Past and present mayors visit Budingen

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Mayor Jacob Vandenberg, Village Manager Dave Niemeyer, former Mayor Edward J. Zabrocki and members of the Tinley Park Sister Cities Commission recently traveled to Budingen, Germany to celebrate the 30th anniversary of the Sister City relationship between the two communities.

At a formal recognition ceremony on Dec. 6, Mayor Vandenberg and Budingen Burgermeister (Mayor) Erich Spamer reaffirmed their mutual commitment to strengthening understanding, cooperation and friendship between Tinley Park and Budingen.

"As I reflect back on the 30th Anniversary Jubilee of the Tinley-Budingen Sister Cities partnership and my recent trip to Budingen, I'm reminded that now more than ever that unity, trust and friendship must be the bedrock of our commitment to community," Vandenberg said. "What started off as a 'trip' quickly transformed into a formative, powerful experience for all involved."

"The friendship between our two villages is something very special," Zabrocki said. "It represents people of two different languages and cultures coming together with the common goal of understanding each other. Sadly, this is something very missing in our world today. I wish we could take that positive relationship and sprinkle it around the world for all to enjoy!"

The Village encourages residents to explore the work of the Sister Cities Commission and all of its commissions, and look for ways to get involved!