



**News Release**

## **Author of Historical Novel “Fort Dearborn” to Speak on October 3**

**WHEATON, IL, September 24, 2012** — The First Division Museum at Cantigny Park invites the public to a free presentation by veteran Chicago journalist Jerry Crimmins on Wednesday, October 3, at 7:30 pm.

Crimmins will discuss his acclaimed historical novel, *Fort Dearborn*, published in 2006. The book details the Fort Dearborn Massacre during the War of 1812 in captivating fashion, bringing to light a fascinating period in our nation’s history. Local history buffs will appreciate that the author’s visit coincides with the 200<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the epic conflict that occurred in what is now downtown Chicago.

*Fort Dearborn* is told from the perspective of two young boys and their fathers—one a sergeant with the U.S. Army’s First-Infantry, the other a Potawatomi warrior. The story is filled with rich and fascinating details based on six years of meticulous research.

Crimmins has enjoyed an award-winning career in the Chicago newspaper business for nearly 40 years, reporting and editing for the City News Bureau of Chicago, *Chicago Tribune*, Associated Press and currently the *Chicago Daily Law Bulletin*.

Doors open at 6:45 pm on October 3. A book signing will follow Crimmins’ presentation and copies of *Fort Dearborn* will be available for purchase.

Admission and parking are complimentary. For more information, please call 630.260.8187.

The event is part of the First Division Museum’s popular series, *A Date with History*. The monthly programs feature an evening of lively discussion with authors, panelists, historians and special speakers. Information about upcoming programs is online at [FirstDivisionMuseum.org](http://FirstDivisionMuseum.org).

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### **About the First Division Museum**

The First Division Museum at Cantigny Park, part of the nonprofit Robert R. McCormick Foundations, promotes public learning about America’s military heritage and affairs through the history of the Big Red One—the famed 1<sup>st</sup> Infantry Division of the U.S. Army. It 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](http://FirstDivisionMuseum.org).

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