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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DOGS GET THEIR DAY AT CANTIGNY ON AUGUST 2

Annual Dog Days event will include appearance by Cpl. Bill Wynne, owner and trainer of WWII celebrity dog "Smoky"

WHEATON, IL, July 24, 2014 — [Cantigny Park](#) will host the 6th annual Dog Days festival on Saturday, August 2, from 10 am to 4 pm. It's the one day each year when guests and their pets are invited to enjoy the park together.

First held in 2009, Dogs Days is one of Cantigny's most popular summer events – a celebration of everything canine! Attractions include the Bark Park, a spacious off-leash dog play area, plus entertaining shows and demonstrations by specially trained animals. Spectator favorites will include the amazing high-flying dogs of the Windy City K-9 Disc Club.

Other attractions and activities:

- Agility demonstrations
- Dog rescue organizations and animal shelters
- On-site adoption services
- "Stuff a Dog" craft for kids (\$5)
- More than 50 nonprofit organizations and commercial vendors

Pet owners are free to walk their leashed dogs throughout Cantigny's beautiful grounds during the event. Visiting dogs must have current vaccination tags and be social with others.

This year's Dog Days will feature an honored guest, Corporal Bill Wynne, a decorated World War II veteran and the owner and trainer of [Smoky](#), one of the top five war dogs in U.S. history. Smoky, a female Yorkshire terrier that lived from 1943 to 1957, served in WWII, accompanying her master on photo reconnaissance missions in the South Pacific. Nicknamed the "Yorkie Doodle Dandy," Smoky was a famous Army mascot and performed tricks to entertain the troops. She later became the first therapy dog of record, bringing smiles to the faces of wounded soldiers – including those recuperating in Chicago-area military hospitals around May 1946.

Admission to Dogs Days is free with paid parking (\$5 per vehicle).

Cantigny Park is open every day during summer from 7 am to dusk. A complete schedule of concerts, workshops and special events is posted online. Annual memberships starting at \$50 include unlimited free parking and other benefits.

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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.