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# WEEKEND BREAK

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'Aruba Heron,' by Penny Treat, will be on display at RiverSea Gallery in Astoria.

## The 'long haulers' of art

Senior artists open new exhibit at RiverSea Gallery

By NIKKI DAVIDSON  
*The Astorian*



Artist Marie Powell works in her gallery.

As artist Penny Treat put the finishing touches on a brightly colored folded heron, her hands trembled. The clear fishing line she used to secure beads above the printed art piece had become more slippery and stubborn than she remembered.

At 76, the fine motor skills needed to create her dazzling displays are harder to master.

"This tremor in my hands, it has to do with nerves," Treat said. "I worked at such a high level with a lot of responsibility for so many years, your nerves start to fray. It makes tying on beads difficult."

Her hands might not do exactly what she wants anymore, but Treat's passion for art is bigger than ever. The former interior designer is ecstatic for her work to return to a gallery in Astoria, plucking her inspiration from a shorebird she watched from her window during the COVID-19 lockdown.

"He was there every day, he gave me joy," Treat said. "He keeps coming back the next day, the next day. We have to come back to help people too, to give them hope, to lift their lives up."



'Great Blue,' by Marie Powell, will be on display at RiverSea Gallery.

See Exhibit, Page B5



Artist Penny Treat creates printed and mixed-media pieces.



'Pelican Flock,' by Penny Treat, will be on display at RiverSea Gallery.