



the ANTI-HUNGER ADVOCATE

Brought to you by the Anti-Hunger Action Committee

October 2004

Poverty Partnership Hosts County Mayoral Forum

On September 17 at the Jubilee Center downtown, the poverty partnership hosted its first big event. County mayoral candidates Merrill Cook and Peter Corroon joined us to answer questions that came out of the August 28th Poverty Summit. The questions included those about the living wage petition, Section 8 housing, rental application fees and dental and vision benefits in Medicaid. The attendance was more than had been originally planned, and more chairs had to be brought in. In addition, there was plenty of media coverage, with the *Salt Lake Tribune* covering it, along with Fox News and KSL 5. Both candidates were candid in their answers and seemed to be genuinely concerned with the issues raised by both the pre-arranged questions and those asked by forum attendees.



Bill Tibbitts moderates the forum between Merrill Cook and Peter Corroon

Where do the County Mayoral candidates stand on a Living Wage ordinance?



Peter Corroon with forum attendees

Both of the candidates at the September 17th forum addressed the issue of a living wage ordinance. Corroon said he supported an ordinance that would favor companies that paid a living wage while doing business with the county. On the other hand, Cook said that he favors a free market and is hesitant to put any mandates on area business.



Merrill Cook answers questions for both the audience and the media

What's in a Bus Pass?

by: Chris Atkins

As you would imagine, if you talked to fifty people concerning this question, you would get fifty different answers with varying levels of thoughtfulness. That's what makes this world so great and such a curious place in which to live. At this moment, however, I want to take a look at what this "luxury" could mean to someone trying to find a job with no transportation or money.

I'm from North Carolina and have never used a local transit system as a way of getting around. Yes, you guessed it. I did not live in the city. Things happen in life and the time came that I found myself in Salt Lake City without a car and then later without a job and without any money. I can tell you from experience it's no easy thing to look for a job when transportation is not in the picture. The way I see it, transportation is about like the telephone; it's hard to live in this modern world without it!

It's been said that writing is an art so let's paint the picture of life, of what it would be like to look for a job without at least a bus pass! Let's say that I have been laid off from my job and with the wages I have been able to earn, my family and I are just barely getting the rent paid with only a little money for food. My car is broken and the job I just lost was within walking distance. The bottom line is that I have no money and no job. There are probably a thousand ways to get in that predicament and I'm at an obvious disadvantage. If I had the guts to tell the truth about the whole matter, my self-esteem is not standing tall at all. I'm down and out and I know it. It hurts. I need a hand up and if someone will reach out I'll take hold. I have made a couple of phone calls and out in West Valley and Sandy there are businesses that will take my application with no promises. I wake up in the morning and it's raining. A cold, long and wet walk is ahead of me. I know that even if I'm lucky enough to get a couple of bus tokens that only one job interview will be served by those two tokens. The hard facts are staring me right in the face; even with twenty dollars are so I'll be hard pressed to find a job and then get to work until I

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Update on Nikki:

Nikki was hit by a car while riding her bike Monday September 13. She was taken to the hospital and treated for some broken bones. She is now at home with her parents in Provo.

Letter to Nikki in the hospital:

Dear Nikki:

I am very sorry to hear what happened. You're my friend and I'm very concerned about you. So do both you and I a favor. Get well and then get out of there. Your friend, Darla Ball

collect my first paycheck! I am looking but I can't see any dignity in this situation except that I won't give up! I look at the rain coming down; my job interview will be wet and difficult.

If a person goes through The Department of Workforce Services and he or she qualifies, they may receive twenty-five dollars for the month to find work and make it to their first paycheck. AHAC has been working for some time now to get UTA to go just a little further in helping the out of work, out of money person who is looking for a job. We know that UTA is community oriented and that they do a lot for us. However, the impact on their budget to sell monthly bus passes through DWS for twenty-five dollars would be MINIMAL! The impact on the down and out Utahns would be GREAT! Come on UTA! Let's do the most we can to get people on their feet and give them the best chance to be successful in their search for a new job! So, what's in a bus pass? For me, FREEDOM!

Big Foot in the Mountains

by: Joe Coult

Editor's Note: Just in time for Halloween, here is a scary story!

Here in Utah there is a mountain named Mount Baldy. In 1970 there were two young men hiking Mt. Baldy when they found a cave. They went into the cave and it was full of ice. It was cold so they made a fire and some of the ice started to melt. There was something dark in the ice when the men started to go. The men didn't know what this mass of dark was.

So the two men left to go down to their car and looked back at the cave and the fire was still burning. There was another thing that they noticed: something was moving in the cave. Then there was a terrible cry.

The men ran down the mountain to the car and they heard something running after them. They were getting into the car and when the passenger shut his door he heard a blood-clotting scream. They made it to the University of Utah and were getting out when they saw it. A hairy hand. The hand is in a jar hidden at the U of U.

Jokes of the Month

submitted by: Doug Cotant



Know why the Chicken was not allowed to play in the Band? Because he had

What do you get when you cross a Rooster with a Chicken? You get a duck that gets up

The *Anti-Hunger Advocate* is a monthly newsletter of the Anti-Hunger Action Committee (AHAC).

Our Mission: AHAC organizes low-income individuals and their allies to take action on their on behalf to improve the social safety net and promote better jobs.

Submissions: To submit an item to the newsletter, please contact AHAC at Crossroads Urban Center, 364-7765.

Previous editions of the newsletter are available at: www.crossroads-u-c.org

AHAC Upcoming Events Calendar:

October 2 from 9:00 am to 2:00 pm: Crossroads Annual Bazaar. Come explore all of the goodies at this year's Bazaar, located at Community of Grace Presbyterian Church, 2015 East 8890 South.

October 8 from 2:00 pm to 6:00 pm: Autumn Housing Fair. Located at the Liberty Senior Center at 251 East 700 South, there will be a fair focusing on housing issues. You can also register to vote, enter to win door prizes, and meet some local political candidates.

October 21 at 5:30 pm: AHAC Board of Directors Meeting. AHAC Board Meetings are open to all AHAC members but only Board Members are allowed to vote on issues before the Board.

November 2: Election Day. VOTE.

November 13 from 10:00 am to 12:00 pm: Follow-up to Poverty Summit. More to come on this exciting discussion based around the issues we raised in August.

For more information about any of these events please contact Bill Germundson, Bill Tibbitts or Elizabeth Matthews at Crossroads Urban Center, 364-7765.

**Hunger Is Still Among Us III:
Everyone I Like to Remind
Hunger too Often has Initiated Crime**

by Sam King

The mayor of a major city
Held a caucus one day
Said "If we don't feed them,
The Homeless and the Hungry
Will simply disappear, and go away
No sympathy or empathy for her sisters and brothers
She swindled constituents, politicians and others
A pinnacle of success bribery was her pay

Then there was Marie Antoinette
Pompous and callused as monarchy's get
Her advisor went to her and said
"Your subjects, the poor peasants
Have very little, and often no bread,"
Arrogant, flippant and cavalier
Marie said "Feed them cake instead,"
Insurrection; Her subjects cut off her head

Hunger is a relentless predator
He employs his disciple starvation
Disarming humanity through desperation,
Annoying principles values and mores
The mind, body and soul wilts away
A soldier will trade guns for butter
Compassion advocates we feed each other
Humanity I would like to remind

Hunger too often has initiated crime

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**Are you or someone you know
interested in helping with the
newsletter?**

We're looking for some fresh faces to help with news, art and poetry, and maybe even be an official photographer! This is a great opportunity to get some new people involved in AHAC, and for you yourself to have a say in what gets put in the montly newsletter. Let Elizabeth know by either tracking her down at the next AHAC function or calling Crossroads at 364-7765.

Quotations from Dan Smith:

"Law deals with relationships; and true relationship can exist only on the basis of mutuality. Where there is mutuality, law manifests as harmony — as the 'joining together' of selves in terms of creative participation in the activities of a greater whole, a social or cosmic organism. Where there is no harmony, no understanding, no awareness of significance, law can only be a mask for personal or group rule, with or without the formalities of so-called democracy." - Dane Rudhyar

"All that is necessary for the triumph of evil is that good men do nothing." - Edmund Burke



Untitled by Mary Torgerson