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VENDOR PROFILE

John Kadubec

BY **ABBY WILLIAMS**
STAFF WRITER

John Kadubec has explored all over the United States. He was a trucker for 22 years and has seen it all, and according to Kadubec, nowhere compares to Portland.

"Every time I came to the Pacific Northwest I told myself, 'Don't ever forget about this place,'" Kadubec said.

Kadubec resonates with the atmosphere of Portland. When asked what he might write for a Street Roots piece, his deep broadcaster-like voice rose above the hum of the coffee machine in the background and his eyes lit up with possibilities. He finally decided he would focus on the politics of Portland: how to keep the city accessible and equitable, preserve its culture and mitigate wealth disparity.

"I don't want Portland to become another San Francisco," Kadubec said shaking his head, "or overcrowded like Los Angeles." He said this in the knowing tone of someone who has lived in Southern California.

Kadubec moved to the Portland area nine years ago and has been selling Street Roots in front of Multnomah County Courthouse and Oregon Health and

Science University for the past five months. He has a number of regular customers and is learning names. For Kadubec, Street Roots is more than just a way to make a profit, it's connection – a tool to tie together an increasingly divided society.

He engages with customers and passersby because "It's out of my heart, not just out of a sale. It's the start of a relationship." Selling Street Roots has given Kadubec the confidence to reach out.



"I used to shy away from talking to people in general. (Street Roots) has given me an opportunity to practice my social skills and to show my better qualities."

Positive feedback from customers helps. "It rejuvenates my spirit," Kadubec said.

Kadubec grew up listening to his father's stories of living in communist Ukraine, where personal letters were redacted and media were censored by the government. This is part of why Kadubec is so adamant about free media and the mission of Street Roots.

"We cannot stray from our voice. It is critical – vital – to a free society" Kadubec said. "Money doesn't control Street Roots like other media. We are the free people."

It is news by the people for the people that Kadubec believes will help decode the divisiveness

plaguing society. For these reasons, he is proud to be a Street Roots vendor.

Kadubec is a person of conviction; he believes in the power of a place, the power of people and the power of a street newspaper. You can find him selling in front of either the courthouse or OHSU.

Answers to Page 15 Puzzles

R	E	H	N	E	A	R	Y	E	M	E
M	C	A	O	I	C	A	R	E	H	O
A	S	E	D	T	I	E	S	T	I	E
S	T	E	R	T	O	T	E	R	S	
E	S	T	I	R	E	N	A	T	U	R
S	B	A	H	A	M	A	S			
D	O	U	S	E	D	L	E	U		
E	D	U	C	A	T	E	D	G	U	E
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E	S	S	E	N	C	E				
D	U	L	L	E	R	E	R	E		
O	N	E	T	H	O	S	A	N	D	T
R	A	P	T	M	A	R	C	O	N	I
T	R	E	E	R	U	E	S	A	D	I
S	U	R	F	A	L	T	O			

R	E	F	A	B	E	R	V	D	G	N	E	R
R	A	V	S	C	H	A	L	K	N	O	B	E
N	E	L	L	I	E	F	O	X	U	M	H	D
J	O	E	R	A	N	D	A	O	I	C	N	D
O	L	M	H	D	V	L	S	S	A	E	R	O
E	I	U	M	A	V	L	L	X	L	D	O	B
B	T	C	L	L	E	W	L	H	U	B	T	
A	C	P	N	I	A	L	D	F	O	A	S	Y
O	H	Z	D	I	A	D	W	R	P	N	H	B
S	K	J	Y	N	M	R	A	E	E	L	B	O
R	S	A	C	E	O	E	Y	L	D	Z		
M	R	I	V	L	G	L	Z	S	I	C	N	T
N	L	O	R	L	R	O	F	H	L	W	U	L
C	I	S	I	U	L	S						
B	R	A	N	S	J	T	V	T	N	N	Y	Z
E	N	E	A	U	T	R	Y					

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

IN MEMORIAM

Remembering Dani

Diana Wyatt, who we knew as Dani, was small in stature. But what she lacked in height, she more than made up for in personality, kindness, hard work and glee. She was a friend to both her customers and her fellow vendors, often lending a sympathetic ear and a loving smile.

Diana Wyatt
Feb. 16, 1980
July 1, 2018

She also worked hard, selling papers most every day, even if it was rainy and cold, even if she was in pain. She wanted to make her customers happy and often wore an awesome purple wig and danced with some signature moves, twirling her papers from arm to arm, front to back, music playing softly on a speaker to help her keep tempo.

Dani worked with both Street Roots and our sister paper in Seattle, Real Change. Street Roots learned only recently that she passed away on July 1.

Most recently, she was a mainstay on the corner of First and Marion in Seattle, a spot she inherited when her childhood friend, fellow vendor Jonas Stone, passed away last year. Even with all the bustle of the block, the space feels emptier without her.

In Portland, Dani was a dedicated member of the community. Whether it was with a genuine smile, a deep laugh or a good joke (or two or three), she always knew how to brighten a room.

She loved to find that light in others, too. Once, when asked why she appreciated her customers, she said that it was because of their "smiles and positive attitudes."

Dani was also a stellar mentor, always willing to take new vendors (and even staff!) under her wing. She was a natural leader who was full of advice.

"She had a great personality – she was a good listener," said Amy Turco, a vendor who worked with Dani. "I'm really going to miss her. I just can't believe she's gone."

"She was a fun, spirited person who brought a lot of joy to this office," said Aileen McPherson with Street Roots. "She was always funny as hell – four-foot nothin'."

When other vendors passed, Dani always had a heartfelt word to say in their honor. We hope to do her justice with this memorial.

Losing Dani feels like losing a member of our family. We will miss her deeply.

Dani leaves behind her husband, Mike Papariella, who has been a Real Change vendor since 2007.

- Street Roots and Real Change staff

