

The more, the merrier

Artist views cultural growth through collaborative lens

BY KATHERINE LACAZE

A vast collection of hand-cut paper vegetables recently found a home in Imogen Gallery in Astoria.

The vegetables, crafted by local artist Kathy Karbo, allude to the days of Victorian gardens and the idea of communities coming together to support each other during challenging times.

Individually, each vegetable is beautiful — but the art's collective power is in its multiplicity of single pieces. The collectivity gives weight and impact to the artwork as a whole.

The collection is indicative of the way Karbo, who splits her time between Portland and Gearhart, approaches her craft. Whether she's weaving baskets, making paper cutouts or laying mosaics, she likes to create multiples, using the quantity to directly influence the eye-catching quality of the exhibit.

"Everything I do is very simple," she said. "You just layer it. You get a lot of them. They become important and significant."

This tendency gives insight into how

See Page 5



TOP: Artist Kathy Karbo loves dabbling in a variety of arts and crafts, including puppetry. **LEFT:** A December show at Imogen Gallery in Astoria included a collection of paper-cut vegetables made by Karbo. **RIGHT:** A close-up of pomegranate-themed paper art Karbo created in 2020.