



## Vive la France! at Cantigny Park on August 15

*French Connection Day celebrates all things French, including the park's name*

**WHEATON, IL, August 4, 2010** — Cantigny Park, part of the McCormick Foundation, will host its annual French Connection Day on Sunday, August 15, from 9 am to 3 pm. The popular free-admission festival debuted in 2008.

“This is always a fun and educational event for families,” said Matt LaFond, Cantigny Park executive director. “The French theme reflects an important part of Robert R. McCormick’s legacy. Cantigny was his gift to the community.”

Colonel McCormick, the former editor and publisher of the *Chicago Tribune*, was a citizen soldier. In 1918, he commanded an artillery unit in the Battle of Cantigny in France as a member of the U.S. Army’s First Division. It was America’s first significant victory in World War I. The Colonel commemorated the experience by renaming his Wheaton estate Cantigny (pronounced “can-tee-knee”).

Attractions and activities on French Connection Day include:

- French Open Air Market presented by Bensidoun
- French music by “Traveler’s Dream”
- Wine tasting and French food at *Le Jardin* restaurant
- First Division Museum photo display of Cantigny, France
- French yard game Pétanque
- Pointillism art project for kids
- French street performers
- Caricaturist and face-painters
- Storytime with Madeline
- 23-foot Eiffel Tower replica – a great photo opportunity!

Admission to French Connection Day is free. A parking fee of \$5 per vehicle applies (\$2 before 10 am).

Cantigny Park is open every day through October from 7 am to dusk. More information and a full events calendar is online at [Cantigny.org](http://Cantigny.org).

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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](http://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](http://CantignyGolf.com).

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