

# Parksville Salvation Army Staff/Volunteer Newsletter

May 2017



Giving Hope Today

**All that we do is based on the following 10 core values:**

**Salvation** – We proclaim the Gospel of Jesus Christ in all our ministries

**Holiness** – We are shaped by the Bible and the example of Jesus through the presence and power of the Holy Spirit

**Intimacy with God** – We commune with God through worship and prayer

**Compassion** – We embody God's love, reaching out to others and caring for them

**Respect** – We promote the dignity of all persons

**Excellence** – We are innovative and effective  
**Integrity** – We are honest and trustworthy, accountable to God and each other

**Relevance** – We seek to understand and meet the needs of people in our communities

**Co-operation** – We encourage and foster teamwork and partnerships

**Celebration** – We are thankful to God for blessing The Salvation Army



## Sometimes it's Your Story

Nearly 11 years ago, a lady named Pat landed at a Salvation Army's center in the USA, desperate for a fresh start. "I got here broken. Spiritually, mentally, physically, I was a mess," she said. "The Salvation Army saved my life, thank you Jesus." She spent much of her adult life addicted to drugs and lost everything she cared about in the process. "My life was totally out of control, I was on drugs for 30 years. I lost my kids in 2002, and didn't really put my life back together until 2009."

Today, at age 60, Pat is reunited with her children and loves being grandma to seven grandkids. She's married to a man she met in recovery at The Salvation Army and now volunteers at The Salvation Army center where she initially found hope.

"I am a beacon of light to a lot of women, I am proof you can turn it around," she explained.

Once a week, Pat teaches a class called Celebrate Recovery and provides support to other women on the path to a healthier life, too. "Pat has been such an inspiration and a support for me," said one lady, who attends the class. "I live in sober housing now, and I've been clean for 15 months," she explained. "I come here for Pat's class, both to keep myself on the right path, and to support her and other women here. She was an advocate for me when I was homeless."

Pat says she is forever grateful for the help she received at The Salvation Army, and giving back is her way of sharing the love that transformed her life. "I promised God that if he got me through this, I would be his servant and help others, too," she said. "He led me here and The Salvation Army prayed with me, they restored me. Now I'm filled to the top."

*(Testimonial excerpt from [salvationarmynorth.org](http://salvationarmynorth.org))*

So often our brokenness and past struggles can be the very things that God uses to enable us to reach out to others and connect with them during their time of need. Never underestimate the power of your story in speaking hope and healing into someone else's life and being that person who "gets it" and understands the pain and the struggle.



Did you know that you can keep up with us on Facebook? Even without a Facebook account, you can search and view our page to find events and happenings within our local ministry units as well as The Salvation Army at large that will be encouraging, challenging and informative. To find, us search Facebook for: "@PKSalvationArmy" and watch our separate [Thrift Store page](#) under "Parksville/Qualicum Salvation Army Thrift Stores."

## Accreditation Audit

Our accreditation audit will be taking place the first full week of June. As part of the audit we will have visitors touring our facilities and interacting with staff and volunteers. You may be asked about our operations or health and safety policies. We invite you to be open and honest as you interact with our auditing team to provide them with the information they are looking for.

## Document Holders

We have installed document holders at each of our locations to make it easy for you to find newsletters, incident report forms, volunteer feedback surveys and other important information.

Can you think of a critical document that should be there and readily available? Let us know and we'll make sure they get populated accordingly!

## Health and Safety

If you haven't already received one, we have just developed new health and safety handbooks for all of our staff and volunteers. These contain important safety information regarding our locations and operations and we ask that you please take the time to review this document in full. Once we encounter an emergency situation it's a little late to start thumbing through the book! Paper copies will be available in the document holders at each of our locations or an electronic copy can be requested via email to our Volunteer Coordinator, Brandalyn, at her email address listed in the newsletter footer below.



LATOYA MONIQUE 2012  
"IN *Happy* MOMENTS,  
PRAISE GOD.  
IN DIFFICULT MOMENTS,  
SEEK *God.*  
IN QUIET MOMENTS,  
*trust* GOD.  
IN EVERY MOMENT,  
THANK *God.*"

## Soup Kitchen Soup-ervision

As of early May we are welcoming Grace Saffin back into the soup kitchen through a gradual return to work program. We ask that all of our staff and volunteers work together to help make this transition as smooth as possible for everyone and thank you in advance for your patience as we figure out all the details of our daily operations!

## Staff RSVPS

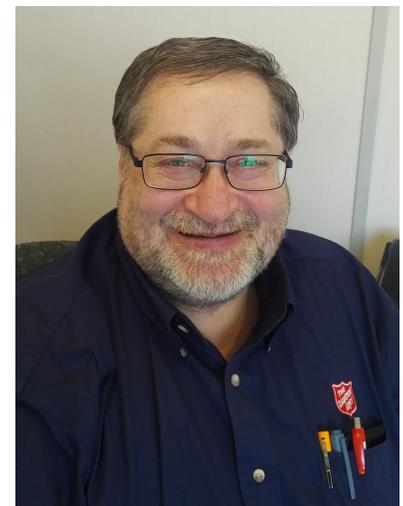
A reminder to all staff who are interested in attending, to please RSVP for the staff BBQ and the Island Employee Reflection Day!

## Welcome Earl!

Earl Blacklock is the new Manager of Community Ministries at Mt. Arrowsmith, responsible for Soup Kitchen and Food Bank operations as well as community outreach.

Earl has just completed his Masters of Divinity degree from Briercrest University, and also holds a Masters of Arts in Leadership and Ministry, a Diploma in Public Relations and Communications, a Certificate in Adult Learning, and a Bachelor of Arts in Psychology. He is a life-long learner who is currently pursuing a Master of Counselling degree.

This is Earl's second stint with The Army, having served as a Chaplain at Fort Saskatchewan Correctional in the 1970s. He has 25 years of communications and social marketing experience. He and his wife Carol are new to the Island.



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