



e-mail to: rivref@aol.com

# McKenzie River Reflections

# 50¢

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Thursday 6/19



McKenzie Valley

Partly Cloudy - 30% Sct. Showers - 30%

High - 72 • Low - 49

Santiam Pass

Sct. Showers - 30%

High - 61 • Low - 37

Friday 6/20



McKenzie Valley

Partly Cloudy - 30% Sct. Showers - 30%

High - 70 • Low - 49

Santiam Pass

Sct. Showers - 30%

High - 60 • Low - 36

Saturday 6/21



McKenzie Valley

Sct. Showers - 30%

High - 71 • Low - 50

Santiam Pass

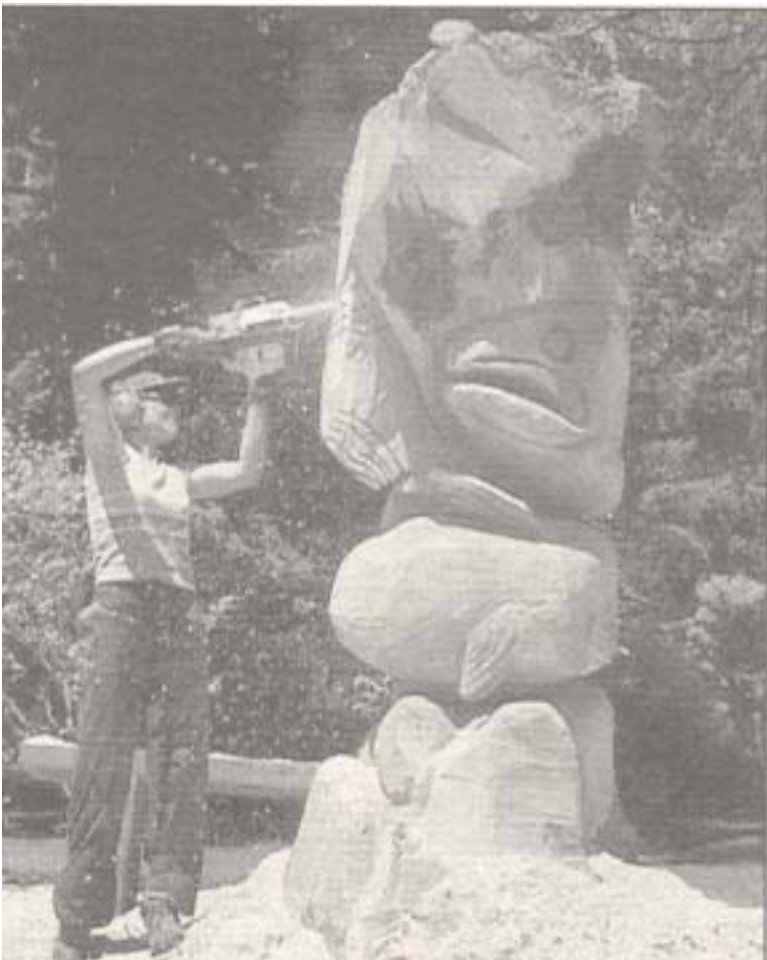
Showers - 30%

High - 61 • Low - 37

Serving the McKenzie River Valley ... Home of The Berry Patch of Leaburg ... Reflections Subscriber Since 2002

## Bringing Stumps Back To Life

LEABURG: It's hard to believe, but Lisa Foster didn't know much about woodworking nine months ago. "I'd done some painting but nothing major and took a few art classes here and there," she remembers. "I wanted to get into sculpting and someone handed me a chainsaw. Since then it's been practice, practice, practice."



**Fish wrapping around rock emerge from a stump as Lisa Foster makes another cut.**

The results are on display in downtown Leaburg - on the lawn of her home with the "She-saws-if" sign out front - and also just up the street where the stumps of three trimmed trees are taking on new forms as well.

"Sometimes I look and see that I can make an elk, a mountain lion or a bear," Lisa says. "Sometimes it's something I'd like to carve and then try to find a piece of wood to carve what I've imagined."

So far she's made close to 100 different pieces. Lately, they've been getting larger - like an eight foot mountain lion chasing its tail around a two and a half foot stump.

"It's a whole different art form," she says. Each carver has their own style. At carving competitions' she said she was "shocked" to see the variety of styles. "Each person's is different from anybody else. If we all did bears they'd each be different and unique."

Reactions to her work have been very positive, once people get over the hurdle of "believing a woman can hold a chainsaw." In a recent competition only five out of the 35 chainsaw carvers were women "but more are coming into it," she notes.

Since moving from Montana and setting up her own business Lisa has been able to survive and says "it's only getting better." Though she's still looking for side jobs, her hopes are to become a full time carver.

"If you've got blow down trees or stumps to clean up, give me a call. It'll beautify the neighborhood and artwork is so soothing," she says. **REPRINT**