

# Goddess Glass Designs *continued from front page*

shades of glass she gets to work with. She purchases her glass rods from several different suppliers, all of which are located in the Portland metro area. She is often inspired to create pieces from things she sees in nature; some of her favorites are little pigs, frogs, spiders and dragonflies which she sometimes adds to her pieces.

She is also often drawn to create by the area she is in or people she meets. One of her specialty pieces is a small ornament of a chainsaw. "Who wouldn't want to see a Christmas tree decorated with little chainsaws?" she says with a laugh. The chainsaws were originally made in memory of her Vernonia friend Terry Schaumburg. "Every time I make one of those, or see one sitting on my shelf, I think about him."



Krengielski's work is technically called lampworking and she uses borosilicate glass in most of her work. She uses a torch to heat and melt the glass so she can shape it and swirl it, using gravity or sometimes molds or a mandrel, and then adds colors or additional pieces by heating and welding glass together. Glass blowing is an

additional technique she uses to shape and form some of her pieces. Another technique is implosion, where she can insert a glass item into a piece by heating and collapsing the glass around the item. She has many specialized tools that she keeps organized and within reach while handling the molten glass for shaping and forming or cutting grooves or indentations. She has two kilns where she can keep pieces she is working on hot until she is ready to finish them. She wears heavy duty sun glasses, sunscreen and Kevlar sleeves when working on the torch to protect her eyes, face and skin. She says she has learned that lavender oil is the best way to treat burns. The whole process is fascinating.

The changes in marijuana legalization in Washington, and now Oregon this year, are opening up new markets for Krengielski's work. She is currently working on a custom order for a new retail establishment in Portland that will feature her work exclusively. She emphasized that she only sells her paraphernalia to adults. "Things have really come around full circle as we head into 2016 with retail sales and full legalization," says Krengielski. "About 20 years ago there was a whole movement into artistic glass with people like Jerome Baker that really changed

the industry. Now the flood gates have really opened. Everybody is teaching and sharing knowledge. People are no longer so secretive."

Originally from a small rural town in upstate Michigan, Krengielski traveled the country after graduating from college, providing for herself by make clothing and selling her wares at music concerts. She arrived in Oregon and says she immediately fell in love with the state. "It was just absolutely beautiful and I decided to stay," she says. She worked in a vegetarian restaurant in Portland before becoming a glass art apprentice where she learned her new craft. She



found Vernonia several years ago through a relationship and decided to move here with her teenage son where he could attend a small school.

"There's some things about Vernonia that reminds me of Michigan," she says. "Michigan is also woody and it was known for logging at one time. I grew up on a farm there. Living here in the country is just wonderful. It's a good place."

You can find Julie Krengielski's glass art work at [www.etsy.com/shop/Goddessglassdesigns](http://www.etsy.com/shop/Goddessglassdesigns) or contact her at [GoddessGlassDesigns@yahoo.com](mailto:GoddessGlassDesigns@yahoo.com).

## Lions Donate to Struggling Vernonia Cares Holiday Meals



George Tice and Randal Harvey of the Lions Club of Vernonia, presented Vernonia Cares Food Bank Director Sandy Welch with a check for \$1,000. The money will go towards helping the Food Bank purchase turkeys to be given away in December. Welch says that due to budget restrictions Vernonia Cares will only be able to supply a turkey for each Christmas meal. In the past the local food pantry has provided a full holiday meal for their clients.

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