

From the community: Renaming West Fork Park to the man who was instrumental in its creation



Thomas Richardson was present at the original park dedication. He is wearing a white shirt and standing on the ground to the left of the blue slide. (Posted by Pioneer Press Editorial, Community Contributor)

By **Community Contributor Pioneer Press Editorial**

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West Fork Park is being renamed "The Thomas J. Richardson Park" at 11 a.m. on June 9. The park is located at 1950 Westleigh Drive. That's along Willow Road, near the west fork of the North branch of the Chicago River.

Former [Glenview](#) Park District Executive Director Thomas Richardson had many accomplishments in his 24 years with the Park District. Highlights include the preservation of land at Glenview Naval Air Station for public recreation, the 165 acre development of Park Center, the acquisition of Glenview icon Wagner Farm and historical Schram Memorial Chapel and the development of West Fork Park.

Former Glenview Park District Executive Director Richardson was at the dedication of West Fork Park in July 2002. He was instrumental in establishing the park at no cost through a development agreement with the builder of the surrounding homes. Now, nearly 16 years later, the park will honor its origins by renaming it the Thomas J. Richardson Park.

The dedication is expected to last about a half hour with speeches from a representative of the park district, as well as the Richardson family.

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