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CANTIGNY CELEBRATES VETERANS DAY

The First Division Museum honors all military veterans with virtual activities and events

Wheaton, Ill., October 15, 2020 — The [First Division Museum at Cantigny Park](#) invites adults, students and families to celebrate Veterans Day with at-home “virtual” programs that pay tribute to all those who served and continue to serve.

The official end of World War I occurred on November 11, 1918. America has observed November 11 ever since – first as Armistice Day, and since 1954 as Veterans Day. The holiday celebrates all veterans, living or dead, but especially gives thanks to those still with us today. Cantigny embraces this annual tradition.

Parking is free at Cantigny Park on Veterans Day, Wednesday, November 11. In addition, the following programs and activities are offered:

- **They Served: Stories from Veterans**
Wednesday, November 11 • 7 to 8:30 pm
Live presentation via Zoom • free program; register at FDMuseum.org
Join us online as two veterans of the 1st Infantry Division share the stories of their service. **Major Casey Wolfe** is a proud second generation Big Red One soldier. He served from 2011 to 2015, deploying with the Division to Afghanistan. His final assignment was company commander for the Commanding General’s Mounted Color Guard. Currently an Army reservist, Major Wolfe serves as logistics officer for a Regional Support Group based in Kansas. **Sergeant Tom Brown** served with the 1st Infantry Division, 10th Cavalry, from 1966 to 1968. While in Vietnam, he served as a combat infantryman and as a mortar crewman. A Purple Heart recipient, Brown today shares the story of his service with local students as a member of the First Division Museum’s Speaker Bureau.
- **Veteran Mail Call**
At-home Activity for All Ages
Say “thank you” to a veteran for his or her service to our country with some words from the heart. The First Division Museum is gathering notes and letters to distribute to veterans via organizations such as One Savvy Veteran, Honor Flight Chicago, American Legion Cantigny Post 556 and local college veteran associations. Sending instructions are online at fdmuseum.org.
- **Saturday, November 7 • 10 am to 12 pm**
Take-and-Make “Thank You” Flag Craft
Pick up at Cantigny Parking Lot 5
Since World War I, families have hung flags in their windows with stars representing relatives serving in the military. We invite you to continue this tradition by creating a window hanging of



your own with a complimentary craft kit—a simple and meaningful activity for kids and families to do at home. Flag kits are free (while supplies last). A donation to the [Midwest Shelter for Homeless Veterans](#) is suggested.

- **Conduct an Oral History**

- **At-home Activity for Students**

Students are encouraged to record and preserve history by interviewing a veteran in their life, such as a parent, grandparent or neighbor. A Student Question Guide with instructions, tips and suggested questions is available at [FDMuseum.org](#). Ideas for sharing and supplementing an oral history interview are offered as well.

The First Division Museum is currently open Wednesday-Sunday on a reservations-only basis. Visitors can choose a morning or afternoon session by registering in advance at [FDMuseum.org](#). Admission is free with paid parking at Cantigny (\$5). Parking at Cantigny is free on Veterans Day and on the first Wednesday of every month.

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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 2020, the museum introduced “[Footsteps of The First](#),” a travel program in partnership with Academic Travel Abroad.

EDITORS: Photos of the “Thank You Flag Craft” are available for download [HERE](#).