

TRUCKEE TODAY

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Bikeway project, leader gaining national recognition for effort

BY SUE VOYLES

In 2003, Janet Carson set out to fulfill a dream, walking and sketching the missing links for a pathway along the Truckee River in its 116-mile journey from Lake Tahoe to Pyramid Lake.

Three years later, Carson and other volunteers of the Tahoe-Pyramid Bikeway group are busy at work to bridge five or six of those gaps.

In October, they opened the last stretch of 23 miles of trail on the Pyramid Lake Indian Reservation with the help of tribal leaders.

But the project that opened people's eyes was a small stretch of trail opened in 2005 along Interstate 80 to get bike riders from Reno to Verdi.

For the previous 20 years, local officials had been meaning to get to it.

People all over the country are taking notice. Carson and the trail builders are scheduled



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Janet Carson was one of 17 trail builders recognized nationally.

to be featured in the spring issue of the national magazine for the Rails to Trails group.

Carson was one of 17 trail builders nationwide recognized in 2006 for their efforts by the American Trails organization. U.S. Sen. Harry Reid, D-Nev., has presented her with a certificate of commendation.

And the Reno Gazette-Journal has announced Carson is one of six outstanding citizens.

"I'm very flattered," said Carson, 54, who retired early from Sierra Pacific Power Co.

"This is my baby. I hope to finish it while I'm still able-bodied enough to ride it."