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WEEKEND BREAK

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Amy Headrick owns Oregon Gypsy Gallery with her husband, Johnathan Yant.

Photos by Alyssa Evans/The Astorian

Metal and nature intertwine in Northwest-inspired art

Headrick runs Astoria gallery

By ALYSSA EVANS
The Astorian

Amy Headrick always knew she wanted to be an artist. “Ever since I was little, I was like ‘I am going to be an artist someday,’” Headrick said.

At 16, when she ended up in a metal shop class at Mark Morris High School in Longview, Washington, everything came together. Headrick quickly learned skills like welding and using plasma cutters — skills she combined with her already creative instincts.

“My teacher would let me work in the shop for hours,” Headrick said. “I used to sell to all my teachers and teachers’ friends.”

Headrick, now 28, is the owner of Oregon Gypsy Gallery in downtown Astoria. She and her husband, Johnathan Yant, opened the gallery in March.

“We signed the paperwork in October and had our grand opening three days before COVID shut everything down,” Headrick said.

Headrick and Yant sell a variety of pieces inside the gallery. Each item is handcrafted by either Headrick or Yant.

“We just create full-time,” Headrick said. “We’re both heavily involved in design.”

Yant primarily works as a blacksmith. Headrick focuses on creating metal art and ceramic pieces. Many of her pieces are inspired by the Pacific Northwest.

“Nature in general, is beautiful and ever-changing. When you go for a hike after being stressed out, it re-energizes your soul,” Headrick said.

Headrick and Yant use materials sourced in the U.S. to create their art.

“It’s hard to find a place where everything is locally-made and sourced,” Headrick said. “When people buy from us, they’re buying from a variety of local sources.”

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CLOCKWISE FROM LEFT: Amy Headrick creates ceramic mugs and metal art, which she sells inside her gallery. Customers peruse Oregon Gypsy Gallery. A coffee-inspired art piece.