

Crown Zellerbach Trail is a Gem *continued from page 10*

“We did all the design work in house and designed the abutments and did the surveying our selves,” says Crinklaw. “Then we used our Rain-

the Trail ends at the top of Knott Street and is extremely steep and rough. Crinklaw says the County has done some preliminary survey work and has applied for grant funding to complete some additional trail building work. Plans include construction of a series of switchbacks to ease the descent.

Crinklaw acknowledges that the connection from Knott Street to Vernonia Lake is not ideal. Currently users have to travel from the end of Knott Street onto a portion of Highway 47 and cross the Ne-

the Camp 8 area.

Between mile 5 and 6 users can access the trail at Scapponia County Park and head east towards the summit. This seven-acre primitive campground is marked with a large sign along the highway.

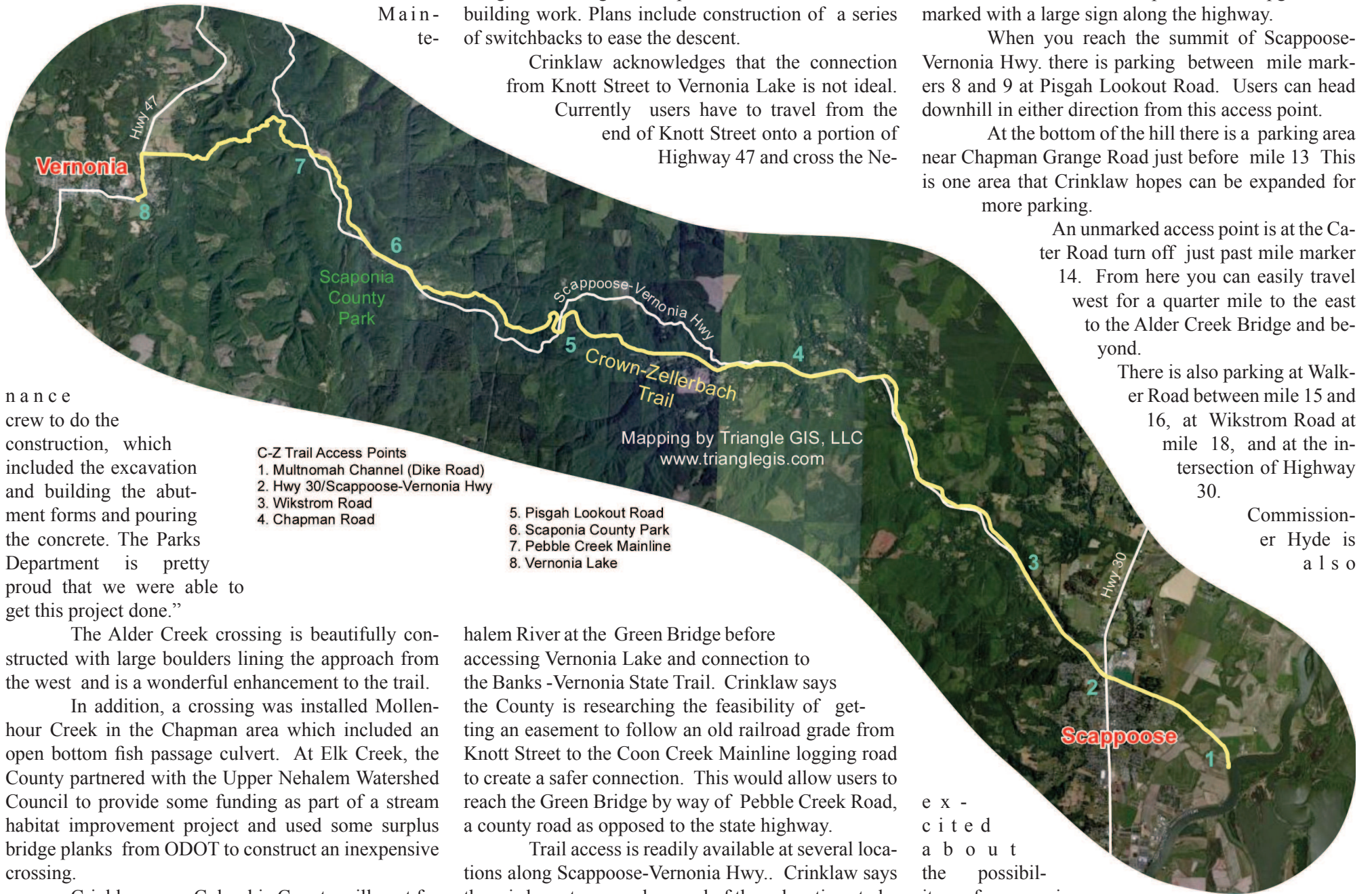
When you reach the summit of Scappoose-Vernonia Hwy. there is parking between mile markers 8 and 9 at Pisgah Lookout Road. Users can head downhill in either direction from this access point.

At the bottom of the hill there is a parking area near Chapman Grange Road just before mile 13 This is one area that Crinklaw hopes can be expanded for more parking.

An unmarked access point is at the Carter Road turn off just past mile marker 14. From here you can easily travel west for a quarter mile to the east to the Alder Creek Bridge and beyond.

There is also parking at Walker Road between mile 15 and 16, at Wikstrom Road at mile 18, and at the intersection of Highway 30.

Commissioner Hyde is also



- C-Z Trail Access Points
1. Multnomah Channel (Dike Road)
 2. Hwy 30/Scappoose-Vernonia Hwy
 3. Wikstrom Road
 4. Chapman Road

5. Pisgah Lookout Road
6. Scapponia County Park
7. Pebble Creek Mainline
8. Vernonia Lake

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nance crew to do the construction, which included the excavation and building the abutment forms and pouring the concrete. The Parks Department is pretty proud that we were able to get this project done.”

The Alder Creek crossing is beautifully constructed with large boulders lining the approach from the west and is a wonderful enhancement to the trail.

In addition, a crossing was installed Mollenhour Creek in the Chapman area which included an open bottom fish passage culvert. At Elk Creek, the County partnered with the Upper Nehalem Watershed Council to provide some funding as part of a stream habitat improvement project and used some surplus bridge planks from ODOT to construct an inexpensive crossing.

Crinklaw says Columbia County will next focus their trail development work on the Knott Street connection on the Vernonia end of the trail. Currently


halem River at the Green Bridge before accessing Vernonia Lake and connection to the Banks-Vernonia State Trail. Crinklaw says the County is researching the feasibility of getting an easement to follow an old railroad grade from Knott Street to the Coon Creek Mainline logging road to create a safer connection. This would allow users to reach the Green Bridge by way of Pebble Creek Road, a county road as opposed to the state highway.

Trail access is readily available at several locations along Scappoose-Vernonia Hwy.. Crinklaw says there is hope to expand several of those locations to be official parking areas including an area near Chapman Grange Road and another area on Walker Road.

Heading from Vernonia you can access the trail near mile marker 3 on Scappoose Vernonia Road at the Pebble Creek Mainline near Elk Creek, where a major culvert installation occurred last summer. From here users can head west and gain access to a great view of Vernonia from the ridge or head east towards

excited about the possibility of expansion of the trail network. He is already part of a working group that is planning a connection to the Banks-Vernonia Trail from Tillamook. Hyde also says that a trail has been mapped that would connect the CZ Trail with Forest Park in Portland.

The Crown Zellerbach Trail is really a gem and an asset to Columbia County. It provides recreational opportunities to all types of users and a chance to travel through historically rich and culturally significant region.



Where Do You Read the Voice?

Randy Carlton sent us this picture during a recent trip to California. Carlton was reading his copy of Vernonia's Voice at IN-N-OUT BURGER in Reading, CA. His fellow firefighters will notice the absence of Randy in the photo.

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