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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CANTIGNY PARK TO CELEBRATE “60 BEAUTIFUL YEARS” ON JULY 30

*Full day of activities and music includes Chicago Sinfonietta under the stars;
free entertainment and free parking all day!*

Wheaton, Ill., July 6, 2015 — Cantigny Park and the Robert R. McCormick Foundation plan to celebrate their 60th anniversary by giving the community a special day in the park on Thursday, July 30.

Performances, events and activities throughout the day are free to the public. Parking also is complimentary. Entertainment will include three outdoor concerts, capped off by the Chicago Sinfonietta at 7:30 pm.

“This is our birthday party with the community,” said David Hiller, McCormick Foundation president and chief executive officer. “Cantigny was Robert R. McCormick’s gift to all of us so it’s appropriate that we celebrate our 60-year milestone together and welcome everybody to the park for a fun and memorable day.”

Colonel McCormick, the former editor and publisher of the *Chicago Tribune*, lived on the 500-acre Cantigny estate from 1919 until his passing in 1955. July 30, his birthday, is commemorated annually as McCormick Day at the park, but this year promises to be the best celebration ever.

Anniversary events begin at 10 am and will span all areas of the park, including the gardens, McCormick mansion and First Division Museum. Themed activities will reflect McCormick’s farm life at Cantigny, his journalism career and his leadership in the U.S. Army’s First Division.

A detailed agenda for July 30 at Cantigny Park is posted online at Cantigny.org. Family-friendly activities and attractions include:

- “Miss Jamie & The Farmhands” in concert on the allée (2 pm)
- “Barefoot Hawaiian” in concert on the allée (5:30 pm)
- Vintage games and crafts
- Splash artillery game

- Robert and Amy McCormick living history performances
- Remote control plane demo and paper airplane making/contest
- Guided history and garden tours
- McCormick Museum Open House
- First Division Museum behind the scenes
- Birthday cake cutting
- Vintage “Base Ball” exhibition

“A League of Their Own,” parts of which were filmed at Cantigny, will play continuously in the Visitors Center theater. Also in the Visitors Center, guests can make memories at the 60th anniversary photo booth and enjoy a special photo exhibit featuring Cantigny through the years.

At 5 pm, a brief wreath-laying ceremony will take place at Colonel McCormick’s gravesite, conducted by Cantigny Post 556, American Legion. The Post has been active at Cantigny since 1928.

The day’s grand finale features Maestro Mei-Ann Chen and the innovative [Chicago Sinfonietta](#). Music performed in front of the First Division Museum will include Saibei Dance, Carmen Fantasy and Tchaikovsky Symphony No. 4, along with some surprises tailored to the festive occasion. In addition, two young musicians from Naperville, Rebecca Moy and Jack McCammon, will be featured soloists.

Cantigny is open every day this summer from 7 am to dusk. A complete schedule of concerts, workshops and special events is posted online at [Cantigny.org](#).

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About Cantigny Park

Cantigny Park, part of the Robert R. McCormick Foundation, is the 500-acre Wheaton (IL) estate of Robert R. McCormick (1880-1955). Celebrating 60 years in 2015, it is home to the McCormick Museum, 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 online at [Cantigny.org](#). Cantigny Golf, adjacent to the park, features a 27-hole championship golf course, full-service clubhouse, Cantigny Golf Academy and the 9-hole Cantigny Youth Links. For more information, visit [CantignyGolf.com](#).

About the Robert R. McCormick Foundation

The Robert R. McCormick Foundation is committed to fostering communities of educated, informed and engaged citizens. Through philanthropic programs, Cantigny Park and museums, the Foundation helps develop citizen leaders and works to make life better in our communities. The Foundation was established in 1955 upon the death of Colonel Robert R. McCormick, the longtime editor and publisher of the *Chicago Tribune*. The Robert R. McCormick Foundation is one of the nation’s largest foundations, with more than \$1.5 billion in assets. For more information visit [McCormickFoundation.org](#), follow us on [Twitter](#), or like us on [Facebook](#).