

Media Contact:

Jeff Reiter

Cantigny Park

630.260.8218

jreiter@cantigny.org

PAUL HERBERT RETIRES FROM FIRST DIVISION MUSEUM

*Executive director exits with legacy of sharing military history
and lessons from the 1st Infantry Division*

Wheaton, Ill., November 26, 2018 – The Robert R. McCormick Foundation and Cantigny Park announced that Paul Herbert, executive director of the First Division Museum at Cantigny Park, will retire after more than 13 years of leading the museum.

“Since his arrival, Paul’s contributions to the First Division Museum, Cantigny Park, the Foundation, the 1st Infantry Division, the Society of the 1st Infantry Division, Cantigny Post 556 of the American Legion and the entire community are unmatched,” said David Hiller, president and CEO of the McCormick Foundation. “Perhaps most notably, Paul led a complete update of the First Division Museum that provides compelling and inspiring historical learning opportunities for the tens of thousands of visitors who pour into the museum each year.”

During his time leading the First Division Museum, Herbert developed educational programs in military history that reach thousands of teachers and students annually. Through the McCormick Foundation, he sponsored study abroad programs in U.S. military history for select high school teachers and students from under-resourced schools. Additionally, Herbert added dozens of titles and thousands of readers to the Cantigny Military History Series of books.

“He’s helped hundreds of veterans through the American Legion and the Midwest Shelter for Homeless Veterans, hosted events at Cantigny, and established national and international partnerships that enhanced our reputation and extended our reach,” added Hiller.

In 2017, Herbert traveled to Iraq to understand the contemporary history of the 1st Division, a trip he calls a highlight of his career. Recently, he oversaw the production of numerous memorial events at Cantigny Park and in France during the centennial commemoration of the United States involvement in World War I.

“I’m an old soldier who loves his work,” said Herbert. “My friends, colleagues, co-workers and staff made us successful and I thank them. We present the compelling story of the Big Red One as a tribute to all who have served. We intend that every visitor will gain empathy for our troops and be inspired to cherish and serve our democracy. Come visit!”

A public announcement on Herbert’s successor as executive director is expected in early 2019.

###

About the First Division Museum at Cantigny Park

The First Division Museum, part of 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. The museum's main exhibit hall, First in War, 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 artillery pieces and a personnel carrier. The Robert R. McCormick Research Center, open to the public, houses the museum's library, archival and photo collections. In 2017, the First Division Museum completed a major renovation inside the building and on the grounds. A new gallery, Duty First, focuses on the modern (post-Vietnam) history and deployment missions of the Army's 1st Infantry Division. For more information, visit www.fdmuseum.org.

About Cantigny Park

Cantigny Park, part of the Robert R. McCormick Foundations, is the 500-acre Wheaton estate of Col. Robert R. McCormick (1880-1955). It is home to the McCormick House, First Division Museum, formal gardens, picnic grounds, walking trails and a Visitor Center with banquet and dining facilities. More information, including hours, directions, and upcoming events, is posted online at www.cantigny.org. Cantigny Golf, adjacent to the park, features a 27-hole championship golf course, clubhouse with banquet and dining rooms, Cantigny Golf Academy, and the 9-hole Cantigny Youth Links. For more information, please visit www.cantignygolf.com.