



Open Space and Regional Parks Commission Meeting July 2024

SOUTH REGION HIGHLIGHTS

- Junior Ranger Adventure Day was held at Davis Creek on March 16th. 23 children learned more about fire safety and living in bear country
- Come in from the Cold ended on March 16th with an average attendance of over 80 people enjoying the music and refreshments at Bartley Ranch Regional Park
- Multiple clean ups were completed including removing 60 yards of brush and debris from Ballardini trailhead and 90 yards of brush and debris from Bartley Ranches historic buildings and surrounding areas.
- Ranger staff was able to complete CPR, escalation and OC spray training to support the upcoming changes to citation authority
- The Great Community Cleanup was held in partnership with KTMB with sites at Dorostkar Park, Crystal Peak Park, Bartley Ranch Regional Park and Ambrose Park with the appreciation BBQ at Bartley Ranch Regional Park after the cleanup
- Bowers Mansion had the security system upgraded to maintain the safety and security of one of Northern Nevadas most important structures from the Comstock

SOUTH REGION UPCOMING EVENTS

- Programs on the Porch will be returning to Bowers Mansion Regional Park Fridays at 7pm on May 17th with Carson Street Ragtime Band and will run through June 21st
- Bowers Mansion Living History Day will be held on Saturday May 18th at Bowers Mansion from 11am-3pm and will feature self-guided tours and history talks on the hour
- Evenings on the Ranch will begin on July 10th at Bartley Ranch with a performance from The Birches at 7pm
- Galena Creek Regional Parks campfire programs will begin on June 28th with Songs of The Sierra



NORTH REGION HIGHLIGHTS

- Operations staff have completed additional training ahead of the implementation of citation authority policies, including a course on Report Writing and conducting ride-alongs with Washoe County Regional Animal Services Animal Control Officers.
- Junior Ranger Adventure Day was led by Park Rangers Celia Walker and Lauren Hay with guest speaker Margaret Lord, Wildlife Educator with NDOW at the Swan Lake Nature Study Area on June 29th, attended by 17 children and their families.
- Speaking of Swan Lake – A herd of 200 goats just completed their annual grazing of noxious and invasive weeds within the Nature Study Area over the course of 20 days from late June to mid-July.
- The Discovery Room Volunteers and Park Rangers at Rancho San Rafael have hosted a variety of free educational programs weekly since June 19th, with an average attendance of 75-100 children per day. Activities include arts and crafts, guest speakers and storytelling. Themes this year have included the Reno Rodeo, tractors, farm animals, and hot air balloons.
- Washoe County Juvenile Services' "Youth Employment Program" completed a week-long beautification project at the skate park within Cold Springs Community Park, transforming the area with a colorful mosaic and silhouettes of children skating. A recent social media post about the project received over 200+ positive comments and interactions.
- The annual Lazy 5 Summer Music Series has been in full swing since June 12th, with the average attendance each week at 800-1000 attendees. In addition to the free concerts, attendees have enjoyed a variety of food trucks as well as weekly raffles for fun prizes that raise revenue to fund the series and other interpretive programs throughout Washoe County Parks.

NORTH REGION UPCOMING EVENTS

- A Junior Ranger Adventure Day will take place at the Community Garden located with Rancho San Rafael Regional Park's Nevada Farms and Families Area on Sunday, August 11th from 9:00am-10:30am.
- Discovery Room "Themed Weeks" continue every Wednesday-Friday through August 9th at Rancho San Rafael Regional Park from 9am-12pm.
- The Lazy 5 Summer Music Series continues every Wednesday from 6:30pm-8:30pm through August 14th at Lazy 5 Regional Park.