

Belle Deacon receives honor

Belle Deacon, in the accompanying article, is one of 13 artists nationwide honored by the National Endowment for the Arts. She is the recipient of a 1992 National Heritage Fellowship award.

Deacon was born in

1906 in Anvik. She learned to fashion birch bark and willow root baskets from her grandmother. "My grandmother was making baskets and I looked at her. They never really showed us because we just look at

them and we follow because it's Indian style that you're not supposed to show your hand work. You have to do it on your own. When I was young, all the old people made baskets."