# news



CONTRIBUTED

INVASIVE non-resident zebra and quagga mussels are a destructive force that needs to be taken far more seriously before they invade B.C. waterways, according to the Okanagan Basin Water Board.

# Mussel invasion documented

KEVIN PARNELL

Imagine if we woke

up tomorrow and the forests of B.C. had been killed off and turned into a vast desert. The equivalent could

happen in a heart-beat to our lakes and rivers, says a Vernon filmmaker, should the invasive zebra and quagga mussels infest B.C. waterways.

Brynne Morrice, an actor and filmmaker who splits his time between Ñew York and Vernon, has made a six-minute documentary called Mussel Threat, spotlighting the potential dangers of the invasive mussels on B.C. water systems.

The \$5,000 project

Kickstarter campaign and released in Kelowna last week by the Okanagan Basin Water Board (OBWB).

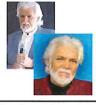
"These mussels, when they get into a lake or river, they basically turn it into an aquatic desert,' said Morrice in a press conference via Skype from New York.

"If tomorrow, we woke up in B.C. and all of our beautiful green, lush forests had turned into deserts, that would be a pretty catastrophic

SEE MUSSELS A13

The #1 International Kenny Rogers Tribute show Saturday, May 16 @ 7:30pm

Kenny's live performances of "I Just Dropped In", "Ruby", "The Gambler", "Lucille", "Buy Me A Rose, & many more, are faithfully recreated by Marty Edwards in this incredible tribute to one of the most beloved performers of our time. This show has toured in 8 countries on 4 continents, & garnered rave reviews everytime!



**AMERICAN ROCK LEGENDS** 

Friday, May 22 @ 7:30pm

Don't miss the American Rock Legends Show, starring Dan Hare and the March Hare All Star band in a stunning re-creation of some of Fogerty's greatest solo hits along with many of the classic CCR favorites. American Rock Legends recreates the Look, the Voice, the Hits! Everyone loves it!



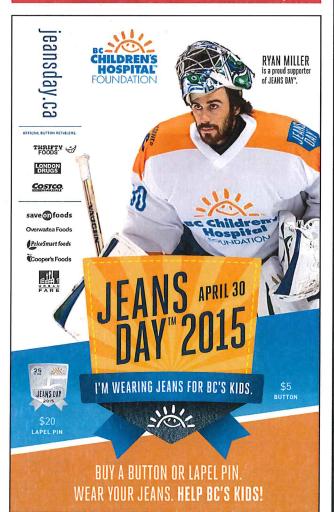
THE CANADIAN CROONER TOUR

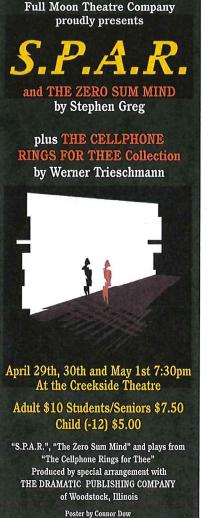
Starring Ron Boudreau Featuring The Uptown Horns little BIG band Saturday, May 23 @ 7:30pm

Ron's two-hour performance shares this experience, through an enchanting mix of Old Blue Eyes himself (Frank Sinatra) and the King of Cool (Dean Martin) with a charming splash of crooning songs from the polished past to the present day flair of Michael Buble.



10241 Bottomwood Lake Road, Lake Country





George Elliot's



Investors Group

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Meagan.noel@investorsgroup.com

## Mussels from A12

change to our province.

You have to think of these mussels like that. They turn the water into aquatic deserts.

"There is nothing left except these mussels. The communities that have experienced this...there is

no going back.
"We would be facing a new status quo that we would never heal from and B.C. would be a far less wonderful place to live and a far less wonderful place to visit."

For the past six months, Morrice, 30, traveled to areas of North America that have suffered from infestations of zebra and quagga mussels.
The mussels have been

found in Lake Winnipeg, in North Dakota and as close as Nevada, just a day and a half drive to the B.C. border. They can survive outside of water for 10 days or in wet carpet or the bilge area of a boat for up to 30 days.

Morrice says it wouldn't take much for a boat to pass through the border, into B.C. and zebra and quagga mus-sels would be infesting a local lake, devastating the ecosystem, eating up the plants, killing off native species and polluting the water with the associated algae blooms.

In fact it's nearly happened in our region already. In 2012, a boat launched into Shuswap Lake with quagga mus-sels attached to it. Luckily they were dead and did not infest the lake.

Then last March, a boat infected by the quagga mussels was stopped at a border crossing at Osoyoos, heading for B.C. waters.

"People who really understand, who really get this, are up in arms, said Morrice.

"This is a major issue. This is going to affect the entire province in a profound way.

"Our communities in B.C. are built on lakes and rivers and this could be devastating if we had an infestation.

A graduate of W.L. Seaton High School in Vernon, Brynne Morrice was a typical Okanagan resident growing up.

His grandmother had a cabin on Shuswap Lake, one of B.C.'s great vacation lakes. He spent his youth fishing, swimming and boating around the Okanagan.

As an actor and filmmaker, he has spent

the past decade trying to break into the film world, beginning at the Kelowna Actors Studio, progressing to acting school and now to work as an actor in New York, where he spends

parts of his year while

also spending time back in the Okanagan.

During one visit home last year, he read a newspaper article detailing the fight of the OBWB against zebra and quagga mussels. "When I read that

newspaper article explaining the frustrations of a group like the Okanagan Basin Water Board, I saw a need for a project like this," he said of his movie.

"After two years of raising alarms there

wasn't any assertive protective measures being taken on our borders to protect us from the mussels. Having grown up in the valley, what we have here is pretty important, and I was quite honestly frightened about

the possibility, and as I looked into it more and more I became even more worried."

With just 20 bucks in his wallet, Morrice approached the OBWB with an idea for a documentary, allowing him

to get in touch with experts to interview for the

He took the idea for the film to the online community using Kick-

SEE MUSSELS A14

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# Water board calls for more inspections to detect mussels at B.C.'s borders

Mussels from A13

starter, the web-based funding source which solicits donations from the

public. Within three days, he within 30 days that increased to \$5,000.



He then traveled to places in the U.S. that are dealing with the devastating effects of an infestation of the mussels.

He saw first-hand what kind of deadly effect they have on lakes and rivers.

He talked to people in B.C. who are pushing government to expand its detection policies and increase security at the border with Alberta and at the Canada-US border between B.C. and Washington.

What he came away with was enough information for a much larger feature. But he pared it down to six minutes in the hopes more people would see it and hear the message.

"I hope it reaches the people who haven't heard about this before and to the people who have heard about this, I hope it gives them a really clear understanding of what we are talking about," Morrice said.

"That this is just not

a minor little change to our environment that no one will notice. This is a catastrophic upheaval in our fresh water that will affect everybody.

"I can say that with confidence having spent six months researching this. Ultimately, I hope the government will really step up and do the maximum. Right now I think they are doing the minimum.

When it comes to government regulations,

enforcement and funding to deal with the invasive mussels (as well as other invasive species), there is some movement from government to try and deal with the issues.

Earlier this month. the provincial government announced a twoyear \$1.3 million program that would fund roaming teams to inspect and decontaminate boats identified as a concern either at the Canada-US border or boats coming into B.C. from Alberta.

Last December, the federal government announced new invasive species legislation that would make it illegal to bring an invasive species over the border.

However, that legislation has yet to make it into law as another boating season begins. It's a complex issue with multiple jurisdictions including provinces, the federal government, several US states, a group known as the Pacific Northwest Economic Region and local governments all working towards a solution to the increasing problem of invasive species.

Kelowna-Mission MLA Steve Thomson says government is trying to be proactive on the issue.

"We think we have responded with a significant investment," he said.

"This new funding will allow us to build capacity, experience and additional partnerships to expand the program in the future.

"It's part of a perimeter strategy that we continue to develop. I think everyone is nervous (about zebra and quagga mussels). That's why there has been a real effort on the part of local governments and others like the Okanagan Basin Water Board to look to the province to put additional resources into the

program.
"We recognize this is a foundation to build longer-term funding for a sustainable program because the risks will continue to be there.

SEE MUSSELS A15



Teresa **Huscroft-Brown** 

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email: sales@lakecountrynews.net

# LOAN OR NO LOAN? YOU DECIDE.

This excerpt taken from Memorandum of Understanding between Kelowna and Lake Country. Loan authorization bylaw 2014 - 906 (copied from the DLC website)

# INTERGOVERNMENTAL IMPLICATIONS:

The District of Lake Country and the City of Kelowna have approved a reciprocal Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) whereas the City of Kelowna will assist with the purchase cost portion of the District. The City will advance 50% of the District of Lake Country purchase cost in exchange for 50% tenancy in common of the asset. The purpose is to assist the District's purchase of its portion with the intent to pay back the City of Kelowna as soon as funds are available, especially through the sale of excess land. This will alleviate debt load of the District and protect the opportunity to finalize the

# The general terms of the MOU are as follows:

- Kelowna and Lake Country will each pay 50% of the purchase price for the acquisition of the Lake Country Corridor from CN, which purchase price is presently estimated to be \$5,145,000.
- Kelowna and Lake Country will be registered as tenants in common of the Lake Country corridor each as to half interest (50% each).
- · As Lake Country reduces Kelowna's investment interest, its interest in the ownership will increase while Kelowna's will decrease.
- · Lake Country purchase from Kelowna will not be based on market value but on actual purchase price.
- · No interest will be applied to Kelowna's investment in the land

for three years. Subsequent interest will be applied to Kelowna investment by a rate established by the Municipal Finance Authority on January 1st of each year.

- · The proceeds from the disposition/sale of lands along the Lake Country corridor that are considered surplus will go entirely to reducing Kelowna's investment in Lake Country lands.
- · If funds become available, Lake Country can make additional payment to further reduce Kelowna's share.
- · Lake Country will maintain full decision making authority for operating, maintaining and repairing the corridor until a decision is made to create a regional operation with all other participating partners.

Where does this document imply that there is no obligation to pay back Kelowna the \$2.5 million or that it is in any way an option as Mayor Baker has constantly stated?



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# Mussels from A14

While the wait is on for the new federal legislation to come into place giving more tools for action against boaters who bring invasive species into B.C., the new roaming teams as well as information such as highway signs will be in

place this year. For the OBWB, the

reaction of government on this issue is still not enough.

"I think we are still in a position to make sure we are never dealing with what has happened in other areas where the mussels have gone through," said Juliette Cunningham, OBWB vice-chair.

"I think sometimes people think we are exbarren landscape is from Mussel Threat, a film by Brynne Morrice, which documents the devastation zebra and quagga mussels have brought to other parts of North America.

THIS IMAGE of a

sels) never come into our province.

"The OBWB feels very strongly that the reaction from government is not strong enough."

You can find out much more on zebra and quagga mussels online at dontmoveamussel.ca

Find Morrice's documentary at https:// vimeo.com/125057151.



39. Big snake 41. "You \_

Minnie

47. Not common

48. Woe is me!

42.Sum 45. Mickey and

Lucky Star"

# CROSSWORD

# PUZZLE NO. 758

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# ACROSS

- 1. Kitchen boss 5. Certain sprite 8. Garden tube
- 12. Laze around 13, Golf score
- 14. Has a
- mortgage 15.Up to the task
- 16. Dreams up
- 18. Snoop 19. Highway
- sights 20. Bird cry
- 22. Comes in 26. Bed coverings
- 30. Travel on water
- the mark 58. Supervised

- 35. Fitness resort DOWN
- 36. 1. Large family \_-friendly unit 38. Farthest down

40. Conquer

44. Bouquet

46. London

streetcar

headdress

54. Anna's post

56. Unwritten

57. Garment

edges

50. Physically

active

53. Angel's

43. Denial

- 2. Drifter
- 3. House extensions
- 4. Sheep's coat
- 5. Incident 6. Fancy gold
- fabric 7. Picture border
- 8. Raises 55. Scoring serve 9. Have title to
  - 10.Look 11. Racetrack feature 17. Card game
- 32. Sports groups 59. Brood's home 21. Stable grain

23. Slacken 24. Gashes

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"We are asking our

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training required to

make sure (the mus-

I think that's unfortu-

announced they were

two years, we certain-

- 25. Narrow board 26. Wall
- component 27.Stance
- 28. Great Barrier
- 29. Pathetic
- 33. Threatened
- horse 37. Kingdoms
- 49. Shed 50. Pale gray
  - 51. Deadlock
    - 52. Cut of pork

# **Volunteers Needed!**

Must be physically fit enough to lift a medium size box of groceries; a cheery disposition fits in nicely with the rest of the volunteers



See Phyllis MacPherson at the Food Bank located in the rear of the Boys & Girls Club, 3130 Berry Rd. on any of the days noted. 250-766-0125

# **ANSWER TO PUZZLE NO. 758**

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CROSSWORD PUZZLE ANSWERS USE AMERICAN SPELLING

Lake Country

April 12-18 is Volunteer Week

**Health Planning Society** 

... supporting Community Wellness since 1982 Volunteers Matter! Without volunteers in the

community many organizations would not exist... Office Hours: Monday - Thursday, 10am - 2pm • 10080 Main Street

www.lakecountryhealth.ca · 778 - 215 - 5247

Copy deadline Friday, 1 pm before issue date

•COMMUNITY BINGO - Thurs., April 30th at The Winfield Senior Citizens' activity centre - 9832 Bottom Wood Lake Road. Doors open at 6pm, games start at 7pm. Concession open, 50/50 draw. All are welcome. (Sponsored by the Old Age Pensioners Organization).

•LADIES AUXILIARY TO ROYAL CANADIAN LEGION OYAMA BRANCH 189 - Crib Tournament. Sun., April 26th at the Winfield Senior Citizens' Activity Centre. 9832 Bottom Wood Lake Road. Doors open at 9am for registration, games start at 10am sharp. \$30 per team - includes hot lunch etc. further info call 250-762-6208

•LC COUNTRY SENIORS CENTRE - Chair Yoga & Strengthening fitness class. 9832 Bottom Wood Lake Rd. Tuesdays 3:30-4:30pm. Call 250-317-3508 for more info.

•WINFIELD AUXILIARY CRIBBAGE - 3rd Sunday every month. Registration @ 9AM, Game starts @ 10AM sharp. \$26 per team, includes a light lunch. Contact 250-878-2834 for more information.

•BADMINTON - Fridays 9:30-11:30 Oyama Hall. Drop-in \$2.50. Great exercise & fun for all. Contact Rob. 766-3034

•LC SENIORS' CENTRE PRIME TIME - 9832 Bottom Wood Lake Rd., will be hosting Prime Time again every Monday from 1:00 until 3:15. Entertainment & refreshments are served & everyone welcome. Call 250-766-4220 or Joanne 250-766-0667 for

•LC SENIORS' CENTRE NOTICE - 9832 Bottom Wood Lake Rd., will effectively have someone on site from 10:00 until 2:00 Mon - Fri., call or stop by if you have questions pertaining to Senior issues. Call 250-766-4220.

•LC SENIORS' CENTRE BUFFET - 9832 Bottom Wood Lake Rd., is once again offering great meals on Tuesday at 12:00.

•ROYAL CANADIAN LEGION BRANCH 189 Ladies Auxiliary Cribbage Tournament
- 4th Sunday of the month plus 5th Sunday if on the calendar. Registration at 9am,
games begin at 10am sharp. \$30 Per team includes hot lunch etc. Pre-registration

•OYAMA LEGION BRANCH 189 Meat draw every Saturday at 2pm. 10 inch Canadian Pizza for \$7 available. Veggy or special toppings should be ordered in advance.

• BETTER AT HOME is a program to help seniors live in their own homes longer by providing non-medical support services including transportation, grocery shopping, yard work, light housekeeping and friendly visits. Lake Country Health Planning Society is coordinating these services for seniors 65 years+. Please call 778-215-5247 for more information, or if you are able to help seniors in your community by volunteering.

•LAKE COUNTRY FOOD BANK THRIFT STORE 3250 Berry Rd. Open Tues., Wed., Thurs. 10am-6pm, April-September. All proceeds go to the Lake Country Food Bank., and run by our friendly volunteers. For more info on donating and/or volunteering, please call 778-480-3250.

•LC SENIORS' BUS SCHEDULE - Mon., April 27 Prime Entertainment, Winfield Senior Centre. Tues., April 28 Buffet Lunch, Winfield Senior Centre. Fri., April 24, Kelowna Treasures & lunch. To reserve a seat on bus phone Marg 250-766-3227 or Marian 250-861-4131

•LC OUTDOORS CLUB - Welcomes hikers & other outdoor enthusiasts. Bring water, snacks/lunch, wear weather appropriate clothing, & sturdy boots for hiking. For info about our club, please contact us at: edahnert@shaw.ca

•VISIT THE LAKE COUNTRY MUSEUM AND ARCHIVES at 11255 Okanagan Centre Rd. West, Lake Country. Admission by donation. Open Mon., Wed., & Sat. from 1 to 4pm, & by appointment. 250-766-0111 or visit the website www. lakecountrymuseum.com.

•LC FOOD BANK has an URGENT need for men & women volunteers to join our team. Requirements as follows: half days only-Mon., Wed, & Thurs. (doesn't have to be all 3 days); must be physically fit enough to lift a medium size box of groceries; a cheery disposition fits in nicely with the rest of the volunteers. Please see Phyllis MacPherson directly at the Food Bank located in the rear of the Boys & Girls Club, 3130 Berry Rd. on any of the days noted.

•CRIBBAGE. Friday evenings starting 7pm at the Seniors' Activity Centre. Playing 8 games with a chance of winning \$12, \$10, or \$8. Socialize & enjoy an evening out with fun and play. Serving coffee, drinks & goodles for only \$2.50. For info. call John 250-766-3026

•WINFIELD UNITED CHURCH THRIFT SHOP (3751 Woodsdale Road.), is open from Tues. to Sat., 10am to 2pm for shopping & donation drop-off. Call 250-766-3387 for info regarding appropriate donations.

•LC LINE DANCERS Tuesdays, 1:30pm & Thursdays, 9:30am in the Seniors' Centre. Beginners always welcome. Joy, 250-766-0850.

•SOCIAL BRIDGE Tuesdays, 7pm at the Seniors' Centre. New players welcome.

Eunice, 250-766-3982. •THE COUNCIL OF SENIOR CITIZENS ORGANIZATIONS (COSCO) is an advocacy

group devoted to improving "The Quality of Life" for all seniors. Senior organizations/associations wishing to affiliate or individuals wishing to become members contact Ernie Bayer: 604-576-9734 fax 604-576-9733 or ecbayer2@gmail.com for info. •LC HEALTH PLANNING SOCIETY - VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE! Meaningful opportunities are available, in the Better at Home program & on Committees: Communications, Nominations, Health & Wellness Fair & LC CARES (Community Action & Response to Elder Abuses).Call for info 778-215-5247 or "get connected" at www.lakecountryhealth.ca

•DO YOU LIKE TO DRIVE? - VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE! Help a neighbour maintain their independence by giving them a ride. LC Health Planning Society is matching volunteer drivers with seniors through the Better at Home Program. Training, support & compensation are provided. Call for info 778-