



Photo by Joanna Becket

## Storytime fun at the library

After storytime at the Belleville Public Library, Evelyn Shakell, 5, checks out *The Berenstain Bears and the Bad Habit*, a book she'll share with her little sister, Tess, 18 months. The girls come once a week with their grandfather, Doug Graham, to join the other pre-schoolers for the event which includes readings, puppet shows, songs, fingerplay, games, crafts and piles of books to choose from. This Saturday, Jan. 28, as part of the library's Family Literacy Day celebrations. Storytime will focus on books about reading. For more photos and story, see page 2.

# Giving local scientist his dues

By Sharon Kallaste

Life-saving insulin has significant ties to Belleville.

Biochemist Dr. James Bertram Collip, who was born in Thurlow Township and received his early education in Belleville was brought in by University of Toronto professor John Macleod in late 1921 to work with Dr. Frederick Banting and Charles Best. They formed the four-member team that discovered insulin.

Collip was given the task of purifying the insulin, so that it could be taken into the instrumental human testing stage.

In 1923, only two of the four-member medical team, Banting and MacLeod,

were nominated and awarded the Nobel Peace Prize for the 'discovery of insulin.'

"I was feeling badly when I realized that there was no commemorative in Belleville for Dr. Bertram Collip," said Dr. George Pearce.

To this day, there has been both debate and controversy, as to why Collip and Best were not recognized for their role in one of medicine's greatest discoveries.

"There has been enough controversy about this and you don't gain anything by polarizing the issue," said Pearce.

Pearce, of Belleville, has made promoting the instrumental work of Collip his personal life mission.

An advocate of the Hastings Historical

Society, Pearce has volunteered his personal time and expense to create an archival exhibit with the hope and plans to memorialize Collip and donate his findings to the Belleville archives. Further, it is his hope that the City of Belleville might one day consider a historical monument.

What I can probably do in my lifetime is organize what I have – several biographical sketches on Collip by librarians and nine banker's boxes filled with books and material that documents Collip's life and work," said Pearce.

Pearce has spent countless hours in his efforts to extrapolate material. Currently The Hastings County Historical Society does not hold a specific archival exhibit

about Collip.

"I just work quietly away – the biggest thing I want to do is to contribute to the existing archives and have them brought to Collip's birthplace," said Pearce.

"What I need to do is to find the appropriate channel, and the right place to present a motion, that will get the process [recognition] into action – it can take up to a hundred years to have a plaque or monument approved," Pearce said with a smile.

Rosalie Spargo, team leader of the Hastings and Prince Edward Diabetes Branch, said Dr. Pearce is a walking encyclopedia when it comes to the history of the insulin discovery.

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## Poor conditions results in cancellation of ice races

By Rebecca Rempel

Ice racing fans are going to have to wait a bit longer to exercise their need for speed.

The Jan. 28 Brighton Speedway Oval Ice Races have been cancelled because of the lack of ice on the track due to "unseasonably warm temperatures and complications with our ice-making bus," said Brighton Speedway general manager, Angela Rinaldi.

Around six to eight inches of ice is needed for the races. As of Friday, Jan. 20 there was about two inches, "and melting, considering it's freaking warm out today," Rinaldi said.

The track has a retrofitted school bus with 1,000-gallon water tank, a wood-burning stove and a spreader bar attached to the centre of the bus. Staff fill the water tank, open the spreader bar and drive around the 1/3 mile track. It takes about six laps, or 20-30 minutes to empty the tank and is best done in dark, -10C weather.

"We haven't had much of that," Rinaldi said laughing.

The next date for ice races is Feb. 11, weather permitting. Races slotted for that day include snowmobiles and all-terrain vehicles, each with six classes, plus ice bikes and an Enduro Car Race.

Last year's race attracted around 500 people including competitors and spectators. The January race day is part of the Brighton Winterfest.

"It's a great family afternoon," said Rinaldi.

Lack of snow has some of the other Brighton Winterfest activities on the verge of cancellation.

"If you don't get the weather, then you don't get Winterfest outside," said co-chairman Derek Maddier. "Right now it's not looking too good."

Snow events scheduled for the festival—for now—include a snowman-building contest and outdoor skating.

"We have a number of events that are basically inside," Maddier said. "Right now, we're just hoping that the weather's going to be cold enough so that we can start skating."

Winterfest events include the sold-out favourites like the old-fashioned winter supper and youth dance, as well as the introduction of a scavenger hunt downtown, a movie night and a mini curling bonspiel.

"Basically everything that's inside we do quite well," said Maddier. "We usually have a big crowd."

The festival ends with the 8 Wing Trenton Band at Trinity St. Andrew's United Church at 2 p.m. on Sunday.

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# Forty kilometre ride doesn't deter cyclist

*Sixty-two-year-old's love affair with bikes started at an early age*

By Rachel Cohen

At 62 years of age, Gloria Greenfield has been an avid cyclist her entire life.

Greenfield, who rides her bike year-round, can be found gleefully riding everywhere around Prince Edward County and beyond, whether it's with a cargo trailer hauling groceries, or on a 40-km commute to work.

"I can't remember when I wasn't on a bike of some kind. I think it's the freedom it gives you to go wherever you want to go, no matter what age you are," said Greenfield.

Greenfield's love affair with bikes began at an early age. It was never about having the best bike around, it was just simply about the love of riding.

"As very young kids, we were always riding our bicycles. Even around the time when we were going to college we rode our bikes because we needed cheap transportation."

Once Greenfield's work situation changed, she was forced to commute about 40 kms from her home in Demorestville to Belleville.

"I think I'm a motion freak," Greenfield chuckles to herself. "It takes me exactly two hours to commute. As soon as the wheels start to roll, I'm happy."

It wasn't until the 1970s that the revolution in 10-speeds from Europe began appearing across Canada, where Greenfield continued to become interested in the sport, and even more interested in the different bikes available.

"I have four different bikes, but my favourite is the least expensive. I rescued my bicycle from the trash as an experi-



Photo by Rachel Cohen

**Sixty-two-year-old Gloria Greenfield is a life-long cyclist. Growing up in Prince Edward County, Greenfield rides her bicycle as a solution to many things including, health, environmental, transport, but most of all she rides simply for the joy of riding. Greenfield commutes 25 miles everyday from her home in Demorestville to Belleville, and it doesn't slow her down. "Most people can ride, from the cradle to the grave. Right from when I was a child, till the day I die, I will ride."**

ment. I turned an old Raleigh 10-speed into a Raleigh hybrid," said Greenfield.

Taking a bicycle mechanics course with the help of Rick Willing, owner of the Bloomfield Bicycle Company, Greenfield continued to confidently ride throughout the County.

"The County is one of the best places to learn how to tour by bicycle," said Willing.

As the years went on, Greenfield continued to become proactive in the community to support cycling initiatives through the help of bicycle shops in the

County. Willing has done the same.

"Want to know one of my dreams?" she said. "Enough safe cycle paths in the County so a family can go where they want without getting in the car. If the paths are there, people will use them."

The bicycle community in Prince Ed-

ward County has continued to advocate against the disappointing infrastructure along its major routes, including Belleville.

"The truth is, there is no infrastructure in Belleville," said Greenfield. "We need really simple things, such as bike lanes, and preferred bicycle routes."

Designating bike lanes in the area has continued to be an issue within the bicycle community. According to Greenfield, simply setting up preferred bike routes does two things: It gives a cyclist a safer route to ride on, and second, it's a reminder to the car driver, that the cyclist has a right to be on the road too.

"You'd be amazed at the number of people I still run into that will actually yell at me to get off the road!" said Greenfield.

"Riding through the Bloomfield area, I had a partially eaten apple thrown at me once out of a moving vehicle," explains Greenfield. "That coming out of a speeding car, feels like you've been hit with a rock – you have to be prepared for that."

For many in the community, situations such as these have become discouraging because for cyclists not so confident on the roads, it seems to be very dangerous.

"I hope that within the next five years, change will happen," said Greenfield. "I've always told our own city council, we could be our own Cape Cod of the north."

Greenfield has joined with The Belleville Cyclist Advisory Group, a citizens cycling advocacy group for Belleville and the surrounding municipalities, with a particular focus on the bicycle as a means of transport and recreation.

With the clasp of her helmet, Greenfield smiles, "Most people can ride, from the cradle to the grave. Right from when I was a child, till the day I die, I will ride."