

Legacy TIF at Panduit site collects \$11.5M

Tinley Park touts investment income

By **Evy Lewis**
DAILY SOUTHTOWN

Tinley Park's Legacy Tax Increment Financing District generated about \$11.5 million in revenue and provided about \$6.7 million in spending over the past 10 years, Tinley Park Finance Director Sarah Mitchell said Tuesday.

"A significant investment was the construction of Freedom Pond, totaling approximately \$5.9 million," Mitchell told the Village Board.

The TIF district encompasses

217 acres stretching east of Oak Park Avenue and south of Oak Forest Avenue. Property taxes in a TIF district are frozen at creation with any increase, or increment, going into a fund aimed at spurring redevelopment.

Work on the Freedom Pond, a detention basin on 8 acres at the northeast corner of 175th Street and Ridgeland Avenue, began in 2017, and was completed in fiscal year 2023. Its purpose is to collect stormwater as redevelopment "creates new impervious surfaces" which can increase stormwater runoff, according to the village's website.

The district, created in 2016, includes the former world headquarters of the Panduit Corpo-

ration, a major local employer. Panduit started its business in 1955 and eventually occupied substantial space in the area, but relocated in 2010 to a different site in Tinley Park, according to the report.

In doing so, it left behind "largely vacant obsolete structures and sites requiring demolition and environmental remediation prior to redevelopment," the report said. "Additionally, the abutting residential area lacked adequate stormwater and water and sanitary systems."

Besides the pond, other infrastructure improvements included a project to repair sewage pipes and cure linings, and a water main



Tinley Park Mayor Michael Glotz speaks before a Village Board meeting Aug. 5. **EVY LEWIS/DAILY SOUTHTOWN**

See **LEGACY** on Page A7



Volunteers with Flossmoor Community Church help neighbors clear driveways and pick up debris following the severe storms that moved through the south suburbs on Aug. 11. **NATALIE MCGATHEY**

Tornadic winds demolish everything but human spirit



Donna Vickroy

On the afternoon of Aug. 11, fierce derecho winds cut a wide swath of destruction through northeast Illinois and northwest Indiana, pummeling almost everything in their path.

Among the hardest hit towns was Lansing, Illinois. Population: 28,000.

At 12:25 p.m. that day, the

alarm was sounded.

Tornadoes had already ripped through Orland Park, Tinley Park and Mokena and were bearing down on Homewood, Flossmoor, Country Club Hills and Glenwood.

"I was told that two tornadoes merged over our community," Lansing Mayor Brian Hardy said. "One came from the west and the other from the northwest."

The twisters met at the intersection of Thornton-Lansing Road and Torrance Avenue, forming a corridor of destruction nearly three-fourths of mile wide, he said.

The fury "tore up everything south of Interstate 80-94," Hardy said, and then continued on a wrecking path across state lines into Munster, Indiana.

In all, eight tornadoes brought chaos and destruction to the region that afternoon, according to the National Weather Service. The up-to-100-mph winds knocked down trees, shredded roofs and sent debris airborne.

"I'd never seen wind like that before," Hardy said. "I thought it was never going to end."

When it finally did, more than 4,000 of the village's stately trees were down, with at least 100 of them damaging people's homes.

"It was pretty disastrous," Hardy said.

But as the skies cleared, people emerged from their basements to find their structures shattered but their compassion unbreakable.

Beth Houston lives in Chicago Heights, near the border with Homewood. She teaches in Homewood School District 153. A tree crashed through her garage and the powerful winds lifted her garbage cans and sent them flying over her car.

When it was over, she said, "Everybody came out on the

See **VICKROY** on Page A3

THE REV. MAURICE J. KISSANE 1939-2026

Pastor for Oak Lawn, Riverdale, La Grange

By **Evy Lewis**
DAILY SOUTHTOWN

The Rev. Maurice J. Kissane, an Oak Park native who served churches in La Grange, Brookfield and Oak Lawn before retiring as pastor emeritus of Queen of Apostles in Riverdale, died Aug. 13 at age 88, the Archdiocese of Chicago said.

Kissane was born on May 9, 1939, in Oak Park, and attended Quigley Preparatory Seminary in Chicago and the University of St. Mary of the Lake/Mundelein Seminary in Mundelein, the archdiocese said.

The Rev. John M. Ryan, who attended Quigley with Kissane, called him a "very prayerful person."

"Even in high school, he prayed and said the rosary almost every day in the chapel," Ryan said in a statement. "He always had a great sense of humor. Later on, when he became a priest, he was totally dedicated to his people. He just loved being a

See **KISSANE** on Page A2



The Rev. Maurice Kissane. **ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO**

Beverly Hills, Morgan Park areas get their close-up



Photographer Mati Maldre stands outside his home in Chicago's Beverly Hills neighborhood on July 29. **BRIAN CASSELLA/CHICAGO TRIBUNE**

Photog chronicles area architecture

By **Nina Metz**
CHICAGO TRIBUNE

"At the edge of a city made monotonous by the unyielding street grid of right angles and the seemingly endless repetition of two-flats and bungalows, the twin communities of Beverly Hills and Morgan Park offer the wearied urbanite a visual respite."

That's how photographer Mati Maldre describes the Southwest Side neighborhood in his book "The Architecture of Chicago's Beverly Hills/Morgan Park," which features 256 duotoned photographs of the area's notable homes, arranged by historical district.

It's an area where you can find residences designed by architects such as Frank Lloyd Wright, Daniel H. Burnham and Dwight H. Perkins, which is what drew him in. Also, "I got to know people in the community pretty well because I was teaching at the Beverly Arts Center starting in 1973." The neighborhood featured also happens to be where Maldre lives.

"Starting in 1980, I bought a house there that's designed by Walter Burley Griffin, so there was just a natural interest," he said. His home is among those featured in the pages of the book.

Maldre's background is in fine art photography, a subject he taught for 35 years as a professor at Chicago State University. But his interest in architecture began early on, beginning with drafting classes he took as

a high school student at Lane Tech. In college, he was an engineering major before switching to architecture. "But there was still too much math involved," he said, "so I eventually switched to art and design."

Initially, he was assembling these neighborhood photos for no particular reason.

"When I bought this house, I went out intentionally photographing all of the Walter Burley Griffin homes in the community because it just made sense. I live in one, I'm going to photograph all the others. Afterwards, I'd go home, develop the film in my darkroom and make prints," Maldre said. "Most were 11-by-14 inch exhibition-quality prints, and I was pretty proud of them. I worked for Encyclopedia

See **PHOTOS** on Page A2