

GIFT SHOP

- PUZZLES
- GAMES
- LOCAL ARTISANS

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the LOCAL BUTCHER

NATIONAL INDIGENOUS PEOPLES DAY
this Friday, June 21st
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2051 VOGHT STREET, MERRITT BC, 250.378.5817

COMMUNITY INVASIVE WEED PULL PROGRAM

No More Weeds!!
June 22nd
10am-12pm
Come Pull
Invasive
Lets pull weeds!!
Come join our weed pull with the Merritt Girlguides and Merritt Native Kids!
Joint Weed Pull Challenge
Where? Marquart Lake, at 10am June 22
Barbecue Lunch!!!
Registration Merritt @naturekidsbc.ca

United Way British Columbia

MERRITT@NATUREKIDSBBC.CA

THRIFT SHOP



Effective June 1, the Nicola Valley Healthcare Auxiliary Thrift Shop will be open on Thursdays.
Hours will be Tues-Fri 10-4pm
Saturday 11am-3 pm

NICOLA VALLEY ART GALLERY SHOW

shifting perspectives
senior art students

june 6-23, 2024

reception
thursday, june 13,
3-5pm

VISIT THE GALLERY AT THE NICOLA VALLEY ARTS CENTRE

the Arts Council
Nicola Valley Community Arts Council

HOURS:
Wed to Sat 10am-5pm
Sunday 12-4pm

2051 VOGHT ST.
ENTER BESIDE KEKULI CAFE

BRITISH COLUMBIA ARTS COUNCIL

BRITISH COLUMBIA

2051 Voght St., Merritt, BC | www.nicolavalleyarts.com | curators@nicolavalleyarts.com | 250-378-6555

MERRITT MORNING MARKET

CHECK OUT
OUR FEATURE
PHOTO –
EVERY ISSUE,
ONLINE



MERRITT MORNING MARKET



DAY BEFORE SUMMER EDITION - JUNE 19, 2024 #3975
News, opinion, community events since 1996! Box 2199, Merritt, BC V1K 1B8
Tel: (250) 378-5717 Fax: (250) 378-2025 Email: market@uniserve.com

Police seeking dark truck seen near fire

The Merritt RCMP are seeking any information and video pertaining to a structure fire that destroyed two abandoned houses off Midday Valley Road.

On June 17, shortly after 2am, Merritt Front Line Officers were called to a structure fire at an abandoned house off Midday Valley Road. The fire quickly spread to another abandoned house next door, engulfing both buildings in flames.

Due to the quick response of the Merritt Fire Department, both fires were held before they spread to the third abandoned building next door.

"A witness observed a dark pick up truck pull up to the structures shortly before 2am" says S/Sgt. Josh Roda. "A few minutes later the structure was on fire and the pick up truck fled the area at a high rate of speed. We would like to identify and speak with the occupant of the truck to determine what may have occurred."

Police are asking anyone with information or anyone person or business that may have video of the dark pick up truck driving toward or away from the area, to call the Merritt RCMP 250-378-4262.

Grant to speed up housing development

Merritt, along with 38 other local governments will soon receive a grant to create more efficient development approvals processes.

The Local Government Development Approvals Program, administered through the Union of British Columbia Municipalities (UBCM), was created to help local governments implement best practices and develop innovative ways to support non-profit housing organizations, developers and other stakeholders to speed up the delivery of homes.

Merritt will receive \$150,000, the maximum grant.

New rules to speed up housing development

New regulations are in effect to standardize and improve community planning in the province and make it easier to get more homes for people built faster.

Last fall, the Province made legislative changes to facilitate the delivery of more housing and provide more certainty and transparency of rezoning processes instead of a drawn-out, costly and restrictive approach. This shift involves more upfront community planning by local governments and improvements to outdated zoning rules, which will make it easier to increase different types of housing in the province.

The Province has adopted a new approach to preparing housing needs reports (HNR) as part of the new community planning process. Local governments will continue to complete HNRs every five years and will now be required to use a new provincial standardized method, the HNR method, for calculating housing need. This will provide a more robust, comparable and consistent approach to identifying the number of housing units to address current and anticipated needs over five and 20 years in each community. Other changes include a new requirement to include information about the need for housing close to transit, cycling and pedestrian infrastructure.

All local governments must complete an interim HNR by Jan. 1, 2025, and then municipalities must update their official community plans (OCP) and zoning bylaws by Dec. 31, 2025.

FMI about housing needs reports, including resources: www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/housing-tenancy/local-governments-and-housing/policy-and-planning-tools-for-housing/housing-needs-reports

Refusing to go to the gym counts as resistance training, right?

Boat Number 99 At a boat rental concession, the manager went to the lake's edge and yelled through his megaphone, "Number 99, come in, please. Your time is up." Several minutes passed, but the boat didn't return. "Boat number 99," he again hollered, "return to the dock immediately or I'll have to charge you overtime." "Something is wrong here, boss," his assistant said. "We only have 75 boats. There is no number 99." The manager thought for a moment and then raised his mega-phone. "Boat number 66!" he yelled. "Are you having trouble out there?"

Community Hell and Highwater

Free film screening & discussion June 19, 7pm in the NVIT auditorium. Filmed in Nlakapamux territory. How have things changed since the Lytton fire and flooding events of 2021? How are communities responding and working together? Limited seating, RSVP & FMI email: jeremy@rivervoices.ca

2024 Grad Cap & Gown walk

Thursday, June 20, 6:20pm, students of the graduating class leave from MSS and march to the NV Memorial Arena.

2024 Grad Vehicle Parade

The Grad vehicle parade goes Saturday, June 22, starting at 4:30pm from Centennial Park, 1350 Government Ave. The route is over the Allan Collett bridge, along Main St., right onto Coldwater, onto Coutlee to Charters, back along Chapman, to the west side of the Civic Centre.

William Brookfield & Penny Lochhead

Merritt Seniors Association presents *The William Brookfield Band*, formerly known as William and Penny. Easy listening or dance the night away with country, rock n rolls, blues, waltzes, for, bluegrass, big band, jazz & Latin. The show will be held June 22, doors 6:30pm, show 7pm at the Merritt Senior Centre, tickets \$15 by contacting Joanne 250-378-6509. Proceeds to support members attending the 55+ BC Games, Salmon Arm, Sept 10-14, 2024.

Wildfire Community Preparedness Day

The City of Merritt's Fire Dept will host *Wildfire Preparedness Day* on June 22 at Central Park, 11am-5pm. This free event promises live music, a truck pull contest, food from local vendors, prizes, face painting, and balloon animals. It will also feature vendors supporting the FireSmart Program, offering vital information on community wildfire preparedness. Come have fun, and learn about essential steps to tackle upcoming wildfire seasons. Plus, residents can take advantage of free yard waste bins provided at the event, ensuring a convenient way to dispose of yard waste. Don't miss out on this opportunity to enjoy a fun-filled day while boosting our readiness for wildfire season.

Muffin Break

Thurs., June 27 at Trinty United Church Hall. Muffins, coffee, tea, juice \$5.

Music in the park

The first Music in the Park will be held Thurs. July 4, then every Thursday, 6-8pm in Rotary Park, throughout the summer. The season opens with Alton Dean & band and their country music style.

Paisley Groove plays July 11, The Doug James Band July 18, Claire Coupland & The Alter Egos July 25, Merritt Music Students August 1, Outlaws and Lace August 8, Coquihalla Coyotes August 15, Serious Dogs August 22, and Wild Horse Band August 29. Bring your picnic and chairs.

Black's PHARMACY

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IDA

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bath at an affordable price. Great yard with 2 sheds and parking for 4.

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SUMMER READING CLUB 2024

WORLD of CURIOSITIES

Merritt Library Summer Reading Club Events!

Call for details! 250-378-4737

Tuesdays 3:30-5pm Ages 13-17

Wednesdays 10-10:30am Ages 0-5

Wednesdays 1-2pm Ages 6-12

THOMPSON-NICOLA REGIONAL LIBRARY



RODEO PARADE

FRIDAY, AUG. 30, 2024 * 6:30PM

Come out & support the parade!
DOWNTOWN MERRITT

\$500 FOR BEST FLOAT

GET INVOLVED!
• EVENING PARADE
• ENTER A FLOAT, WALK OR RIDE
• PRIZES & MORE
For more information, Jacqueline 250-936-8585

Nicola Valley Pro Rodeo
64th annual event



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lilacconspiracy.wordpress.com

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