

EVENT! - BALLET KELOWNA'S UNCERTAIN JOURNEY

PASSAGES

CANADA'S
WILD CARD AT
WORLD BASEBALL
CLASSIC
PAGE B1

6 C

Thursday, March 7, 2013, Kelowna, B.C.

Tues.-Thurs. \$1.12 + HST, Mon. and Fri. \$1.34 + HST
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ENTERTAINMENT

Hockey Song singer silenced

By The Canadian Press

Canadian cultural icon Stompin' Tom Connors dead at age 77

Canadian country-folk legend Stompin' Tom Connors, whose toe-tapping musical spirit and fierce patriotism established him as one of Canada's strongest cultural icons, has died. He was 77.



Connors passed away Wednesday at his Ontario home from what a

spokesman described as "natural causes."

Brian Edwards said the musician, rarely seen without his signature black cowboy hat and stomping cowboy boots, knew his health was declining and penned a message for his fans a few days before his death.

"I know Tom loved the fans more than anything. He's probably one of the few artists that built his whole life around fans and

nothing else," Edwards said.

"The man stood for everything that Canada stood for, and he was very adamant that he stayed a Canadian and made it very apparent that he never left the country to advance his career and stayed very, very true to who he was."

In the letter posted on his official website, Connors issued a final thank-you to his fans, to whom he credited his entire career.

"I want all my fans, past, present

or future, to know that without you, there would have not been any Stompin' Tom," Connors wrote.

"It was a long, hard, bumpy road, but this great country kept me inspired with its beauty, character and spirit, driving me to keep marching on and devoted to sing about its people and places that make Canada the greatest country in the world."

The musician said he hoped his

work would continue to "bring a little bit of cheer" into people's lives even after his death and called on his fans to continue to bring Canadiana to the world.

"I must now pass the torch, to all of you, to help keep the Maple Leaf flying high, and be the patriot of Canada needs now and in the future."

Connors is survived by his wife Lena, two sons, two daughters and several grandchildren.

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ROCKETS TAKE ON ROYALS



GARY NYLANDER/The Daily Courier

Victoria Royals goalie Coleman Vollrath and the Kelowna Rockets' Cole Linaker and Royals' Ryan Gagnon look for the puck during first-period play in their WHL game Wednesday night at Prospera Place. See page B1 for full coverage of the game.

JUSTICE

Confession to arson may be tossed out

By Daily Courier Staff

Brandon Seberras-Pick was drunk and high on mushrooms when he torched a house occupied by a young family, a Kelowna court heard Wednesday.

RCMP say the teen went on a brief crime spree in Black Mountain last winter, breaking into one house, setting fire to another and endangering the parents and two children inside.

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ENVIRONMENT

Mollusk a monster

Fearing millions of dollars in damage if zebra mussel gains foothold, Valley politicians appeal for action

By J.P. SQUIRE
The Daily Courier



Photo contributed

An infestation of zebra mussels could end up costing millions of dollars in the Okanagan.

Water Board is pleading with the provincial and federal governments to immediately set up boat inspection stations to prevent the mussels from migrating into Okanagan Lake and other Interior waterways. Kelowna city council endorsed the recommendation Monday.

"If they were to get into Okanagan Lake, conservatively, (experts) think that it could be \$45 million per year in damage to infrastructure, to loss in property values, to damage to the native species," said Kelowna Coun. Gerry Zimmermann, council's representative on the water board.

"There's no way of getting rid of them once they are here. They clog up any sewage outfall pipes, any water intake pipes, any infrastructure like that."

Last year, officials at Idaho inspection stations found the mussels on 50 boats, noted Zimmermann.

"Six of them were coming in our direction," he said. "Mussels can travel in anything, not only clinging onto a boat but in the

water ballasts. If the ballasts are purged, they get into the lake. If they get here, milfoil is going to look like nothing compared to this. It's very, very critical."

"This matter concerns all local governments in the Okanagan as the infestation will have drastic economic and environmental consequences," said OBWB chair Stu Wells.

"The infestation will cost millions of dollars in damages and increase operating costs for infrastructure. Over time, changes in ecosystems caused by these invaders can stimulate growth and spread of aquatic vegetation, and increase the severity of toxic algal blooms."

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Wise words

If only we'd stop trying to be happy, we'd have a pretty good time.

— Edith Wharton

Wise Counsel

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OBITUARIES



BATER, Jane (Shinduke)

July 22, 1924 - Feb. 28, 2013

Jane passed away peacefully with her family around her. She was predeceased by her husband, Art and son, David. Jane leaves behind 'big brother' Steve, daughters, Jill and Shelley (Bob), grandchildren, one great-grandchild, and nieces and nephews. We will all miss her terribly. Her family offers many thanks for her care and the kindness of Dr. D. Reddy, Paramedics, PGRH Emergency and 2nd Floor staff. Thank you also to the nurses and staff of the Rotary Hospice for their comfort and support. An informal memorial, Meet and Greet, will be held in Jane's honour between 2-4 PM at the Prince George Chateau, 4377 Hill St. on Fri. March 8th, 2013. Thank you to the managers and staff at the Chateau for making her stay there a happy one. Donations can be made in her name to the Heart and Stroke Foundation or The Rotary Hospice House.



EGOLF, FRED

On Monday, March 4, 2013 Mr. Fredrick Egolf passed away at the Overlander Extended Care Lodge. He was born April 5, 1926 in Nut Mountain, Saskatchewan. Predeceased by his parents Lily (Queenie) and Ezra Egolf, son Lenard, brother George, sister Kate and both wives Ruby and Rubie. Fred will be lovingly remembered by brothers John and Chris; sisters Dorothy (Dot) and Lillian; daughters Dianne, Shirley and Lyla (Lester) and her grandsons Christian and Caleb; daughter-in-law Cathy and grandchildren John and Jennifer; numerous nieces, nephews, great-nieces and great-nephews. Also left to cherish his memory are step children: Eileen; Bob (Lydia) and grandchildren Charlene, Berby, Pam along with great grandchildren; Penny (Rod) and grandchildren Melanie, Rob, Briana and Adam; Twyla & grandchildren Barry & Kimberely; Sandy (James) and grandchildren Ryan and Kassie; as well as friends and neighbours. A Celebration of Fred's life will be held on Monday, March 11, 2013 at 12:00 (noon) in the Schoening Cremation Centre Chapel, 177 Tranquille Road with Pastor Bill Kelly officiating. Condolences may be expressed at:

www.schoeningfuneralservice.com

MEMORIAL CONTRIBUTIONS

If you would like to make a tribute to a charity or society in the name of your loved one, here are some choices:

CANADIAN CANCER SOCIETY
1-800-403-8222
KELOWNA:
202-1835 Gordon Drive, V1Y 3H5
PENTICTON:
#101-166 Main Street, V2A 5A4

HEART & STROKE FOUNDATION
OF B.C. & YUKON

1-866-432-7833
#4-1551 Sutherland Avenue,
Kelowna, BC V1Y 9M9

KELOWNA GENERAL HOSPITAL FOUNDATION

2268 Pandosy Street,
Kelowna, BC V1Y 1T2
www.kghfoundation.com

KELOWNA'S GOSPEL MISSION

251 Leon Avenue,
Kelowna, BC V1Y 7N3
250-763-3737
www.kelownagospelmission.ca

KELOWNA COMMUNITY
FOOD BANK SOCIETY

1265 Ellis Street
Kelowna, BC V1Y 1Z7
www.kelownafoodbank.com
250-763-7161

CENTRAL OKANAGAN
HOSPICE ASSOCIATION (COHA)

104-1456 St. Paul Street
Kelowna, BC V1Y 2E6
250-763-5511

Compassionate care at the end of life.

www.hospicecoha.org

KELOWNA

RIGHT TO LIFE SOCIETY

250-862-8202 ~ prolifelkelowna.com
241-1889 Springfield Rd.
Kelowna, BC V1Y 5V5

Defending life from conception to natural death

Arson

Continued from page A1

The case against him may collapse, however, because a judge could throw out the statement he gave a Mountie later that day.

Residents called 911 to report a break-in at 1549 Feedham Ave. and a fire at 1665 Large Ave. just before 2 a.m. Feb. 16 last year. Police received the reports two minutes apart.

The people living at the Feedham house told officers they chased the intruder south along Loseth Road to Lynrick Road. They said he was Caucasian, had an afro haircut and wore a striped hoodie. He carried a white plastic bag.

A sniffer dog tracked him to a house in the area. Police arrested Seberas-Pick, then 18, inside the home where a friend lived. Officers found the plastic bag contained a waffle iron and food taken from the Feedham house, court heard.

Investigators suspect he set fire to the Large Avenue house shortly before the break-in. Homeowner Robert Vukic woke up to a popping noise downstairs. It turned out to be balloons for one of his kids' birthday party exploding in the heat.

Vukic, a volunteer firefighter, saw flames on the deck outside and woke up his wife, his son and daughter, ages 10 and 12. He emptied two fire extinguishers to calm the fire. He threw water on it to no avail.

By the time firefighters arrived and doused the blaze, it had caused \$200,000 damage inside and outside the house. The family lived elsewhere for three months until the house was fixed.

Const. Collier Henneberry allowed Seberas-Pick to talk to a Legal Aid lawyer, who advised him to say nothing about the fire or break-in. In a taped interview, the officer asked him about what had happened. Seberas-Pick complained about a headache from drinking and eating magic mushrooms, and said at least seven times his lawyer told him to say nothing about the allegations.

Eventually, he admitted to the break-and-enter and arson, and said he had tried to torch a parked car.

Wednesday was the third day of Seberas-Pick's trial.

His lawyer, David Johnson, argues the statement to police is inadmissible because Henneberry breached his right to have a lawyer with him when talking about the case. Judge Jane Cartwright is expected to make her ruling at a later date.

Mussels

Continued from page A1

The OBWB wants local governments and First Nations of the Okanagan to join in urging senior governments to take immediate action. Since recreational inland boating poses the greatest risk of transferring them, Oregon, Idaho and Montana have mandatory boat inspection stations for trailered watercraft and to raise public awareness, said Wells.

"Establishment of similar mandatory inspection stations in Canada — at key points along provincial and international borders — would create a cordon to prevent or delay the introduction to three Canadian provinces, including British Columbia, and four U.S. states."

This strategy could save hundreds of millions of dollars by protecting critical infrastructure on major river systems such as the Columbia, and by protecting fisheries and other economic sectors in regions such as the Okanagan, he said.

"We believe that inspection stations are the most important, most powerful action that can be taken by the governments of Canada and B.C. Following the example of our neighbours, this relatively easy action will yield meaningful results and delay or stop the spread."

The Okanagan's wake-up call came last July 3 when provincial and federal officials found quagga mussels on a powerboat moored for three days at a Shuswap Lake marina. It had been transported from Arizona, bringing the mussels with it. Fortunately, they were all dead, but the bilge water was tested for larvae and divers checked the lake bottom for any sign of them.

The Invasive Species Council of B.C. has introduced the Clean, Drain, Dry information campaign, used elsewhere in North America, in which trained staff

talked to recreational boaters about the importance of cleaning their boats and equipment.

Lisa Scott, co-ordinator of the Okanagan and Similkameen Invasive Species Society, warned Regional District of Okanagan-Similkameen directors last summer the potential financial impact on in-water infrastructure, tourism and control measures is "pretty staggering."

"It actually makes terrestrial (invasive) plants look like something that's quite miniscule," she said. "A single female mussel has the potential to create one million offspring per year."

In 2009, B.C. signed the Columbia Basin Rapid Response Plan, along with Washington, Oregon, Idaho and Montana. The system provides for early detection, rapid response and notification about the fingernail-sized, freshwater bivalve mollusks originally from the Balkans, Poland and the former Soviet Union.

In the 1980s, they were discovered in the Great Lakes, likely the result of ocean freighters pumping out their bilges. They then spread throughout Ontario and Quebec, and into 29 U.S. states as far west as California and Colorado.

According to the online National Atlas of the United States, "once zebra mussels become established in a water body, they are impossible to eradicate with the technology currently available. Zebra mussels are known to have caused alarming declines in populations of fish, birds and native mussel species, and can disrupt a city's entire water supply system by colonizing the insides of pipelines and restricting the flow of water."

"Zebra mussels can damage boat hulls, plug water systems used in boat motors, air conditioners and heads, and cause navigation buoys to sink. Millions of dollars are spent each year controlling, cleaning and monitoring zebra mussels in U.S. states."

Connors

Continued from page A1

A public celebration of his life featuring speakers and music will be held next Wednesday in Peterborough, Ont., the city where the musician got the name "Stompin' Tom."

Dubbed Stompin' Tom for his propensity to pound the floor with his left foot during performances, Connors garnered a devoted following through straight-ahead country-folk tunes that drew inspiration from his extensive travels and focused on the everyman.

Although wide commercial appeal escaped Connors for much of his four-decade career, his heritage-soaked songs such as Canada Day, Up Canada Way, The Hockey Song, Bud the Spud and Sudbury Saturday Night have come to be regarded as veritable national anthems thanks to their

unabashed embrace of all things Canadiana.

As word spread of his death, Canucks from across the country began mourning his loss.

On Twitter, Prime Minister Stephen Harper said "we have lost a true Canadian original. R.I.P. Stompin' Tom Connors. You played the best game that could be played."

The National Hockey League tweeted "Sad to hear that legendary Canadian Stompin' Tom Connors has passed. His legacy lives on in arenas every time The Hockey Song is played."

That iconic song was played at the Air Canada Centre in Toronto, where many fans took to their feet as Connors' death was announced during a game between the Maple Leafs and the Ottawa Senators.

"Stompin' Tom, you'll be missed. Thanks for all the memories and the greatest hockey song ever," said PA announcer Andy Frost.



Are you on the voters list?

Elections BC is conducting an enumeration and updating the voters list for the May 2013 Provincial General Election. Are you registered to vote?
It's easy. It's convenient. You have choices. Be ready.

Your choices to register to vote or update your voter information are:

Online

Register or update your information on Elections BC's Online Voter Registration (OVR) system 24 hours a day, 7 days a week at elections.bc.ca/ovr. You need a B.C. Driver's Licence or a Social Insurance Number to use the system.



(OVR)

By Phone

Call Elections BC toll-free at 1-800-661-8683, 8 a.m. - 8 p.m. Mon.-Fri., 9 a.m. - 4 p.m., Saturdays.

In Your Community

From March 6 - 23, temporary voter registration opportunities are at hundreds of locations throughout the province.

View electoral district voter registration opportunities at:

elections.bc.ca/registration-opportunities.

B.C. voters can also register or update their information when they go to vote in the May 2013 Provincial General Election.

Is there someone registered at your address who no longer lives there? Call Elections BC or go to elections.bc.ca/remove to have them removed from your address.

Who can register?

You are eligible to register to vote if you:

- are a Canadian citizen,
- are 18 or older,
- have lived in B.C. for the past six months.

Election workers required:

Over 37,000 election workers are needed to work for the May 2013 Provincial General Election. View available postings at elections.bc.ca/jobs.



Elections BC is a non-partisan Office of the Legislature responsible for administering the Election Act, the Recall and Initiative Act, and the conduct of referenda under the Referendum Act.

elections.bc.ca / 1-800-661-8683

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