**STATION 1: The Depression in the Cities**

**Lost Jobs:** It didn’t matter if you were responsible and skilled – everybody was losing their jobs because there was no money.

* Average was 25% unemployment
* Utah was at 36% unemployment

**Eviction:** If you don’t have the money, you can’t pay the bills so you either move out of your house or you are forced out.

**Shanty Towns:** Once you have no where to live, what do you do? People would go to public land and build shelters from whatever materials they could find – such as plywood, scrap metal, and cardboard.

**Hoovervilles:** Another name for Shanty Town. People blamed the economic woes on President Hoover – this was a slap in the face to him.

**Hooverflag:** Empty pocket turned inside out.

**Hooverblanket:** Old Newspaper used for a blanket.

**Soup Kitchens/Bread Lines:** Free and Charitable handouts. Really cheap, if not free

**Racial Violence:** Most Americans felt they needed to blame someone, so the blame fell to the blacks because of the competition for jobs. In 1933, 241 lynchings of blacks.

**STATION 2: Effects on the American Familiy**

**Men in the Streets/Abandonment:** Many men left their families because they felt responsible since they lost their job.

**Hobos:** Men and teenagers who left family. Rode from city to city on the Rails. Over 300,000 teens leave home early.

**Hobo Symbols:** sit down meal, handout of bread, safe water to drink, danger (police, unsafe)

* Hobos would leave signs for each other to survive

**Women Struggle to Survive:** They tried to make things last by canning, saving, sewing their own clothes. They reworked budgets, etc. \* Really took a lot on their shoulders.

**Children Suffer Hardships:**

* Worried
* Ashamed
* Really couldn’t help
* Schools closed down so children might be able to earn money
* Some left the house early so there’s one less mouth to feed

**Social and Psychological Effects:**

* Suicide goes up 30% - mostly men
* 3 times the normal amount of people were admitted to the mental hospital

**STATION 3 – Movies and Radio**

**Hollywood:** Golden age in Hollywood

* Movies helped people escape
* 15 cents could buy 5-6 hours of entertainment
* Movies Released: Shirley Temple, Snow White, Gone with the Wind

**Walt Disney:**

* Produced 1st feature length animated film
* His films gave people hope

**Radio:**

* offered information and entertainment
* Tens of millions of people listened to the radio daily
* Brought entertainment to the living room

**Soap Operas:**

* Radio shows about daily life
* Most were sponsored by Laundry Detergent companies – that’s where they name soap opera comes from
* People found common ground in discussing radio characters

**STATION 4: Literature and Art**

**Comics:**

* Superhero genre was born: “Superman” and “Batman”
* Comics and superheroes cheered people

**John Steinbeck:** Novelist

* Added flesh and blood to journalists’ reports of poverty
* Wrote “The Grapes of Wrath” – about the dust bowl

**William Faulkner:** writer

* Developed a new writing technique
* Exposed hidden attitudes of Southern whites and A.A.

**Grant Wood:** Artist

* He emphasized traditional American Values
* “American Gothic”: portrays Midwesterners while gently making fun of their severity

**Dorothea Lange:**

* Photographer
* Took pictures of everyday people during the Depression