

## **McCormick Day Celebration Set for July 30**

*Vintage activities and special events planned; free parking all day!*

**WHEATON, IL, July 18, 2013** — Cantigny Park will celebrate the birthday of its benefactor, Colonel Robert R. McCormick, on Tuesday, July 30. Activities and demonstrations for visitors of all ages are planned throughout the park from 10 am to 3 pm.

McCormick, former editor and publisher of the *Chicago Tribune*, was born on July 30, 1880. He lived on the 500-acre country estate from 1920 until his passing in 1955. His will designated Cantigny as a gift to the community.

Parking will be FREE on McCormick Day. Activities, also complimentary, will include:

- McCormick Museum open house (10 am to 1 pm)
- Amy McCormick performance by Ellie Carlson (McCormick Museum Gold Theatre, 11 am)
- Spinning demonstration by Esther's Place Fiber Arts Studio (all day)
- Splash artillery target practice (First Division Museum, 10 am to 2 pm)
- Shepherding demonstration by Heatherhope Farm in Sycamore (every hour on the half hour starting at 10:30 am)
- Birthday cake cutting (Visitors Center, noon)
- Wreath-laying ceremony honoring Robert R. McCormick (Exedra, 3 pm)

Throughout the day, vintage games for children will be available on the Parade Field in addition to craft activities. Cantigny's giant mural will be available for painting starting at 1 pm. Kids also are invited to make newspaper hats and birthday cards on the McCormick Museum's south porch.

Park visitors can take turns on a hand-cranked ice cream freezer (11 am) or try their hand at butter making (1 pm). These activities recall life during Colonel McCormick's time at Red Oaks Farm, as Cantigny was known originally.

The McCormick family loved dogs, and bulldogs were a particular favorite. On McCormick Day, adoptaBull English Bulldog Rescue will be on site to share their animals with visitors and promote the organization's mission.

McCormick Day will conclude at 3 pm with a wreath laying at the Exedra, the final resting place of Colonel McCormick and his first wife Amy. Cantigny Post 556 of the American Legion will conduct the brief ceremony.

The First Division Museum and Robert R. McCormick Museum will be open on McCormick Day from 10 am to 5 pm. Admission to both museums is free throughout the year.

Visitors may also wish to stroll through Cantigny's 30 acres of colorful gardens, including the spectacular Rose Garden and inspiring Idea Garden.

Inside the Cantigny Visitors Center, Le Jardin will serve lunch from 11 am to 2 pm, and Bertie's (for ice cream, snacks and coffee drinks) will operate from 9 am to 4:30 pm.

Also on McCormick Day, the newly remodeled Cantigny Shop will be open from 9 am to 5:30 pm.

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

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### **About Cantigny Park**

Cantigny Park, part of the Chicago-based nonprofit Robert R. McCormick Foundations, is the 500-acre Wheaton (Illinois) estate of Robert R. McCormick (1880-1955), longtime editor and publisher of the *Chicago Tribune*. It is home to 30 acres of spectacular gardens, the Robert R. McCormick Museum, the First Division Museum and a 27-hole championship golf course. All are open to the public. Cantigny also is a favorite destination for special events, weddings, concerts, lectures, workshops and other recreation and learning opportunities for all ages. Full-service banquet and dining facilities are on site. More information, including hours, directions and a calendar of upcoming events is online at [Cantigny.org](http://Cantigny.org). For details about Cantigny Golf, including the Cantigny Golf Academy and 9-hole Cantigny Youth Links, please visit [CantignyGolf.com](http://CantignyGolf.com).

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