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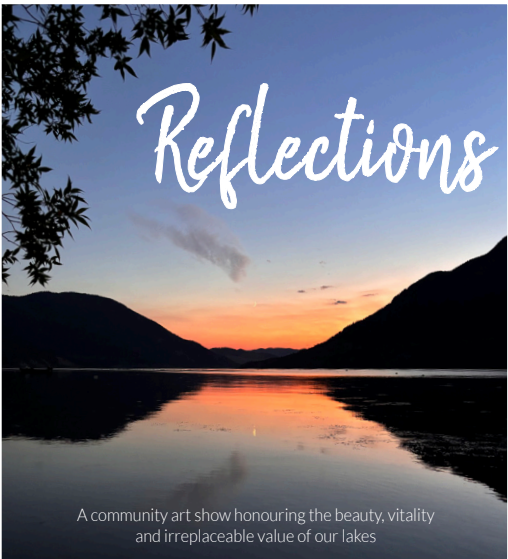
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Reflections

A community art show honouring the beauty, vitality and irreplaceable value of our lakes

EXHIBITION **May 6 - June 7, 2026** RECEPTION **May 14**

COME VISIT THE GALLERY AT THE NICOLA VALLEY ARTS CENTRE

HOURS: Mon-Sat 10am-5pm, Sunday 12-4pm
2051 Voght St., Enter beside Kekul Cafe

the Arts Council
Nicola Valley Community Arts Council

TNRD Merritt
BRITISH COLUMBIA ARTS COUNCIL
BRITISH COLUMBIA

2051 Voght St., Merritt, BC | www.nicolavalleyarts.com | curator@nicolavalleyarts.com | 250-378-6515

PLEIN AIR EVENT "REFLECTIONS"

Join us at the Art Gallery parking lot at 9:30am for directions to our secret Nicola Lake location.

SATURDAY MAY 23RD 9:30-3PM

Bring a lawn chair or blanket, lunch, water, a portable easel or table, and sun protection.

All art materials provided!

Learn from local artists!

Ages 16+

Free! Register at nicolavalleyarts.com
Info: president@nicolavalleyarts.com

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MERRITT MORNING MARKET
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MOTHER'S DAY WEEKEND EDITION - MAY 9, 2026 #4230
News, opinion, community events since 1996! Box 2199, Merritt, BC V1K 1B8
Tel: (250) 378-5717 Fax: (250) 378-2025 Email: market@uniserve.com

Chamber considers dissolution

The Annual General Meeting of the Merritt & District Chamber of Commerce will be held at The Florentine, on Thursday, May 21, 5pm to consider a resolution to dissolve the organization.

All members in good standing are encouraged to attend and participate in the decision. The AGM is open to the public; however, only members in good standing will be eligible to vote. Please RSVP to info@merrittchamber.ca

If approved, the Board will oversee payment of outstanding debts and obligations, closure of accounts and contracts, final filings and records retention, lawful distribution of any remaining assets.

City updating its evacuation plan

Merritt's Evacuation Plan is being updated and they are conducting a survey. They are particularly interested in input from older adults, people with accessibility needs, Indigenous community members, newcomers, and those without access to a personal vehicle.

The input will directly shape how the City communicates, plans, and responds during emergencies. Responses will be used to identify gaps in current plans, improve evacuation routes and procedures, and ensure that the needs of all community members (including those who may need additional support during an emergency) are reflected in future planning decisions.

The survey covers your experience during past evacuations, how you want to be notified in an emergency, which evacuation routes work and which don't, transportation and mobility needs, and resources and supports you rely on.

You can find the survey by visiting tinyurl.com/merrittem, emailing Kate Milne at emsurvey@merritt.ca, or completing a survey on paper at City Hall.

Looking back at the Coquihalla route Coquihalla caravans

To local businessman Henry Norgaard, the Coquihalla Highway is an old friend - they became acquainted almost 25 years ago on the first Coquihalla caravan.

At that time, Norgaard was active in the Chamber of Commerce.

"The first caravan was in 1963 and was organized by Hugh McGowan, Len Wells and Bill Kraus, who were members of the Chamber. I took part in it, but was not involved in the organization of the first few caravans," he said.

On the first trip over the gravel route, part of the road was sit-

Continued, over

Farmers Market opening weekend

Nicola Valley Farmers Market opens this weekend, Saturday 9:30am-1:00pm — Mother's Day market. It runs every Saturday (weather permitting) until October 10.

Community

Mother's Day pancake breakfast & craft market

SAT May 9, 9am-2pm at the Elks Hall, 1702 Coldwater Ave.

Walk with your doc

Connect with local healthcare providers, and enjoy the weather — Wed, May 13 6:30pm at Rotary Park. Light refreshments provided and draws for great prizes. Everyone welcome.

A musical evening with friends

The Community Choir is having a *Musical Evening With Friends* on Thursday, May 14, at 7pm, at Trinity United Church. Everyone welcome.

'Coldwater Stories' community walk

The City of Merritt Flood Mitigation team will host the *Coldwater Stories Community Site Walk* on Friday, May 22, 10am-1pm, starts at the parking lot across from Claybanks RV park.

The day before the walk — Thurs. May 21, 4-8pm at the Civic Centre — those who attend the City of Merritt's Open House will be able to catch the premiere of Episode 1 of *Coldwater Stories*, the new docu-series showcasing the journey of the Coldwater Corridor River Recovery.

TNRD trunk sale

TNRD will host a trunk sale event in Spirit Square on May 24, 2026, 10am - 1pm. Sell, swap, or donate items from your home in a community-wide garage sale. Feature live music; come to browse and buy bargain finds, stay for the community atmosphere! Residents can sign up to be a vendor free of charge, limited to 2 spots, early registration encouraged. To register as a vendor, use the online form by clicking here, or contact the TNRD Solid Waste and Recycling Department at 250-377-2596, or recycleright@tnrd.ca

Shipping container survey

The City of Merritt is now reviewing their shipping container bylaw and exploring how they are used on private property. Part of this process involves public input to help shape future regulations — and they want to hear your views on temporary and/or long-term usage of shipping containers on residential land within the City. The deadline to complete the survey is May 31, available at www.merritt.ca/containers/ or FMI contact planning@merritt.ca

Out of the mouths of children studying science

- Clouds are high flying fogs.
- I am not sure how clouds get formed. But the clouds know how to do it, and that is the important thing.
- Water vapor gets together in a cloud. When it is big enough to be called a drop, it does.
- Humidity is the experience of looking for air and finding water.
- The wind is like the air, only pushier.

SALES - MAY 9

- 1 440 Bailey Ave, Lower Nicola. SAT 9am-2pm.
- 2 2575 Clapperton Ave., SAT 9am-1pm. Downsizing
- 3 Crossroads Church, 2990 Voght St. SAT 10am-2pm. Junk in the Trunk trunk sale & bbq fundraiser for the Food Bank

Nicola Valley Museum & Archives
Come & visit!



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Lilac Conspiracy

The Lilac Conspiracy
The Lilac Conspiracy was formed in 2003, in Merritt. The group, primarily resident artists, designers, educators & publishers, wanted to increase the awareness of the heritage lilac bushes which are abundant in the Nicola Valley. These were brought west by settlers, and planted when Europeans first came to the valley, from the mid-1800s to 1911 when Merritt was incorporated as a city. The heritage lilacs consist primarily of the common lilac (*Syringa vulgaris*), dark purple, and double white varieties. Over the years, the Lilac Conspiracy has provided lilac slips from heritage plants, by donation, as an incentive to propagate them & continue the old stocks in the community.

Lilac Festivals in Merritt
The first lilac festival was held in 2004, in mid-May when the lilacs were bursting with colour & fragrance in Merritt. It was an art & music event in a heritage warehouse in the downtown area — a huge success with a Bohemian style. The event appealed to those who love the flowers & enjoy art. Festivals were held each year until 2008, but 'lilac awareness' has continued to be promoted through art posters during lilac time.

The Merritt Lilac Project
The Merritt Lilac Project began in 2005 with Bill Vander Zalm donating well-started 4'-5' lilac trees to the citizens of Merritt. Since that time, more than 5,000 lilacs have been planted in our community, thanks to his generosity. With this gift, the variety of lilac trees is greatly enhanced, extending the blooming season by at least 2 weeks. The bushes are young still, but continue thrive in our climate. They are an investment that will mature in the years to come!



Water Monitoring, Fish and Aquatics
Wildlife Monitoring, Terrestrial Services
Environmental Planning
Environmental Reporting

Tel: (250) 378-1864
2025 Granite Ave., Merritt



We are pleased to announce that we have more job opportunities to join the Citxw Nlaka'pamux Assembly. Please visit our website to view the following job postings available:

Boston Bar and Spuzzum Community Engagement Coordinator

Communications Assistant

Cook's Ferry Community Engagement Coordinator

Environment and Regulatory Coordinator

Junior n̓eʔkəpmx Coordinator (smuʔec)

Property Caretaker (Live-In)

Summer Worker - Language Support

Summer Worker - n̓eʔkəpmx Junior Land Guardian (2 Positions Available)

Youth Coordinator

Interested applicants are encouraged to submit their cover letter and resume to:
Citxw Nlaka'pamux Assembly
Email: HR@cna-trust.ca
In-Person: 2025 Granite Ave, Merritt, BC

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MERRITT MORNING MARKET

FRIDAY EDITION — MAY 8, 2026 #4230

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Caravans *continued*

uated on the old Kettle Valley Railway bed. "The tracks had been taken out in 1961, and the railway right-of-way became the access road for the Transmountain Oil Pipeline company," Norgaard said.

"The first caravan was a real pioneer trip and was not accessible by ordinary cars. You had to have a pickup or a four-wheel drive to get up the steep hills. It was difficult to scale."

The road improved over the years, and became easily accessible to any vehicle. The gates that blocked entrance to the road were later left unlocked so that the public was allowed to use the route.

As these changes took place, Norgaard continued to participate in the caravans and later became responsible for organizing them — along with his wife Clara — when he became Highways Chairman of the Chamber of Commerce.

"The official purpose of the caravans was to pressure the government into building a highway. The unofficial purpose was to make the Coquihalla a household name."

The ploy worked, with the number of people having taken part on the trips over the Coquihalla growing from less than 100 in 1963 to 400 in 1976. In all, Norgaard estimates that 2,000 people took part in the eight caravans.

"To begin with, it was a local issue and after that we got lots of visitors. On two occasions, caravans came from Kelowna to Merritt over the Douglas Lake plateau and joined up with us the next day."

During his seven years as Highways

Chairman of the Chamber, Norgaard had other responsibilities as well.

"We made a habit of sending a delegation to Victoria every year to talk to the Deputy Minister, the Chief Engineer, and other officials to promote mainly the Coquihalla, and to talk to them about highway problems in our community in general." He said.

"The engineers didn't really need any convincing to build the highway; they just wanted the government to shut up and come up with the money."

Norgaard dealt with five Highways Ministers during his term with the Chamber, and gets the biggest laugh out of former Minister Phil Gaglardi, who failed to respond to an invitation to attend the 1965 caravan.

"He said that no highway could be built there."

Now that the highway has been built, Norgaard predicts some changes for Merritt.

"There's going to be modest steady growth for five years in most areas, the most obvious one being the transportation industry. By that, I mean such things as Greyhound and a couple of freight terminals moving here.

"More people will stop in Merritt - there will be more restaurants, hotels, motels, service stations. It will also be attractive to industry, perhaps for wholesale houses."

In regards to tolls, Norgaard is positive.

"The highway came at a time when the government was strapped for money and something had to be done. If there were no tolls, there would be no highway — if you look at it that way, then you won't mind paying the tolls," he said.

Merritt Herald, May 14, 1986

CLASSIFIED ADS

PERSONAL

TO THE LADY LOOKING FOR YARN at my garage sale on Saturday, I have some Buffalo yarn if she's interested. Phone me @ 250-378-8838

WTD: someone to mow lawn on reg. basis, must have lwn lawnmower 378-7435

LOOKING FOR SOMEONE TO HELP MOVE STUFF TO DUMP. Have truck & man-power? 378-2047

POTTERY BY DIANE. One of a kind hand crafted pottery on sale at Creative Co., Some commissions possible email diane.wandler@yahoo.ca Next firing on of May, so send me your special ideas. What would u like me to make?

LOST: keychain with change purse. Navy blue arrowhead beadwork w/ lanyard, Ford key & PO key, ID in change purse (status card & care card), between Post office & Black's on Nov 24. Please, just need ID back. 525-0406

NA MEETINGS are held each Tues & Thurs 7pm at the United Church, 1899 Quilchena Ave.

ALANON (for friends & families of alcoholics) every Monday @ 6pm Trinity United Church Hall

ELKS EVENTS: Every Wednesday Bingo, doors open 11am, ends 3pm. Every Friday Nite Bingo, doors open 4pm, ends 10pm. 1701 Coldwater Ave.

AA MEETINGS Wed., Fri., Sat. At 7pm, Mon. Noon at Trinity United Church, 1899 Quilchena Ave.

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DEEP FRYER still in box \$25 378-5008

MICROWAVE new 1200W family size Panasonic Genius \$150 378-5394

FREEZER, smaller approx. 2'x4'. Calvin 778-586-8362

COUNTERTOP dishwasher, hardly used, 3 yrs old \$300 250-289-4759

FOR SALE - AUTOMOTIVE

4 SUMMER tires P265-65R17, gd shape \$400. QuickGrip winter tire chains 2G2229, brnd nw \$65. 315-5115

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SET OF 4 TIRES, gd rims, 245-17 winters for Ford \$400. Calvin 778-586-8362

ALUM. dry box combination tonneau cover for full size pickup truck with 6 ft. box. \$450obo. 315-2080

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FREE PUPPY, Red heeler dad, blue heeler mom 778 661 0917

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5-FT RUBBER plant \$40 378-5008

HEAD mount cougar rug, offr. 378-5038

4 cork boards, 4'x6', exc cond. 280-0543

PR LADIES Hunter boots, madder purple, sz 7, gd cond \$50. 378-1843 aft 5pm

UNPASTEURIZED raw honey: \$40 for 8 cups, \$20 for 4 cups, \$10 for 2 cups, \$5 for 1 cup. 378-4947

GRANNY'S House Quilting & Retreat has sewing notions from Pat's Patches 378-3734

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BUNK bd & mattresses, nw cond/used vry little \$400 315-5115

BRAND NEW 8 inch foam mattress from Wayfair \$200. 280-0005

CREAM-col. leather loveseat & chair \$150 778-834-3148, leparker1751@gmail.com

VINTAGE Half Canopy single bed. frame \$75 378-6787

DOUBLE BED with box spring, frame, stands and set of sheets, gd condition just no room \$125obo. 4 bar stools, like new \$125 all 4 obo. Pedestal sink \$40. Rocking chair \$40. 2 swivel rocking chairs, light rose in colour, very nice looking \$375obo. 378-7333

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MERRITT MORNING MARKET

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1 PAY CASH for broken or no longer used gold/silver jewellery, coins etc. Also looking for old lighters & hunting or pckt knives. Call/text Helena 778 538 9063

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12X60 MBL HOME, must be moved All offers considered. Mess./text 315-7803

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