

GRATEFUL, from page 11

International
vendor spotlight

Elisabetha-Maria Iancu, 39
TagesSatz, Gottingen, Germany

When I was younger, I worked in Sibiu, Romania, in a cafe. As tourism faded and my first husband died, the earnings were nearing zero. We went with my children first to Italy and then to Germany to get jobs. I got a part-time housecleaning job, and my



UTE KAHLE

boyfriend worked for a building company. We can manage to support ourselves as long as we do not get sick, but I miss my big family here. I am going to school now to learn how to read and write. Ute from TagesSatz told me I could manage that and she helped me and was right. Now I can even read the street paper I sell. That makes me very proud.

What is the best Christmas present you've ever received?

When my boyfriend of 20 years asked me to marry him last year.

How do you plan to spend Christmas this year?

With my family here in Germany. I became a grandmother this year.

Russell Adams, 56
Streetwise, Chicago

I didn't have a job when I first came to Streetwise, and right away I was very successful. I used to sell the Sun Times, so I had an idea of how to sell the magazines. I was never homeless; and now I live on the west side. I've been sober for eight years. Now I'm able to save my money for things that matter.

How do you plan to spend Christmas this year?

I'll be spending it with my girlfriend's family. I'll get to watch TV all day, watch the basketball and football games, watch the kids open their presents, have some conversations, just enjoy the day.

If you did not sell a street paper, how would you be spending Christmas this year?

I'd probably be on the streets, spending it in a shelter and taking advantage of their services. I never went home before selling Streetwise;

Courtesy of INSP News Service INSP.
ngo

Love and support



"Thank you for your support. Thank you for showing that you care about me and others at Street Roots and we appreciate everything you've done for us over this last year. Happy holidays and happy new year to you!"

FLUFFY MCGUIRE



"Merry Christmas, and I hope everyone has a happy holiday."

AUSTIN KELLY



"My customers are my foundation. They provide my precious basic needs including my spirit. Their warmth and generosity gives me strength in every new day. Thank you all."

LORI LEMATTA

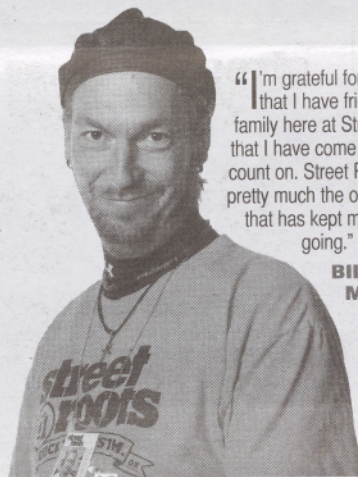
"I'm a vendor at Peet's Coffee and City Market, and I see my regular customers at least once a week. They are some of the nicest people I have met in Portland, and I thank every one of them."

DOUG MARCKS



"I'd like to thank all the customers who have made this year so great. My biggest enjoyment has been meeting new ones and the conversation and interaction with them. Street Roots customers are truly great."

**ACHILLES
CORELLEONE**



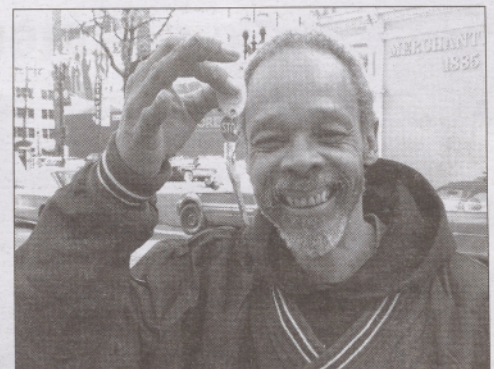
"I'm grateful for the fact that I have friends and family here at Street Roots; that I have come to love and count on. Street Roots is pretty much the only thing that has kept me alive and going."

**BILLY
MEYER**

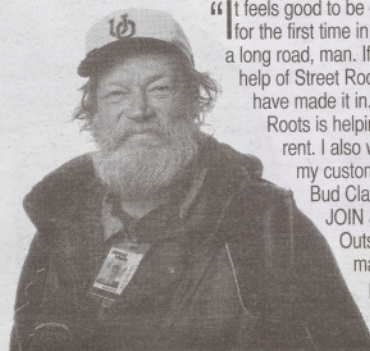
Making my life better

"Words can't begin to describe the gratitude I feel toward my customers at Powell's on Hawthorne. Thanks for being there for me."

NATE



Grateful



"It feels good to be off the streets for the first time in 12 years. What a long road, man. If it wasn't for the help of Street Roots, I wouldn't have made it in. Now, Street Roots is helping me pay my rent. I also want to thank all my customers, the folks at Bud Clark Commons, JOIN & Haven at Outside In. You all made this possible."

**LOUIS
ADAMS**

"I like everything about Street Roots. It got me started up to where I'm at now. Street Roots gives me something to do. I love meeting people. I love staying active. I love being my own boss. And it feels good to have this badge around my neck."

WILLIAM HOWARD