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Answers to puzzles on page 15

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|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 9 | 4 | 2 | 1 | 7 | 3 | 8 | 6 | 5 |
| 3 | 5 | 8 | 2 | 6 | 4 | 7 | 9 | 1 |
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| 5 | 2 | 1 | 6 | 3 | 7 | 9 | 8 | 4 |
| 4 | 6 | 3 | 9 | 8 | 5 | 1 | 7 | 2 |
| 8 | 3 | 4 | 7 | 9 | 6 | 2 | 5 | 1 |
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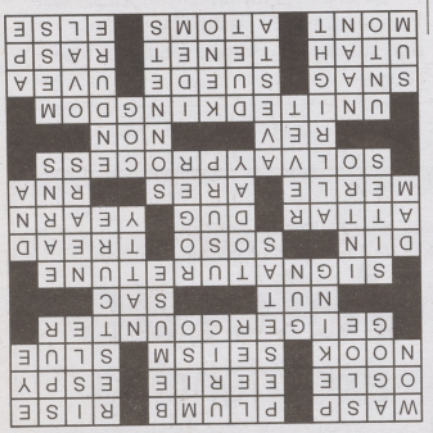

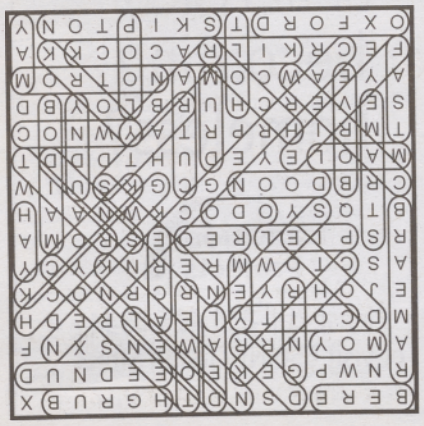

# VENDOR PROFILE
## Nestor

**BY LEONORA KO**
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

For Nestor, life is art and art is life, and he has the voice, poems and tattoos to prove it.

"I'm an artist, but not in any one particular form of art," Nestor says. "I started writing when I was 14. When I was 15, I sang in a punk band and really got into graffiti art."

Nestor got a GED at 17 and graduated from a community college with an associate degree in journalism and a taste for Ernest Hemingway and T.S. Eliot. He has published poems, short stories and website articles under a pen name.

"Writing was always what I was best at," he says. "Writing was everything to me."

In his 20s, Nestor taught himself to paint and tattoo.

"I'm a biomechanical artist. If you bring up Facebook, I could show you printouts; they're pretty wild. I also do 3-D graffiti art, but a lot more elaborate because I've mastered my style more. The original biomechanical artist was H.R. Giger. His stuff is crazy. Have you ever seen the 'Alien' movies? He designed all those aliens."

Nestor points to tattoos on his arms. "These are my designs here. That's one of my names."

He has worked for a tattoo shop and has sold graffiti paintings and one full-scale painting, which he worked on for a year and a half, for $1,500.

"Lately, I haven't had time to just sit down and write," Nestor says. "I'm a spoken-word poet. I freestyle really good. Freestyle is rhyming off the top of your head. I can always rhyme off the top of my head, anytime that I want to. You basically stop worrying about messing up and let it go."

As for painting, it's hard for him to buy paints and canvases while homeless. But he has sharpies in his backpack if the drawing urge hits.

Nestor came to Portland four months ago, in part to reunite with an old girlfriend. When that didn't work out, he stayed in motels for a few days and then was out on the street.

"When I first came, I was going to write an article about being in Portland," he says. "I used to sleep outside at the dim sum place. I left my phone in my shoe, and someone grabbed it. It had everything – my music, all my notes; everything was gone. Devastating."

Nestor says selling Street Roots has been good. "You talk to everybody. They can look homeless, they can look gosh darn rich – you talk to everybody, and I do.

"It's getting better. Everything is getting better," Nestor adds. "I make more money now. I've got friends here now. I know where to go to sleep, where I'm safe. It's right by a lot of semis that come hauling ass. I'm kind of jumpy at night like they're going to hit me. But I don't worry about getting stolen from."

Nestor says: "I take it day by day. If something happens for me that's good for me, then I'll take it, I'll jump on it. If somebody offers me a job, I'll take it.

"I've met some of the most weird and beautiful people here in this city. I can picture myself, if I had a pad and a pen what would I be writing ... you gain knowledge from everything that you experience."

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