

WEST LIFE

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Lest We Forget

Left: A group of North Olmsted veterans from several wars surround North Olmsted Mayor Thomas O'Grady, in dress uniform, as they dedicate the new North Olmsted Veterans Plaza honoring all veterans Monday. Right, Nathan Cullinan and Ashley Grisnik release doves at the Bay Village Memorial Day ceremony. See related stories on Page 11. (West Life photos by Larry Bennet)



City officials mulling worker furloughs

By Jeff Gallatin

NORTH OLMSTED

Early projections of a deficit of close to \$2 million for next year's municipal budget has city officials considering different options – including employee furloughs – to help close the financial

gap.

Mayor Thomas O'Grady said the concerns stem from anticipated short-falls in property and retail tax areas as well as the continued uncertain status of the state local government fund.

“As we anticipated in the administration, there have been potential problems which have developed as we work

on the budget process,” he said. “As a result of that, we are looking at different items on the shelf, such as having employees take unpaid furloughs.”

O'Grady said he has not had the chance to formally discuss the matter with employee groups, so he could not discuss specific times which would be considered for employee furloughs and

how much time off.

“We have negotiations going on right now with all our employee organizations, so I can't really get into possible specifics at this point,” he said. “We're again having to look to our employees as part of the process.”

See **BUDGET**, p. 15

Eleven River homes break ground

By Allison Pritchard

ROCKY RIVER

While many are afraid to invest in a new housing project, Eleven River execs are confident in the 11 new luxury townhomes soon to be built along the river. Not only that, but Riverdale Partners is contributing to one of the city's biggest good causes, Relay for Life.

The groundbreaking ceremony was last Friday night, with words from Rocky River Mayor Pam Bobst, along



Andrew Brickman, Nate Barrett, Shari Caruso, Mike Mylen, John Male, Mayor Pam Bobst and Mary Blank dig in to the site of the new luxury townhomes, Eleven River. (West Life photo by Larry Bennet)

with councilman Michael Mylen, and Eleven River executives at the construction site near the 18500 Lake Rd. Bridge Building. Donations to Relay for Life at the event were matched by Riverdale Partners, Remax realtor Lou Barbee said.

Nate Barrett, a partner of Riverdale Partners called Eleven River “one of the finest people-friendly,” eco-friendly “communities of its kind,” adding that he has confidence the homes will sell out.

See **RIVER**, p. 15

School architectural firms hired

By Kevin Kelley

WESTLAKE

A team of architects and engineers led by MKC Associates has been hired by the Westlake City Schools to review the district's plans to build four or five new schools.

The school board voted May 18 to approve a contract with MKC

Associates, Behnke Associates Landscape and Architectural Planners, Osborn Engineering and Wulk Engineering Group.

Superintendent Dan Keenan said the firms' job will be to create a detailed version of the district's 20/20 Vision Committee's recommendation that the new schools be built. The firms may also suggest possible changes to the recommendations, Keenan added.

After several months of study, in January the 24-member 20/20 Vision Committee presented the school board with two options on how to address the district's aging schools.

Hiring the architecture and engineering firms is the next logical step in addressing the school facilities issue,

See **HIRE**, p. 15



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