

Engineering firm provides help to link Huckleberry Trail

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Staff Writer

BLACKSBURG — Members of a local engineering firm have decided to volunteer their time and energy to help make progress on the Huckleberry Trail.

This weekend, 10 to 12 co-workers from Anderson & Associates will be building a bridge on a section of the Huckleberry Trail which will link up Blacksburg and Christiansburg.

The Huckleberry Trail is an abandoned railroad bed which ran between Blacksburg and Christiansburg. The proposed linear park which is now being built on the abandoned bed will eventually connect Virginia Tech and the Blacksburg area with Christiansburg and beyond.

The Huckleberry park will also hook up with the Virginia Tech/Blacksburg bikeway-walkway system.

Using hand tools, donated steel beams, wooden planks and bolts, members of the engineering firm will spend this Saturday afternoon clearing off brush, grading the area and building a bridge across the creek, located in a section off of Merrimac Road, towards the Showalter Center of Warm Hearth Retirement Village.

A number of local groups are also supporting the venture. The Virginia Department of Transporta-

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David Knachel Photo

Ken Anderson of Anderson and Associates helps Blacksburg Mayor Roger Hedgepeth cross the 'gap' while Christiansburg Mayor Harold Linkous watches. The engineering firm will build a bridge on a section of the Huckelberry Trail that will link Blacksburg and Christiansburg this weekend.