



Cantigny Park's Second Annual "McCormick Day" on July 30

WHEATON, IL, July 16, 2010 — Cantigny Park, part of the McCormick Foundation, will celebrate the 130th birthday of Robert R. McCormick on Friday, July 30. Free activities for visitors of all ages are planned from 10 am to 3 pm.

Colonel McCormick, the former editor and publisher of the *Chicago Tribune*, was born on July 30, 1880. On McCormick Day, the Colonel's extraordinary legacy will be commemorated, with particular emphasis on his life at Cantigny, the 500-acre country estate where he lived from 1920 until his passing in 1955.

Cantigny was much more than a place to live for the McCormick family. The grounds were once a successful experimental farm, one of many "agricultural laboratories" in the 1930s that tested new crops and growing practices. Elements of Cantigny's farming heritage will be featured on July 30, including livestock (courtesy of Cosley Zoo in Wheaton), hay rides and a display of antique garden implements and vintage tractors.

The Colonel and his first wife Amy rode horses on the estate and hosted fox hunts and polo matches. On McCormick Day, Wayne DuPage Hunt will give a horse-jumping demonstration.

Grounds tours will point out where the farm operations and sporting events took place, giving visitors a new perspective on Cantigny and the man who left it as a gift "for the recreation and education of the people of Illinois."

The McCormick Museum, the Colonel's former residence, will host an open house and give architectural tours. The First Division Museum will offer an artillery tour focusing on the artifacts stationed on the museum's south lawn. Colonel McCormick served in Europe from 1917 through 1918, commanding an artillery battalion for the U.S. Army's First Division during the Battle of Cantigny, the first American victory of World War I.

Kids' activities on McCormick Day will include some of the same 19th-century games that young Robert played, such as hoops & graces, hoop 'n stick and stilts. A newspaper hat-making activity will take place on the south porch of the McCormick Museum, and the First Division Museum will feature water balloon cannons.

Kids can also take turns on a hand-cranked ice cream freezer, recalling a tasty summer tradition on the Cantigny farm. Samples will be available, along with slices of birthday cake in the Colonel's honor!

McCormick Day activities are complimentary with paid parking (\$5 per vehicle). For more details, please visit Cantigny.org or call 630 260 8162.

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About Cantigny

Cantigny, part of the Chicago-based McCormick Foundation, is the 500-acre Wheaton (Illinois) estate of Robert R. McCormick, longtime editor and publisher of the *Chicago Tribune*. Cantigny Park is home to the McCormick Museum, First Division Museum, formal gardens, picnic grounds, walking trails and a Visitors 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.

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