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**BATTLE OF ATTU: THE STORM ON OUR SHORES**

*In 1943, a brutal WWII battle occurred on what is now American soil*

**Wheaton, Ill., March 4, 2021** – The First Division Museum at Cantigny Park continues its acclaimed Date with History series with a virtual program about a little-known story involving the Battle of Attu in 1943. Pulitzer Prize-winning journalist Mark Obmascik will discuss his 2019 national best-seller, *The Storm on Our Shores: One Island, Two Soldiers, and the Forgotten Battle of World War II*.

Obmascik's presentation via Zoom is on **Thursday, March 18, at 7 pm**. The program is free, but registration is required at [FDMuseum.org](https://www.fdmuseum.org).

Featured on "60 Minutes," *The Storm on Our Shores* is the heart-wrenching but ultimately redemptive story of two World War II soldiers—a Japanese surgeon and an American sergeant—during a brutal Alaskan battle in which the sergeant discovers the medic's revelatory and fascinating diary that changed our war-torn society's perceptions of Japan.

This is Obmascik's third book. His first, *The Big Year*, became a Hollywood movie. His second, *Halfway to Heaven*, won the 2009 National Outdoor Book Award for Outdoor Literature.

Obmascik also earned the 2003 National Press Club Award for Environmental Journalism, and was lead writer for the *Denver Post* team that won the 2000 Pulitzer Prize for coverage of the Columbine High School tragedy. He was born in Chicago, raised in Bolingbrook, and graduated from Benet Academy in Lisle and Northwestern University in Evanston. As a child, he climbed on the tanks at Cantigny Park. He and his wife live in Denver; they have three sons.



The First Division Museum is currently open Wednesday through Sunday. Entry is included with Cantigny Park's \$5 parking fee but advance ticketing is required to enforce temporary visitation limits. Masks are required. More information is online [FDMuseum.org](https://www.fdmuseum.org).

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**About the First Division Museum at Cantigny Park**

The [First Division Museum](https://www.fdmuseum.org), part of the 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. A second exhibit hall, Duty First, explores the 11D's history in more recent times. The Robert R. McCormick Research Center, open to the public, houses the museum's library, archival and photo collections. Outside, tanks from every era are interpreted, along with artillery pieces and a personnel carrier. Solemn memorial markers and commemorative statuary also command visitors' attention. In 2020, the museum launched "Footsteps of the First," a travel program in partnership with Academic Travel Abroad. The program's inaugural trip is to Normandy and other key sites in Western Europe, Sept. 5-16, 2021. Full details, including registration, are on the museum [website](#).