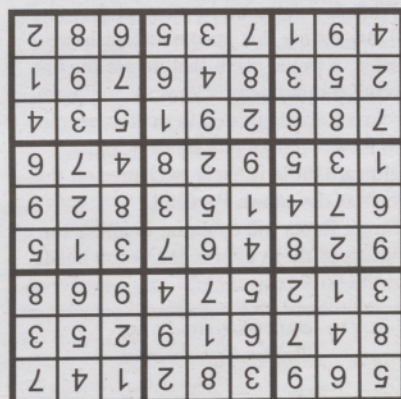
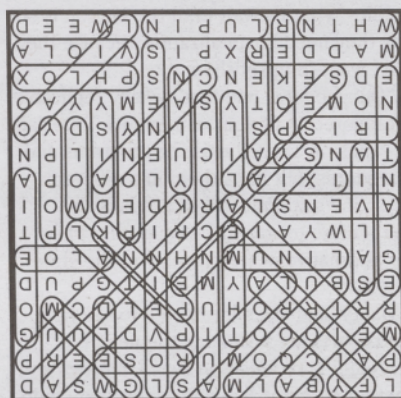
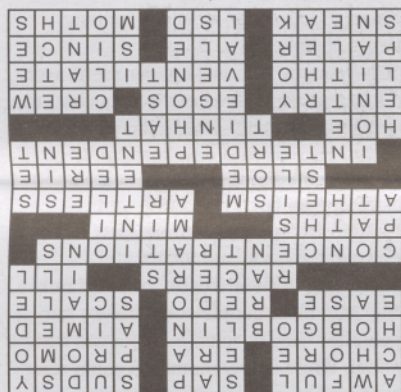


A Perfect Day?

by Tina Drake

Can it be bacon and eggs?
Can it be pancakes with my man?
Yes it can!
Could it be lunch in the park?
Sitting on a blanket watching the clouds?
Yes it could!
Is it a home-cooked meal?
Is it candles and wine?
Yes it is!
Could it be, can it be, is it all of this?
Yes it is my perfect day!

Answers to Page 15 Puzzles



Street Roots honors two superstars

On Thursday, Oct. 4, Street Roots celebrated two dedicated members of our family for their work with the organization.

Sandra Hahn was honored with our 2018 Vendor of the Year Award given to an outstanding vendor with the organization. Art Garcia, a former vendor, vendor program manager and volunteer was awarded with the organization's inaugural Keystone Award for his exemplary service toward the mission of Street Roots.

Hahn, who has been selling Street Roots for more than three years, serves on its board of directors.

Hahn was an independent businesswoman, but when the business faltered, she took the advice of a friend and started selling Street Roots.

"I love that my customers acknowledge who I am," Hahn said, when interviewed in advance of the award. "I love talking with my customers. Some of them are so funny. Human connection is always so important, and especially when you get to be my age."

Vendor Program Director Cole Merkel said that within months of joining Street Roots, Hahn had become a top seller.

"And I think that speaks volumes to the relationships she builds with her customers," Merkel said. "Sandra treats her Street

Roots business as her own small business. She is in many ways a matriarch of the vendor community. She takes many vendors under her wing."

"I buy Street Roots from almost all of the vendors in Portland, but Sandra is one of my favorites," said Marian McNamara, Hahn's customer. "She is so kind and so human, and I feel like we have a relationship."

"I encourage people to not just buy Street Roots but to talk to the vendors," said Bruce Morrison, one of Hahn's customers. "As in my case, you'll learn a lot from them."

Hahn sells Street Roots at the Multnomah Building, Regal Fox Tower, PSU Farmers Market and the OHSU Farmers Market.

Garcia, who received Street Roots' inaugural Keystone Award, has been with Street Roots for 16 years, working as a vendor and as a volunteer. He set the stage for a vendor program that now serves more than 500

people each year.

A former Marine, Garcia wrote a regular column for the paper, first titled "Memoirs of a Vietnam Vet" and later "A Dubious Life." He has supported the organization through both good and difficult times, and he continues to provide for the vendors and staff to this day.

The award was presented during the Street Roots Family Breakfast by Executive Editor Joanne Zuhl.

"Art offered guidance and reassurance to anyone smart enough to listen," Zuhl said of his time with the vendors. "He expected people to at least try to help themselves. In the course of a day he could be a mentor, a businessman, a respected disciplinarian, and a shoulder to cry on."

Sandra Hahn

Art Garcia

A Stitch in Time Saves Nine

by Ai, aka Aileen McPherson

Editor's note: Author Aileen McPherson, a Street Roots vendor, read this poem aloud to open the Street Roots Family Breakfast.

Well, it's time my wonderful scraps, my friends
Our family basket is filled to the brim, a myriad of
Patterns, textures, and colors, oh the colorful blends
Combinations plentiful, elegant chintzes, lovely
Cottons, warm fleeces, blissful batiks, soft satins
Silks, tartans, tweeds, corduroys, crisp linens
Most bought, many recycled, while others found.

Cut, snip, cut them out, cutting squares, trimming
Edges, placing pieces into piles around me, gather
The leftovers clean up the scrapings, ready the threads,
Make ready the basket for the fun ahead.
A break for tired hands and sore fingers, cuppa tea
Some biscuits and bread, a moment's rest, collect, and
Refresh one's thoughts, and move on.

As two pieces I do pluck, batting warm between
Is tucked, now spin the wheel, stitch the edges sound,
Listening to my Singer with rhythmic appeal relaxing

Tiny pillows palm-sized warmth, no two sides the same,
Emerge repeating dropped to the basket below heaping
Scattered about my toes. Now come together side by side
We'll square you up and there, there is no front nor back,
They are one and the same, a simple, diverse, lovingly crafted
Quilt, made for sharing a comfort created with no pattern,
Filled only with meaning through loving care I unfurl.

My Street Roots family has a magnificent diverse range
Unique individuals from across our country, each cut from
Different cloth, a multitude of unique journeys, beautiful
No matter how threadbare, stitched together by stories.
A stitch in time saves nine simply means to mend with care
Now to avoid larger repairs in the future. As homeless
We are the fire fueling the steam, the hearts that started
The dream, first a page, then a paper, and now a zine,
Much has happened since our humble beginnings,
No longer do we merely survive, working in our communities,
Strengthening stabilizing our lives one day, one paper at a time.