

CENTRAL CITY COFFEE
Drink well. Do good.

Sourcing & roasting craft coffee to benefit programs at **Central City Concern**.

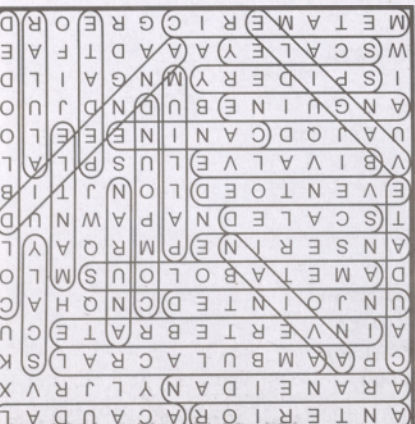
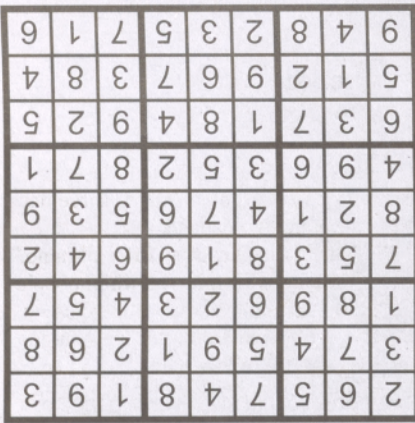
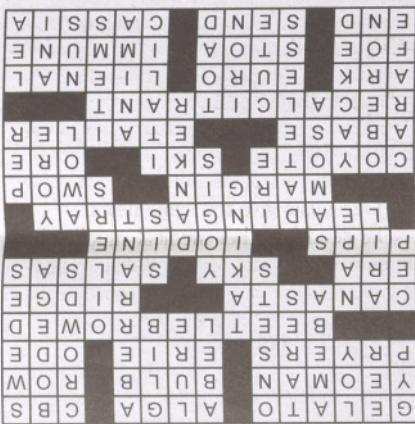
IN STORES
New Seasons Market, Whole Foods, Food Front Cooperative Grocery, Green Zebra, Chuck's Produce and Will Leather Goods.

AT YOUR OFFICE
Interested in serving Central City Coffee at your office? Get in touch with us and we can help you make that happen. 503.226.7387

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Buy Central City Coffee online and have it shipped directly to you or a friend.

Follow our Facebook page for updates and specials.
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Answers to puzzles on page 15



VENDOR PROFILE Ron Britt

BY LEONORA KO
STAFF WRITER

It was 1963 and Ron Britt was a teenager who had just moved from the Haight-Ashbury district in San Francisco to his parents' home on Corbett Street, Portland. "I was in the first hippie movement here," said Ron. "The first hippie park was Lair Hill Park, down on Barbur Boulevard, right there by Corbett Street."

In those days, Lair Hill Park was an area with low rents and relative tolerance, according to Ron. The original Italian and Jewish immigrants were moving out and artists and young people were moving in. New businesses sprang up in the area: the Psychedelic Supermarket sold drug paraphernalia, the Merchants of Warm provided counseling services to youth and Nature's sold natural groceries, he said.

"I was part of the movement, the radical protests," said Ron. "Protest the Vietnam war, wear flowers in your hair, smoke pot."

Lair Hill Park became an area with spontaneous jam sessions and communal soup gatherings.

Ron reminisced, "It was a good time to live. The world seemed like it was full of peace and love."

In 1968, rumors that 20,000 hippies were about to descend on Portland spurred the City Council to take action. The police made dozens of drug arrests in the area.

Ron said, "Yeah, I was selling bags of weed, taking LSD and sitting on the backstop of the baseball diamond. And getting busted by the cops since I was selling

marijuana."

After the arrests, the hippie subculture moved from Lair Hill Park to other city areas.

"It moved to Washington Park, then to Laurelhurst. Then it went down to (Lovejoy) Fountain. Everybody moved down there. Then from there on it moved up to Uncle Andy's which was a restaurant up there (near) Portland State. And the movement just kept moving. Because you know everybody's dealing drugs outside and the cops just kept pushing everybody out of there."

"It was beautiful at first. Then the hard drugs came into it - heroin and speed - and made it evil. I got strung out on heroin, started using hard drugs," he said in a low voice.

Ron found help through Portland's first methadone clinic.

"Doctor Larsen ran the methadone clinic, CODA, down there across the

bridge. I was the 125th person with the program back then. And then I went to Allied (Health Services)."

He was on the streets for 30 years. After a bad cocaine episode, Ron decided to quit all hard drugs: "I decided I didn't want to die. And so I just stopped."

Based on his years of experience, his advice to other vendors is to keep looking up, smile and be nice to customers. Ron usually sells the newspaper on Fridays near Hotel Monaco on the corner of Southwest Fifth Avenue and Southwest Washington Street.

These days, he is no longer living on the streets of Lair Hill Park and has an apartment over Street Roots, thanks to Cascade Mental Health.

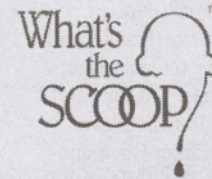
As for the Lair Hill Park area, the neighborhood lobbied the city to include it as one of the first historical districts in Portland.

Ron said: "It was all full of hippies, now it's all yuppies. All the old hippies bought homes there because back in those days you could get a house for nothing."

"It'd take two arms and fifteen legs to pay for a house nowadays."



Ice Cream for Street Roots!



Order ice cream!

Preorder pints of ice cream online from Monday, August 1st to Friday, August 14th.

Order at: street-roots.myshopify.com
\$9 a pint. Proceeds go to support Street Roots.

Ice cream party with Street Roots!

When: Thursday, Sept. 1st from 5-8 p.m

Where: 3540 N. Williams, What's the Scoop?

There will also be a limited quantity of pints available at the door! What's the Scoop? will be donating 10% of sales during the party!

Pick up ice cream!

Pints of ice cream will be available for pickup at What's the Scoop?, from Thursday, September 3rd through Friday, September 11th.