



News Release

Luminary Display to Honor Veterans on November 9

WHEATON, IL, November 1, 2012 — Cantigny Park and the First Division Museum will begin Veterans Day weekend with a solemn tribute to those who died in combat while serving our country.

At sunset on Friday, November 9, the park will light approximately 2,200 luminary candles, placed on the Cantigny Parade Field and along walkways. Admission and parking are complimentary on Friday evening and also on Veterans Day (Sunday, November 11).

This is the fifth year for Cantigny's massive luminary tribute.

"The lights honor more than 13,000 1st Infantry Division soldiers killed in action since 1917," said Paul Herbert, executive director of the First Division Museum at Cantigny Park. "By extension, we are honoring all who have made that sacrifice and all of our veterans who have risked that sacrifice. Freedom is not free."

Visitors are welcome to walk through the rows of lights or observe the display from three sides on a designated driving route. The tribute will take place regardless of weather conditions and conclude at 9 pm.

The First Division Museum will offer extended hours, remaining open until 9 pm. A performance of "Veterans' Voices" will be offered at 6 pm and 8 pm. The program features living history re-enactors reading actual letters written and posted by soldiers through the years.

Cantigny Post 556 of the American Legion will host tables at the museum and Visitors Center, and the Cantigny Shoppe and Bertie's Coffee Shop will be open throughout the evening.

Further details are posted online at 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 1st 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.

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