

CURBSIDE

A collection of views from people on the streets

That someone special
in our lives

Late last month the global population surpassed 7 billion people. Living in an era where climate change, war and terrorism create an unpredictable future, our interdependence becomes even more imperative. As the Arab Spring and Occupy movements have shown this year, we cannot create change alone, but together we are one.

With this solidarity of interdependence in mind, Street Roots asked individuals living in or close to homelessness: who is the most important person (living or passed) in your life and why?

"My mother, because she was my best friend and I could talk to her about anything and she didn't judge me for anything."

— Michael

"Greedily, myself... If I didn't take care of myself then I wouldn't be able to help other people."

— Larry B

"Jesus Christ. He watches out over me."

— Dave

"My sister, Kitty because she's my sister. I've known her forever."

— Bill

"My grandmother, who was born in 1887 and when she was young she knew people who had served in the Union army and voted for Lincoln. When I was a little too young to be in a movie theater watching 'Easy Rider,' I ran into my grandmother in the lobby... She was a free-thinker. She was

a huge reader and she subscribed to a dozen magazines."

— John Brown

"My best friend Tammy. She's done an awful lot for me. We have a really good relationship. Some people hit it off pretty well and I'm not very good at hitting it off with most people and she has done an awful lot for me and I do stuff for her too, you know. It's not quite an equal exchange, but we do the best that we can."

— Corwin

"I have a brother and sister. That's all that's left."

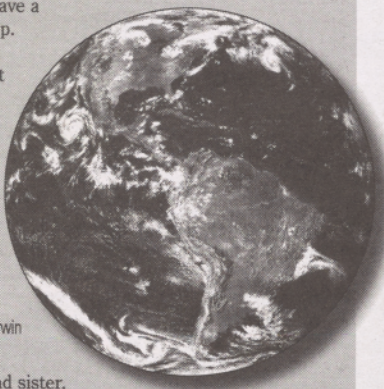
— Johnny B. Bad

"My son Brian, that's easy. He just turned 23 last summer. We're rehashing. I'm getting along better with his mother, his mother and I divorced almost 20 years ago, so the fact that he's 23 now, we're working out the kinks. He's in Michigan, I'm out here in Oregon... He's like looking at a carbon copy of me from all those years ago in Michigan and he's doing pretty good, really. These days, anybody getting by, doing OK in this economy is my hero, not just my kid."

— Bob

"Well, he's gone now, but my grandfather because he was my role model and my hero. taught me what was right and what was wrong and always told me that no matter: If you're right, you're right; if you're wrong, you're wrong. Also, he didn't take B.S. from anybody. Grandpa was A-OK."

— Larry



Compiled by Cole Merkel

The disease of the cold heart

Darryl S. Stinsky

The disease of the cold heart
I'm frostbitten from the ice inside my soul
The warmth of love is agony when it
Brushes against my heart as I start to thaw
I sink into it like a bubble bath after a hard day
But I fear for my soul in the end
As it is the unknown mystery of the world
To me: It's the swampland of the living
I'm the undead that stalks those that have a heart
For my creator didn't have one to spare
My frost is like a disease it's contagious and deadly always
In the end the bubble bath of love
Grows cold cold cold freezes over
Ice spreading, thickening till I've made another
Heart grow cold and the disease of the cold heart
Spreads to another unsuspecting victim

Darryl is a 28 year old, deathrow inmate in Georgia

Explode

By Jason Wolf

Scream, cry, I'm going to do it all
I'm going to grab a brick and throw it through a wall
I'm going to get real angry and clench my fist
Don't ask me what's wrong, I'll write you a list
Whatever you do just stay out of my way
You can't make it better, today is not that day
I'm going to act like a jerk because I just don't care
Look away from me, you better not stare
Give me something, anything to break
Where is a vampire when you need one cause I have a stake
I'm a tornado with no intended path
If you happen to cross me you will feel my wrath
A taste of negativity and I'm hungry for more
I am a lion and you will hear me roar!

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PUZZLES

By Cole Merkel

Answers on page 6

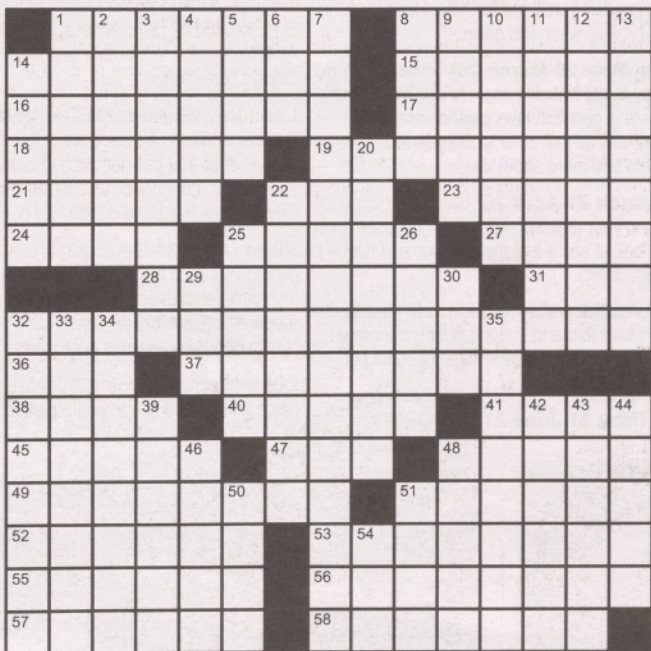
Crossword

Across

1. Pertaining to pleasure
8. Wavelength
14. News/commentary blog
15. Egyptian god of the underworld
16. Leprechauns?
17. Gauge
18. Khyber or Barlow
19. Junior, to Senior
21. Golden, Greek god-blood
22. Corn kernel holder
23. Movie shots
24. Blue hue
25. Fictitious New York town created by Vonnegut
27. Sets of auction goods
28. Circuit protector
31. Adaptable truck, for short
32. Maintained outdated attitudes and beliefs
36. _____-Conservative
37. An encircled fortification around a town
38. Dirty or clean, it still needs to be burned
40. Deliberately avoids
41. Assign a role
45. After, en Français
47. .0000001 joule
48. Prickly plants
49. Brothers or Helweg-Packard
51. Excited exclamation!
52. Five year period
53. U-shaped hooks to hold a headress
55. Encompass
56. Natural tendency
57. Catch sight of
58. E.M. Forster's "A _____ to India"

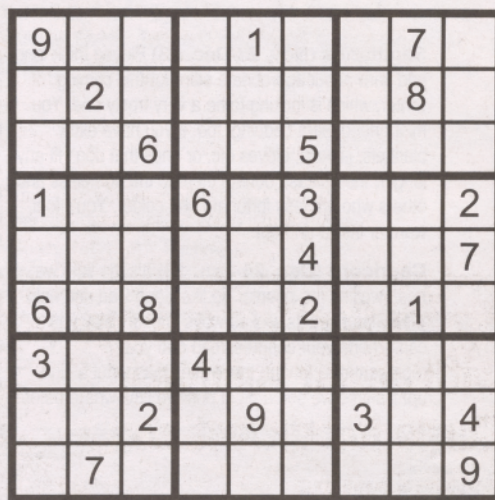
Down

1. Roman lyrical poet of "Epodes"
2. Biblical prophet



3. Incorporate from solid to liquid
4. Different from that mentioned
5. Steals or pilfers
6. "Rocks"
7. Employment as a discerning judge
8. Rich soil
9. Money in the bank, say
10. Prayer book
11. Liberate
12. Floppy
13. Evaluated
14. Small songbird
20. Joining borders
22. Conclusive argument
25. Jeremy _____ British star of "The Borgias"
26. Short for A.M.s, in Britain
29. Trick taker, often
30. Stuck in a _____
32. Exposed, like a needle
33. Breathable fabric, often found in rain jackets
34. Lion noises
35. North American silk worm
39. Living in water
42. Letting out one's feelings
43. Usually involving a Ouija board
44. Assignment
46. Brenda of the comics
48. Low quality diamonds often used as industrial abrasives
50. Small whirlpool
51. Blow off steam?
54. "_____ Ng" (They Might Be Giants song)

Sudoku



The objective of Sudoku is to fill all the blank squares with the correct numbers, from 1 to 9. Every row, column and square must include all digits, 1 through 9, in any order.



Office Cat Rooty sends big thanks to volunteer Liz Fosteer for her help on our special projects and manning the front desk. Liz and all the front desk folks keep this place purring along! Thank you!