

## **Cantigny Park Plans Patriotic Celebration on July 4<sup>th</sup>**

**WHEATON, IL, June 17, 2009** — Cantigny Park, part of the McCormick Foundation, will be alive with patriotic sights, sounds and activities for the whole family on Independence Day. Events and parking will be free all day on July 4<sup>th</sup>.

Kids will love the inflatables, American flag tattoos, sack races and other games on the Cantigny Parade Field from noon to 3 pm. They can even ring the Liberty Bell and sign the Declaration of Independence. Also beginning at noon, the Robert R. McCormick Museum will host children's activities on the south porch.

At 2 pm, Revolutionary War reenactors will lead a procession through the estate, with park visitors of all ages invited to march along behind them. Decorated strollers, tricycles and scooters will add to the pageantry.

At 3 pm, the Southwest Community Concert Band will perform in front of the First Division Museum. The band's patriotic music was a big hit on July 4<sup>th</sup> last year so guests may want to stake out their places on the lawn early. Folding chairs, blankets and picnics are welcome.

The First Division Museum and McCormick Museum will each be open from 10 am to 5 pm. There is no admission charge at either museum. A stroll through Cantigny's spectacular gardens is another option to consider.

Cantigny also features a large public picnic area with a playground. Food stands near the Parade Field will offer hot dogs, popcorn, chip and assorted beverages for sale. The park's restaurant, Le Jardin, will be open for lunch from 11 am to 2 pm, and Bertie's Coffee Shop will operate from 9 am to 4:30 pm.

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

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### **About the McCormick Foundation**

The McCormick Foundation is a nonprofit organization committed to strengthening our free, democratic society by investing in children, communities and country. Through its grantmaking programs, Cantigny Park and Golf, museums and civic outreach program the Foundation helps build a more active and engaged citizenry. It was established as a charitable trust in 1955, upon the death of Colonel Robert R. McCormick, the longtime editor and publisher of the Chicago Tribune. The McCormick Foundation is one of the nation's largest charities, with more than \$1 billion in assets. For more information, please visit [McCormick Foundation.org](http://McCormick Foundation.org).

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