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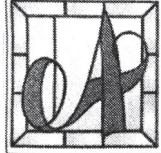
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MIDWEEK EDITION - JULY 7, 2021 #3583

News, opinion, community events since 1996! Box 2199, Merritt, BC V1K 1B8

Tel: (250) 378-5717 Fax: (250) 378-2025 Email: market@uniserve.com

On behalf of the Village of Lytton

In the days ahead, we will be releasing information on a more regular basis as we are able and new facts come to light. This is what we can tell you.

Village staff were alerted when someone banged on the office windows after hours. Staff immediately contacted the Mayor, Jan Polderman, and the Lytton Volunteer Fire Department Fire Hall and found our fire-fighters were already battling fires.

The Mayor quickly reached out to several contacts to attempt to confirm the severity of the fire. He also called 911 and was informed that the local RCMP were already evacuating residents on Fraser St. The Mayor immediately contacted TNRD to let them know that he was ordering a full evacuation.

Due to drought conditions for several months, everything was extremely dry and a very brisk wind was blowing at the time. These conditions allowed the fire to tear rapidly into and then through our Village. Once it was established in the area of town closest to the river and homes there were burning, it spread east across the streets with ferocious speed.

A few buildings survived in town but nearly every home in the centre of the Village is gone. Where many buildings stood is now simply charred earth; it is going to take in-person assessments to determine the actual state the damage. Fortunately, some homes east across the highway were spared but are currently without electricity, sewer or water.

There have been several injuries and two confirmed fatalities. Out of respect to the families of our lost, we will not discuss their tragedy. We want everyone to know that their bravery was incredible in the face of this unimaginable horror.

There are no services at this time. Hydro, water and sewer are not available; though we have been fortunate that our sewage treatment building did not burn, it is non-functional at this time. We are trying to ascertain if our watershed has been contaminated by retardant and what sort of physical state it is in. This will require testing and an in-depth on-site assessment.

Infrastructure has been destroyed. What has not been melted, incinerated or damaged beyond repair has been compromised to the point of being unsafe. For those looking at heartbreaking pictures of our Village, please understand that if a wall is standing, it does not mean there is anything on the other side of it.

For those like myself who lived within the Village, the TNRD has graciously offered to arrange buses to take residents through town to see the extent of the damage for ourselves. This will not happen until BC Wildfire is sure no danger from fire/smouldering elements, toxic chemical exposure or hazardous objects remains. We will follow their guidance in this to the letter. Our people have suffered enough, and we do not want to expose them to any further harm. We are working with Disaster Psychosocial Services ("DPS") to provide trauma and grief counseling for our residents and are looking to have DPS volunteers on the buses to assist with the shock people are going to experience upon actually seeing the devastation.

We are now coordinating with the RCMP in regards to recovery. If you know someone who was living in or was visiting Lytton on June 30, and you have not heard from them since, we are asking that you contact the RCMP and report that person as missing. Please be sure to give the RCMP as much information about them as you can including a detailed description of the person you are reporting.

We are allowing BC Hydro and Telus to enter the Village for damage assessment and to cap services where they are a hazard to first responders. Telus has brought in another larger COW ("Communication On Wheels") tower to improve cell service in the area for our first responders.

CN Rail and CP Rail will have no access to the Village with the following specific exceptions: • CP Rail may conduct critical fire suppression response and critical repairs to their infrastructure only on their right-of-way, from rail-based vehicles, throughout their track through the fire area. • CN Rail may conduct critical fire suppression response on their right-of-way, from rail-based vehicles, from Spences Bridge to Jade Springs only but no further. This fire suppression is in relation to railway ties which are still burning and need to be put out to avoid triggering further fires.

All access will be tightly controlled and under the supervision of BC Wildfire's Incident Management Team. Govt agencies participating in the response and private companies or non-governmental organizations retained by the govt for early stage cleanup will be granted access based on need. All other requests will be processed through the BC Wildfire Incident Management Team and reviewed by the Village Council. There will be no video or photography allowed by any staff of these organizations except where it is deemed necessary to assess damages.

Please understand that all of our Emergency Operations Center equipment was destroyed in the Village Office building. We have begun replacing all of our technology as well as basic office supplies. In the interim, we have set up our EOC in an office in the TNRD building and are currently trying to operate it from a couple of laptops, an iPad and our cell phones.

So many people have offered their kindness and support in varying ways and we thank all of you from the bottom of our hearts. You have shown the true greatness that humanity can offer. We are a small community that has been devastated and we are all still reeling from the destruction of our homes, the tragic loss of life and the enormous impact this will have on us, both personally and financially, for years to come. In the coming days, weeks, months and years our hearts will break again and again as that trauma and loss is replayed in our minds and our souls. But we are Lytton, we are strong and we will rebuild our homes and businesses, rekindle our friendships and community, stronger and more enduring than ever.

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(250) 378-1996 direct line to the
Property management department

Call for all your residential or
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**BODY ART: LIVING ART OF
TATTOO & BODY ADORNMENT**

JUNE 30 - AUGUST 1/21



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Mon, Wed, Fri 8:30-11:00am

Central Park Sports Box

FMI call Gary 250-280-0105 or Ayton 250-378-5691



BODY ART: LIVING ART OF TATTOO & BODY ADORNMENT



MERRITT MORNING MARKET

WEDNESDAY EDITION — JULY 7, 2021 #3583

Box 2199, Merritt, BC V1K 1B8 T: (250) 378-5717 F: (250) 378-2025 E: market@uniserve.com

PERSONAL

FOUND pair glasses Houston St, Thurs-day morning 778-823-3659

HELP WANTED: Experienced person with own equipment to check and adjust supports under mobile home in Lower Nicola. Call 250-936-8387

LOOKING for someone to clean gutters 378-4734

LOOKING FOR a retired carpenter to build a 10x27 deck. Can call me at 250-315-4469 to give me an estimate.

MISSING: SCRATCH, elderly golden Lab from Voght Prk area. COMPLETELY LOVED by her family (not neglected as reported on Facebook). Near the end of her life & we would like to be there for that. She is a free-range dog, so we think that if she could she would be back on her sidewalk watching the other dogs walking their humans. Hoping that if someone took her to 'care for her' or 'put her out of her misery' please at least let us know — to have her back or for closure for the boys who have had her in their lives since they were small. 280-1017

ANYONE shear llamas? Have 2 that need doing. Rose 378-4476

I COLLECT pop bottles & cans, if you have empties to get rid of, 250-525-0471

SERVICES

TC PAINTING interior only 20 yrs exper, lic. & insured, free quotes 315-1644

SCISSORS, KNIVES, yard toos, mower bars. Shaping in your drive. Brian 604-999-3451

HOUSEKEEPING 378-4022

JPV ENTERPRISES: Landscaping (lawn care, hedging, pruning, gardening), general labour. Licensed, equipped. On Facebook. 250 280 7077

LAWNMOWER repair & tune-up, incl. other small engines 936-8083

WILL TUTOR Grade 2 - 7, any subject, \$25/hr. Rply to iwu2437@yahoo.com

EXPER'D dog sitter avail. w/ lrg, fincl yard and lots of TLC. Text 604-817-8670

DRYWALL, textured ceiling, painting. Call Jeff (250)378-3709, (250)315-2066

CERTIFIED TREE FALLER, w/ wd chipper, sml truck & trailer, will do residential, fruit trees, etc. 378-6431

EAGER, RELIABLE man w/ 4x4 truck & trailer, avail. Dump runs, deliveries, plywood, sand, gravel, appl., housewares

Greg 315-7525, (250)320-2054 Fast, courteous service

WOODY'S TREE services, pruning, removal, hedges, anything to do with trees 315-8087

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

WHITE BEAR DAYCARE requires full time responsible adult for out of school program. Criminal Record Check required. Contact Heather 250-315-1331 whitebeardaycare@shaw.ca

LEO'S TAXI looking for drvs 315-2366

NICOLA POST & RAIL is now hiring for the following positions at the mill.

Temporary loader operator for top soil, maintenance person, and labourers! No experience necessary, but must have good work ethic! Full time & part time positions available. If interested please call Tony @ 250-319-9891

CAT RESCUE would like to hire 3 adults to work at the Rescue, approx 2-3 hrs/day, cleaning, feeding, watering cats, can be heavy work. Pay \$12, after probation period a raise to set salary. Must have no allergies to cats, reliable, like animals. 315-8709, 280-1456, 378-5015. To start immediately

FOR SALE - APPLIANCES

STN STL frige & stove, exc cond \$500. 778-661-0987

FREE: toaster, kettle, microwave, all work just replaced 315-1631

NORGE gas range, works well \$100obo 378-4904

CHARCOAL bbq, gd cond, full tank of propane \$60. 378-4022

3 ELECTRIC Flat Warming Trays \$50 each. 378-2862

FOR SALE - AUTOMOTIVE

2018 CHEV Sonic LT, 1.4 L turbo, rs, red, 6 speed auto, only 34,000 km, heated cloth seats, camera, hands free calling. \$16,900 315-5215

96 CHRYSLER Cirrus 88,000 orig miles \$2000 280-0543

BLACK GMC Terrain 2014, 92k, completely serviced, mint condition, call Cliff for more inquiries 315-4593

4 GOODYEAR tires 265-70 R17 \$100 525-1189

4 WINTER tires 235 60R 18 mounted on steel wheels from a Santa Fe. Snowflake symbol, bolt pattern 5x114, hub 65mm, new in fall of 2020 & used 4 mos. \$850. 250-319-2680 or jsw100@live.com

96 MAZDA MPV, 4wd, very gd cond., 525-1250

4 VERY GD summer tires 215x70R15. 2 p205x65R15 summer tires, lots of tread \$50/both Joe 378-2676

MECHANICS creeper \$10 378-8199

GOODYEAR tires 205/55R16 off pt cruiser \$200obo 315-0315

CANOPY for Nissan pick up \$300obo. Radiator for Ford F150 truck \$100 378-2093

FUEL rims 13x12.5, 55R 20LT, rims & tires for 2015 Jeep. New back bumper for Jeep. Bug deflector for Jeep. Spare tire carrier, lrg. Receiver for Jeep. Bull hook for Jeep, heavy duty. Inquire 2501 Coldwater Ave, Kim 378-2646, 315-7024

2 PR TIRES 235/75R15 mounted on rims, 85% tread left 315-6641

02 SATURN 250+k, black \$100obo 315-4781 home, 315-9857 cell

4 WINTER TIRES our rims 215/60R15 5-bolt Hankook tires \$160 378-7505

DISPLAY CABINET, very good cond. glass/wood \$150. End table French Provincial \$25 378-0838

HOSPITAL BED avail. 378-5179

DOUBLE Bed frame \$25 378-4022

FUTON w/ green Aztec design 90"x w x 59" when open \$100obo 280-6463

09 CHEV Malibu, 182k. gd studded winter tires, \$3800 378-6710

4 SUMMER tires w/ rims 255/45R20 \$200/ all. 3 wnt tires 245/55R17 \$75 315-5018

TIKY TANK for fuel with pump \$400

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