



Open Space and Regional Parks Commission Meeting July 2026

SOUTH REGION HIGHLIGHTS

- The *Washoe County Rocks Program* was held at Galena Creek Park on May 30th with Park Ranger Bob Holland and a local geologist talking about hydrothermal impacts and other forces that helped shape our region
- *Programs on the Porch* has made its return to Bowers Mansion Regional Park on May 7th and will go through July 1st. The programs have averaged over 100 people per night enjoying an evening relaxing on the grass and dancing as the sun sets behind the Sierras.
- *Junior Ranger Adventure Day* was a success at Galena Creek Park on June 6th with 25 Junior Rangers learning about pond life and what makes a healthy aquatic ecosystem.
- *Evenings on the Ranch* is in full swing with over 100 participants enjoying music by the Jason King Band in the Plaza at Bartley Ranch
- *Artown* has brought multiple large shows to the Robert Z. Hawkins Amphitheater for the month of July including The Glenn Miller Orchestra and the Blind Boys of Alabama with the entertainment ranging from Blues to Country music.
- Washoe County Juvenile services have provided over 750 hours of labor in the south Region during the month of June to help reduce invasive weed populations, increase trail access and help keep our parks looking their best.
- Overland Band played at Galena Creek Park and Ranger Nick Steuer gave an update on the rehabilitation progress at Davis Creek Regional Park on July 3rd to over 200 people during the recent *Galena Campfire program*.
- Crystal Peak Ponds were stocked with over 16,000 Lahontan cutthroat trout. Most of those have been caught and it was a very successful fishing season in all of our Truckee River Parks.

SOUTH REGION UPCOMING EVENTS

- The *Galena Campfire programs* will continue with Carson Ragtime Band and others. Participants will get to enjoy great music and can see the new fire pit and wood carvings in the Eagle Meadows thanks to a local Eagle Scout project. This series will run through August 7th
- *Evenings on the Ranch* will continue through July 29th at Bartley Ranch Park
- *Junior Ranger Day* will be hosted at Davis Creek Park on August 15th. Participants will learn about the park and its progress to re-opening as well as the land formations that helped create the oasis that is Davis Creek.



NORTH REGION HIGHLIGHTS

- Peavine District Park Rangers and the Discovery Room Volunteers hosted *Discovery Room Crafts Days* during Spring Break, March 25th-27th and April 1st-3rd. This free program is supported solely by donations and the dedicated group of retired schoolteachers and hard-working Rangers who make it possible.
- Washoe County Juvenile Services "Youth Employment Program" assisted Rangers at Lazy 5 with the construction of a new shade structure that was donated by a community member to provide shade to visitors of the new off-leash area at Lazy 5.
- On Saturday, April 18th, Park Ranger Gabe Barbato led a 4-mile round trip *Ranger Walk* along the Sugarloaf Peak Trail in Spanish Springs.
- North Region staff led several volunteer projects as part of the annual KTMB Great Community Cleanup on Saturday, May 2nd. North sites included Rancho San Rafael, Swan Lake NSA, North Valleys Regional Park and Lockwood Trailhead.
- *All About Birds* was the theme of the *Junior Ranger Adventure Day* at Swan Lake Nature Study Area on Saturday, May 16th from 10-11:30am.

NORTH REGION UPCOMING EVENTS

- On Saturday, June 20th, Park Rangers will lead a 1-mile *Ranger Walk* along the Evans Creek Nature Trail at Rancho San Rafael. Attendees will learn about flora, fauna and Basque history. Attendance for *Ranger Walks* is typically capped at 25-30 people, and Free registration is now live on our website.
- Pah Rah District Rangers will host an upcoming *Junior Ranger Adventure Day* at the Pah Rah Trailhead on Sunday, July 19th from 10-11:30am. Free registration for this event will open 30 days in advance.
- The 21st summer of the *Lazy 5 Summer Music Series* will kick off on Wednesday, June 3rd, featuring *Greg Austin & Southern Justice* at 6:30pm. The FREE music series continues each Wednesday through August 12th. The full schedule for the series can be found on the Lazy 5 Regional Park web page as well as social media.
- The Park Rangers at Rancho San Rafael will team up with volunteers at the newly renamed "Rancho Play Room" (formerly the Discovery Room) each week during summer to present *Summer Themed Weeks*, featuring free fun with arts, guest



speakers and storytelling. 9am-12pm Thursdays and Fridays, June 18th-July 31st. Themes this summer include *Geology*, *Big Rigs* and *Pollinators*. Pre-registration for up to 50 children per hour will be required, as well as suggested donations to assist with craft supplies.

