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WEEKEND BREAK

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FORAGED FLOTSAM

Artist weaves
baskets from
leftover rope



TOP: Susan Spence harvests some leftover rope from the beach.
INSET: This basket features tightly woven rope with a more free flowing top using different materials.

Spence saves beach trash from clogging the landfill

By **PATRICK WEBB**
For The Astorian

Susan Spence has a crafty idea about how to reuse fishermen's leftover rope.

The result is handmade baskets that are all different in color, style, shape and size — in part because no two pieces of recycled rope are the same.

"It's a neat product and varies in color because of sun and water," she said. "It has character."

Spence moved to the Long Beach Peninsula in 2005. She and her husband, Chris, operate Spence Photo and Design, a graphic design and photography business.

The peninsula was familiar thanks to frequent visits with

Susan's sister, Ann Kischner, who ran the Shoalwater Restaurant at the Shelburne Inn in Seaview for 27 years with her husband, Tony.

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'FOR ANYONE WHO IS CREATING THINGS, THERE'S THAT GRATIFICATION.'

Susan Spence | Long Beach Peninsula basket weaving artist



Patrick Webb/For The Astorian

Spence creates basket art from rope in the Marie Powell Gallery in Ilwaco.