

OPINION



New Prices Effective May 1, 2010

Martin Cleaning Service

Carpet & Upholstery Cleaning Residential & Commercial Services
Minimum Service CHG. \$45.00
 A small distance/travel charge may be applied

CARPET CLEANING
2 Cleaning Areas or more \$30.00 Each Area
Pre-Spray Traffic Areas (Includes: 1 small Hallway)
1 Cleaning Area (only) \$40.00
 Includes Pre-Spray Traffic Area (Hallway Extra)

Stairs (12-16 stairs - With Other Services): \$25.00

Area/Oriental Rugs: \$25.00 Minimum
Area/Oriental Rugs (Wool): \$40.00 Minimum

Heavily Soiled Area: Additional \$10.00 each area (Requiring Extensive Pre-Spraying)

UPHOLSTERY CLEANING

Sofa: \$69.00
 Loveseat: \$49.00
 Sectional: \$109 - \$139
 Chair or Recliner: \$25 - \$49
 Throw Pillows (With Other Services): \$5.00

ADDITIONAL SERVICES

- Area & Oriental Rug Cleaning
- Auto/Boat/RV Cleaning
- Deodorizing & Pet Odor Treatment
- Spot & Stain Removal Service
- Scotchguard Protection
- Minor Water Damage Services

SEE CURRENT FLYER FOR ADDITIONAL PRICES & SERVICES
Call for Appointment (503) 281-3949



Forging an Economy that Works

Generations of progress at risk

BY ARLENE HOLT BAKER

"What good is having the right to sit at a lunch counter if you can't afford a hamburger?" Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. asked in 1968. Today, many of us



who fought for lunch-counter rights have children and grandchildren who can't afford a restaurant meal.

It's not just people of color who are paying the price. All communities, including whites, African-Americans, Latinos, and others are losing jobs, homes, and businesses. It's a nightmarish destruction of wealth.

For communities that were already in economic freefall before this recession, it's a catastrophe. Unless we take action soon, generations of progress may be reversed.

African-American unemployment

is 16.5 percent (versus 9 percent for whites). Look at any indicator of economic well-being--jobs, income, poverty, health care--and

it's clear that African Americans are still falling behind.

Manufacturing's demise in the United States has robbed millions of African Americans of their jobs, along with their membership in America's

middle class. Local tax bases are shrinking, eroding education and destroying public jobs, public services, and public safety.

African-American communities were targeted for subprime lending, and we've been disproportionately slammed by foreclosures and bankruptcies. Communities suffering these economic blows are less able to support minority-owned small businesses--the auto dealership, the barbershop, and more.

Perhaps most disturbing, the economic scarring of African Americans--and of all those suffering from

unemployment in this crisis--may endure for generations. Think of the child who doesn't get enough to eat. She has trouble concentrating in a school which is in disrepair and has class sizes too large because teachers have been cut. Her state has cut funding for higher education. One out of six adults around her is unemployed.

Acting immediately is essential for communities carrying the heaviest weight of the crisis. **Five steps can save and create 4 million jobs and help secure the future.**

1. Maintain the lifeline of extended unemployment insurance, health care, and food assistance. Maintaining the lifeline is a matter of survival.

2. Pump life back into de-industrialized communities. We can start by retooling shuttered factories and building new facilities for green jobs.

3. Rescue states and communities with budget shortfalls before they lay off teachers, police officers,

and firefighters. Our investments can save desperately needed middle class jobs and make distressed communities safer and more livable.

4. Hire community banks to lend leftover TARP money directly to small and medium-sized businesses. The banks we taxpayers so generously bailed out still aren't lending to medium and small businesses, the engine for job growth in communities.

5. Connect jobless people in distressed communities directly with work that needs to be done. These jobs must pay competitive wages, so that we're not replacing good state and local government jobs with temporary or poorly paid positions.

These five steps are the start we need right now to rebuild an economy that works for Main Street and Martin Luther King Boulevard, not just Wall Street.

Arlene Holt Baker is the executive vice president of the AFL-CIO.

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