



Luisa Mack stands inside her studio-gallery.

# A wave of creativity

## Ilwaco artist crafts hand-forged jewelry pieces

BY ZOË BUCHLI

Luisa Mack spends each day alongside boats and small stores in the Port of Ilwaco.

Mack runs her own studio-gallery, Luisa Mack Jewelry & Art, in the port. She is constantly molding plain sheets of metal

into elegant, one-of-a-kind jewelry pieces.

Mack mainly works with sterling silver jewelry — creating necklaces, rings and earrings by hand.

“I get sheets of silver and wire, and form it and saw it and file it to whatever I like for my design,” Mack said.

Before moving to the Pacific Northwest in 2015, Mack grew up in a small town in southern Germany, where she decided to

pursue jewelry design.

“After high school, I was wanting to do something creative, but also hands-on,” she said.

Mack trained at the University Pforzheim, Germany — located in Pforzheim, Germany, a town that is home to over 200 years of jewelry making history and scores of jewelry supply stores.

“It was really a great experience to learn

there. There are all of the different companies that were related to jewelry making which was really special and convenient to have,” Mack said.

After completing nine semesters at the university, including a year-long internship to learn goldsmith techniques, Mack graduated with a bachelor’s degree in jewelry

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