

Smoothing the Bumps along the McKenzie River Valley

Ideas for a sustainable economy

by Jim Stiak

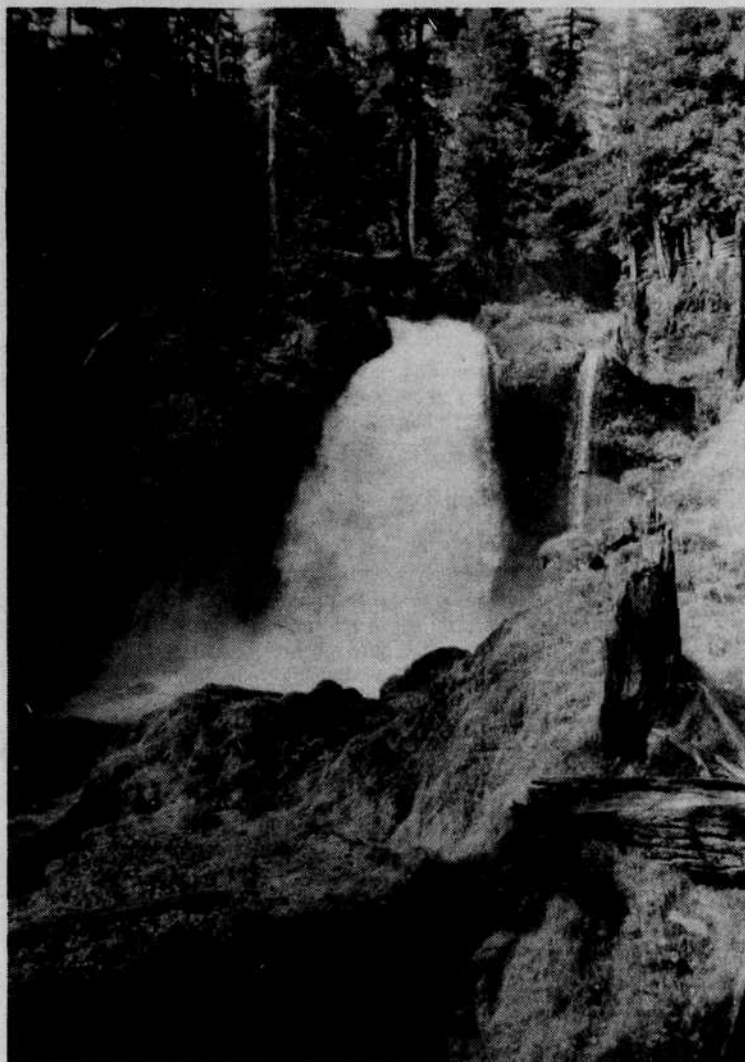
FROM ITS HEADWATERS in the high Cascades, the McKenzie River tumbles down 70 miles to join the Willamette on its flow to the sea. Deer, elk, bear, otter, weasel and marten roam the hills above it; trout, salmon and steelhead swim its waters. It is, according to a 1978 EPA assessment, the cleanest major river in Oregon, and one of the purest in the U.S. The land around its whitewater is fat with life, rich in timber and minerals.

Why, then, is the area's economy so troubled?

In 1985, a group of valley residents set out to answer that question, and determine what could be done about it. With funding from a grant secured by Peter Thurston, the group put together a report: "Abundant Resources, Abundant Opportunities," which outlined the history of the McKenzie River Valley and their visions for its future. Divided into four sections—Tourism, Forestry, Geothermal and Agriculture—it's a story of boom and bust—and unrealized potential.

"The key to the report," says Craig Patterson, author of the Forestry section, "is sustainable economic development."

When gold was discovered near Blue River in the 1860's the town grew quicker than the blackberry bushes surrounding it. But after that rush died, the population dwindled and the economy dawdled. In the early 1900's, tourists discovered the valley's hot springs and cool beauty, and loggers discovered its fortune in firs. Tourism, however, slacked in the 1930's, and logging followed over the next few decades. Where once there



Sahalie Falls on the McKenzie

PHOTO BY JIM STIAK

Continued on page 17



ROLFING®

Rolting is an original and scientifically validated system of body restructuring and movement education. It releases the body segments from life-long patterns of tension and bracing and permits gravity to realign them, resulting in a balanced body.

People of all ages come to Roling for help with neck pain, back problems, impaired mobility, and other difficulties which originate with internal strains. Others seek to improve their appearance, to improve athletic performance, and to enhance personal growth toward a fuller realization of their potential.

Rolting results in a feeling of fitness and wholeness. People who have been Rolfed stand and move with more surety and grace than before. ROLFING VIDEO and discussion at the Eugene Public Library Monday, September 28, 7-8:45 pm

For more information and/or an appointment, please call:
Karen Lackritz, Certified Rolfer
(503) 345-2926

STU'S Eugene Bicycles

MOUNTAIN BIKE SPECIAL

Introducing: Index Shifting

The derailleur control clicks into each gear for precise and effortless gear shifting.



Montagna X.I.S.

Sale \$339.95 (reg. \$370.00)

18-speed Mountain Bike with oversize double-butted Crome Moly frame. Suntour XC-Sport 7000 index shifting system. Oval chainrings for easier, more efficient pedal stroke. Five frame sizes, including women's.

- Montagna S.E. Mountain Bike with index shifting and oval chainrings \$299.95
- Other Montagna & Fuji Mountain Bikes \$249.95 to \$595.00
- Fuji Racing Bikes \$350 to \$750



Fuji 10-speeds, men's & women's from \$179.95

8th & Monroe at Blair • 344-2175

Park Street CAFÉ

Serving Continental breakfast, seasonal salads, soups, quiche, sandwiches with chemical-free meats, espresso and more.

We'll be open all weekend—evenings, too—for Eugene Celebration—serving a special menu.

- Daily Lunch Specials
- Outdoor Seating

Open Mon-Fri 8:30-4
485-2089

776 West Park St.
(One block East of Willamette
between 7th & 8th Avenues)



Fashion with an Ethnic Flair!

New natural fibre clothing in rich colors, fabrics and styles... to coordinate with Folkways' exclusive collection of scarves, belts and jewelry.

762 E. 13th Ave.
next to the Excelsior
343-8667

Fifth St. Public Market
downstairs.
683-2204



FOLKWAYS IMPORTS
CLOTHING • JEWELRY & FOLK ART FROM AROUND THE WORLD

and FURNISHINGS
POSTERS
& JEWELRY

NOW

Huge clothing sale!
SHIRTS • SHORTS • PANTS • SWEATERS
100% cottons & rayons
LAUREL BURCH EARRINGS
Reduced 10% to 30%

OPEN:
M-S 10-6
Sun 12-5
Friday nite
till 9

Formerly
PAPER TRADERS
ANNEX

**City
LIVING**

164 W. Broadway (Downtown Mall) 343-3622