

Kind words from a new Street Roots reader

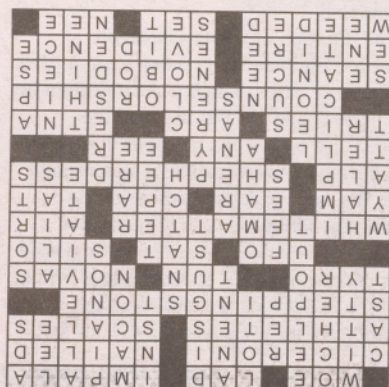
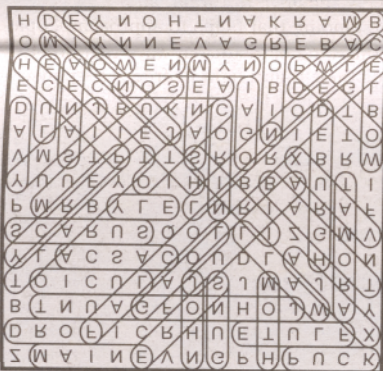
Dear Street Roots,
I have been visiting family in Portland for the past week or so and this chilly morning, sadly my last in town, I picked up a copy of Street Roots from an inspiringly warm guy, I think named Harry, outside a Starbucks on 9th and Taylor.

I read papers regularly but am totally floored and deeply touched by the quality, depth, honesty, tenderness, overall mission, and raw soulfulness of this paper, which I just read from cover to cover. Couldn't put it down without finishing it.

I am struggling to find the right words to express how deeply I am affected by the benevolence of your team's mission and the sincerity/warmth Harry showed me this morning. With each minute I spend here in this Starbucks I become increasingly certain that the world needs more of this type of love. Not to mention journalistic poignancy. Please keep up the good work, please keep guys like Harry around, and please keep on keepin' on. Next time I'm in the area, Street Roots will be the first paper I look for. Thanks again and happy holidays/new year from a new and ardent supporter of your work.

— Lou Shanley

Answers to puzzles on page 15



The big weekly leap forward

It was standing room only Jan. 2 at the Street Roots office as vendors crowded to get the first glimpse of the new weekly Street Roots newspaper. It was our inaugural edition on a weekly schedule and vendors were excited to get the paper unloaded and out the door.

Each day, approximately 80 vendors are out selling the newspaper, and each year nearly 400 vendors work within our vendor program, some for immediate needs to get back on their feet, others as a start of a long-term program toward stability.

Special thanks to Voodoo Doughnut for creating a special donut for the event, and for Frank Creative who have been volunteering their services and came out to join us for the special day. We're grateful to all of our supporters who made this day possible, and our vendors will be out there to say thank you every Friday morning!

At right, vendors Willie Bradford, Frank Quiroga and Brian Bartels unload the papers from the pallet, delivered from Oregon Lithoprint. Below right, Vendor Coordinator Cole Merkel snaps a selfie with vendors Raymond Thornton, Mel Taylor and Paul Ortiz. Below left, Willie Bradford buys his stack of papers for the coming weekend. Bottom, vendors and staff gather for a group shot outside the office.



Photos by Diego Diaz

