

# Together

...MAKING A DIFFERENCE



Fall 2015

Giving Hope Today

## A Barn Burns and a Community Rallies

It was at 6:00 am on June 28<sup>th</sup>, in the midst of one of the hottest, driest summers on record in the Fraser Valley, that a milking vacuum pump overheated during morning milking and burst into flames. Despite the intense heat and growing flames, the two milkers on shift had only minutes to get all of the cows out of the barn.



As staff then attempted to extinguish the blaze, firefighters, friends, family, and other farmers arrived quickly on scene to assist.

Marian Vanderwal recalls, "As I arrived on scene, flames were shooting out of both ends of the barn. The heat from the fire was so intense that we couldn't get near the barn. Miraculously, our staff had been able to get most of the cows out of the barn quickly in the first few terrifying seconds. Helpers came from everywhere and we formed a human chain to herd the cows and calves into trailers and taken to other locations. The Salvation Army Emergency Vehicle came and was feeding and hydrating the firefighters in the intense heat, neighboring farmers wives brought water, farmers brought trucks and trailers. Wisbeys, who had only just suffered a tragic fire of their

own, brought buns and baking, and the good folks at the Yellow Barn brought pies and more baking. It was absolutely remarkable! We had nearly 400 head of cattle re-located and milked by 10:00 am! As devastating as this was, the big picture was that everyone just came together, from everywhere and out of no where, and just got the job done; it was remarkable! We are just so very thankful to everyone, and so grateful that no one was hurt."

For now the Vanderwal cows are in three separate barns with their calves in a fourth. For the future, the family is looking to rebuild and hopeful to have their project complete by the end of next summer.

**The Salvation Army's Emergency Vehicle and volunteer staff are on call 24/7 and respond to fires, floods, disasters, missing persons, and various other emergency situations. We were honored to attend and serve at both the Wisbey and Vanderwal fires, as well as others during the extreme heat. This vital service is made possible by our dedicated volunteers and through the gracious donations of community minded people just like you.**

**For more information about our Emergency Response Services and how you can donate or volunteer, please call The Salvation Army Centre of Hope at 604 852 9305**

**Windstorms. Fire. Flood. Drought. Missing Persons. We're Here When You Need Us Most.**

## Equipping Kids with the Tools for Success!

A big shout out to our friends at Foresters Insurance who partnered with us to provide 50 brand new backpacks full of great, new school supplies for kids heading 'Back to School'. **Together we are making a difference in the lives of kids.**

*thank you*  
**Foresters**



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**THE SALVATION ARMY CENTRE OF HOPE**

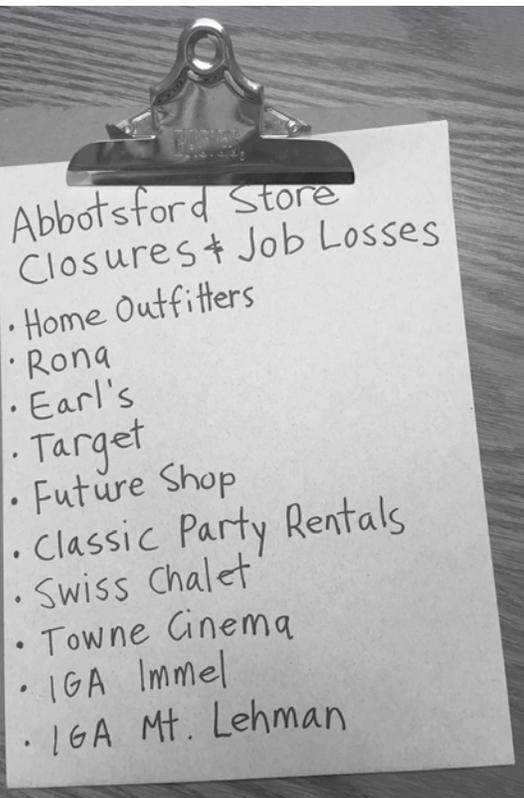
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In Mission, call: 604 826 1315

# How Do We Cope When Unexpected and Unwanted Life Events Happen?

Unexpected things happen in our lives. Windstorms and lengthy power outages are unwelcome events yet there are many families in our community who face the threat of the hydro being turned off entirely, or who are facing eviction because they've recently and unexpectedly lost their job and can't afford to pay the bills. Tough decisions loom large. Do I pay rent or buy groceries? Do I pay the hydro bill or gas for the car so I can go out and look for a job? As families struggle to find re-employment or additional work hours, The Salvation Army stands in the gap and works hard to ensure that every family in our community has access to nutritious food and the ability to remain in their home. Last Fall during the Teacher's Strike, the husband of a two teacher couple said to me "Having to rely on assistance to help us get through the month was very hard. I had never thought that I would ever be in that spot to have to ask for help, but we are so very thankful for caring people."

**Last year the average number of meals served monthly in our Meal Centre in Abbotsford was 7,074 and this year we've seen monthly numbers as high as 11,500! Your financial donations to support the Meal Centre are urgently needed now to assist these families while they get back on their feet. Please call The Centre of Hope at 604 852 9305 to donate today, or mail in your donation with the enclosed insert. Together we can make a difference in the lives of others.**

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- Abbotsford Store Closures & Job Losses
  - Home Outfitters
  - Rona
  - Earl's
  - Target
  - Future Shop
  - Classic Party Rentals
  - Swiss Chalet
  - Towne Cinema
  - IGA Immel
  - IGA Mt. Lehman

## Make a Dent Food Drive in Partnership with Save On Foods and Craftsman Collision

Gather up some canned goods and some cash and join us on Saturday September 19th at Save On Foods at #101 - 1888 North Parallel Rd. in Abbotsford from 1:00 til 5:00 pm. For every food item and dollar donated, Craftsman Collision will give a dollar to The Salvation Army! **Don't miss this great opportunity to stretch your dollar further and have the impact of your donation doubled!** Your gift will bring great encouragement and practical support to many families in need.



## a Community Coming Together

On October 15<sup>th</sup> during Homelessness Action Week, 15 community leaders will begin a life changing day that has the potential to change our thinking and our entire community. Participants will gather in The Salvation Army Shelter and spend 24 hours experiencing the life and authentic challenges of someone living without a place to call home. More information about this initiative and how you can sponsor the participants will be available on our website at [www.careandshare.ca](http://www.careandshare.ca) with regular updates via Twitter @abbysallyann

**For businesses interested in providing corporate sponsorship for the event, please call the Public Relations Director at 604 832 2218.**

**Together we can make a powerful difference in the lives of our neighbors and our community! Join us won't you?**

## Volunteers are Needed!

Do you have a passion for serving others and making a difference in your community? We're looking for you. We have short term, long term and seasonal volunteer opportunities available in many different areas and would love to hear from you. Please call the Volunteer Coordinator at The Salvation Army Centre of Hope today at 604 852 9305.



Giving Hope Today

[www.careandshare.ca](http://www.careandshare.ca)

Others ... Our Calling, our Motivation, our Commitment