

WestLife

April 4, 2007 - Vol. 67, No. 22

The Award-Winning Westshore Weekly 75¢

Officials: Man drowned

By Jeff Gallatin

BAY VILLAGE

There were no signs of foul play on the body of Jerzy Perkitny 60, a Lakewood man whose body washed ashore on a private beach Sunday afternoon in Bay Village after apparently drowning in Lake Erie, police said.

"There's no indication that anything was done to him," said Detective Lt. Mark Spaetzel of the Bay Village Police Department, who went to the scene Sunday afternoon when Perkitny's body was found at about 2:43 p.m. Spaetzel said there was no evidence at the scene that anyone else was involved in Perkitny going into the lake and ending up on the beach.

Dental records were used to identify Perkitny Monday during an autopsy by the Cuyahoga County Coroner's office. Coroner's office officials said it's likely he drowned in the lake, saying that there appeared to be about two weeks of decomposition.

Lakewood Police Chief Tim Malley said Perkitny was reported missing March 15. He had left his car and also left a note indicating he was unhappy about different problems in his life.

"He had some medical issues," Malley said.

Malley said police found nothing to indicate that anything criminal was involved in Perkitny's disappearance near the lake.

"There's no evidence of foul play,"

See **PERKITNY**, p. 26



Bursting into song

Thespians Pat Miller, Rachel Garner and Stephen Berg finish a musical number last Saturday in the Bay High School performance of "Anything Goes." See more photos from the play on page 4A. (West Life Photo by Larry Bennet)

Amended Bradley Bay plan approved

By Jeff Gallatin

BAY VILLAGE

Residents opposing the multi-million dollar expansion of the Bradley Bay Health Care facility are mulling possible appeals after the Municipal Planning Commission approved the latest plans.

Alex Dade, one of the leaders of the citizens group, said it has not made its mind up whether to appeal the com-

mission's decision, which it passed 6-1 March 27.

"We haven't made up our minds yet," Dade said. "We're reviewing the decision and what it involves."

The group has 14 days from the commission meeting to appeal the decision to city council for consideration and 30 days to appeal it in court, Bay Village Law Director Gary Ebert said.

Dade said the group will decide what action to take within that time frame.

John O'Neill, whose family owns Bradley Bay, said he was pleased by the ruling.

"We're looking forward to moving ahead and getting on with the work," O'Neill said.

Dade said the group would prefer that new city buffering regulations apply to the entire facility.

"We feel that the regulations afford

See **BRADLEY**, p. 26



Hilliard bike lanes officially open

By Kevin Kelley

WESTLAKE

With the warmer weather upon us, many people will be out on their bikes. And Westlake residents have a new route to ride them on.

The bike lanes on Hilliard Boulevard between the Rocky River border and Dover Center Road were officially opened by city officials at a ribbon cutting ceremony Sunday afternoon.

"Actually this bike lane has been in the works for a number of years," Clough said.

"We laid out a plan a few

years ago but we've really never gotten to implement it until this past year," the mayor added just before the ribbon cutting.

Then several city officials, including Development Director Bob Parry and Ward 1 Councilman Ed Hack, led a small group of citizen cyclists down a short stretch of the path at Clague Park. Several Westlake Police officers, led by Lt. Ray Arcuri, also participated in the ride using the department's police bicycles.

City Council members and Clough administration officials

See **BIKE LANE**, p. 23



Pat Wearsch, followed by her husband, Pat, ride on the Hilliard Boulevard bike lanes Sunday. (West Life photo by Larry Bennet)