

Media Contact:
Gayln Piper
First Division Museum
630.260.8130
gpiper@firstdivisionmuseum.org

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LIBERATION: LOOKING BACK 70 YEARS

On May 27, two men will share their remarkable experiences during World War II

Wheaton, Ill., May 18, 2015 — The [First Division Museum at Cantigny Park](#), in cooperation with the [Illinois Holocaust Museum and Education Center](#), announces an evening of reflection, 70 years after the end of World War II. On Wednesday, May 27, two very special men will share their memories, one a Holocaust survivor and the other a WWII veteran.

All are invited to what is sure to be a fascinating conversation at Le Jardin inside the Cantigny Park Visitors Center. The program begins at 7:30 pm. Admission and parking are free.

Here is a brief introduction to each honored guest:

- **George Brent** was born in 1929 in Těscö, in an area of Czechoslovakia that was later turned over to Hungary. Because his father was a pharmacist, the family was able to remain outside the Těscö ghetto for much longer than other families, so that the town's pharmacy could continue to operate. They were forced into the ghetto on May 21, 1944, and deported to Auschwitz three days later. As the Russian army advanced, George was sent on a death march and then on a coal train to Mauthausen. He was eventually liberated from Ebensee concentration camp in Austria and traveled to the United States in 1947. His father followed him soon after. George now lives in Wilmette.
- **Arthur Sheridan** was born and raised in Chicago, graduating from Nicholas Senn High School. In 1942, at age 17, he enlisted in the Army. Assigned to the 20th Infantry Division, he arrived in Europe following the D-Day invasion and fought his way across France and into Germany. Outside Munich, the 20th Infantry and 20th Armored Division found and liberated the concentration camp at Dachau. As an infantryman, Art was one of the first American soldiers to enter the camp. Still just a teenager, he didn't fully understand what he was witnessing, but the memories stayed with him. Art and his wife live in Aurora.

From 6:30 pm to 7:30 pm, a cash bar will be available along with pulled-pork sandwiches, chips and chili. Coffee is complimentary.

This event is part of the First Division Museum's *Date with History*, a monthly series featuring lively discussions with authors, panelists, historians and special guests. Information about upcoming programs is online at FirstDivisionMuseum.org.

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About the Illinois Holocaust Museum and Education Center

Located in Skokie, the Illinois Holocaust Museum and Education Center is dedicated to preserving the legacy of the Holocaust by honoring the memories of those who were lost and by teaching universal lessons that combat hatred, prejudice and indifference. The Museum fulfills its mission through the exhibition, preservation and interpretation of its collections and through education programs and initiatives that foster the promotion of human rights and the elimination of genocide. More information is online at ilholocaustmuseum.org.

About the First Division Museum

The First Division Museum at Cantigny Park, Wheaton, Ill., is part of the nonprofit Chicago-based Robert R. McCormick Foundation. It promotes public learning about America's military heritage and affairs through the history of the "Big Red One"—the famed 1st Infantry Division of the U.S. Army—and stands in tribute to all who have served our country in the armed forces. The museum's main exhibit hall transports visitors to the trenches of World War I, the beaches of World War II and the jungles of Vietnam. Outside, tanks are displayed from every era, along with personnel carriers and artillery. The Robert R. McCormick Research Center, open to the public, houses the museum's library, archival and photo collections. Visit the First Division Museum at Cantigny Park online at FirstDivisionMuseum.org.