



News Release

Veterans Day Tribute at Cantigny Park

WHEATON, IL, October 31, 2013 — The First Division Museum at Cantigny Park will commemorate Veterans Day with a solemn tribute to those who died in combat while serving our country.

At sunset on Monday, November 11, the park will light approximately 1,500 luminary candles, placed on the Cantigny Parade Field and along walkways. This is the sixth year for Cantigny's massive luminary tribute.

Admission and parking are complimentary for this event and throughout Veterans Day.

"The lights honor more than 13,600 1st Infantry Division soldiers killed in action since 1917," said Paul Herbert, executive director of the First Division Museum. "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."

Living history sentries representing soldiers of World War I, World War II and Vietnam will watch over the luminaries. Visitors are invited to walk through the rows of lights or observe the display from a designated driving route. The tribute will take place rain or shine, concluding 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 Shop and Bertie's Coffee Shop will be open throughout the evening. Veterans are invited to enjoy a complimentary cup of coffee at Bertie's from 5 to 9 pm.

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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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