

# Winsted woman weaves an acclaimed career

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*Staff Reporter*

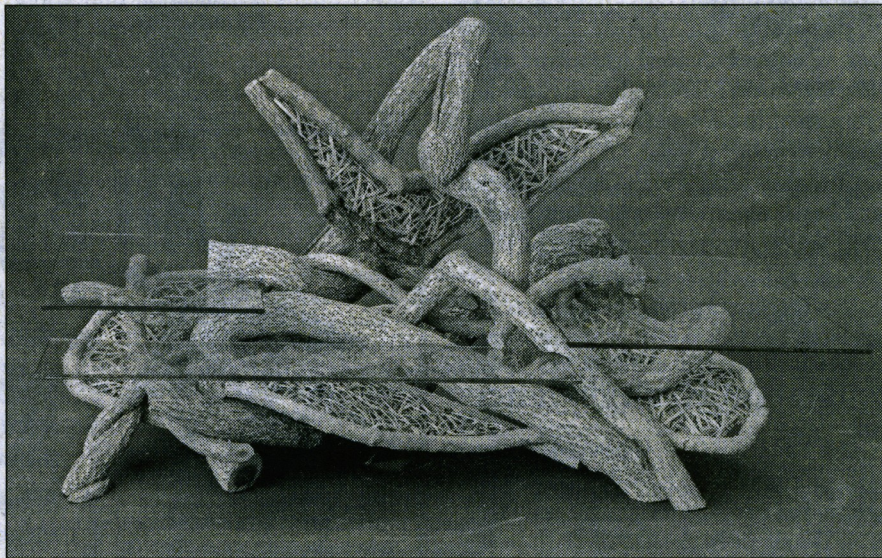
WINSTED — Tucked away in her home-based studio on Perkins Street, Tina Puckett runs a small business that has earned her an international reputation as a master weaver.

Puckett first came to Winsted at age 14, when her parents bought a home on Highland Lake. The family moved around a great deal, living in New York City and Canada before coming back to Connecticut, where they lived in Westport and Bantam.

When Pucket was in her early 20s, her mother signed her up for a weekend basket-weaving class at the Forman School in Litchfield. Puckett walked away from the two-day class with a handmade basket and a skill she used to make Christmas presents that year.

“A couple of people loved them and asked me to make more and said they would pay me for them,” said

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PHOTOS COURTESY OF TINA PUCKETT

Art enthusiasts will recognize Tina Puckett's creations as something far beyond simple weaving. An intricate coffee table and giant flowers convey a knack for carpentry and construction.

