois) estate of Robert R. McCormick (1880-1955), longtime editor and publisher of the *Chicago Tribune*. It is home to 30 acres of spectacular gardens, the Robert R. McCormick Museum, the First Division Museum and a 27-hole championship golf course. All are open to the public. Cantigny also is a favorite destination for special events, weddings, concerts, lectures, workshops and other recreation and learning opportunities for all ages. Full-service banquet and dining facilities are on site. More information, including hours, directions and a calendar of upcoming events is online at Cantigny.org. For details about Cantigny Golf, including the Cantigny Golf Academy and 9-hole Cantigny Youth Links, please visit CantignyGolf.com.

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