



Park Districts Report – November and December 2015

Open Space and Regional Park Commission Meeting
January 5, 2016

SOUTH REGION HIGHLIGHTS

- Bartley Ranch Park is the stage for the 25th Annual Reno Celtic Celebration. It will take place on October 3 & 4 from 10am-5pm each day. In celebration of the 25th annual event, they have reserved the entire park to accommodate more activities for festival goers.
- Reno Wheelmen hosted a Cyclocross event at Hidden Valley Regional Park on Saturday, October 3rd. They anticipate 50 riders in 3 heats of 30 minutes, 45 minutes, and 60 minute rides.
- The Sierra Autumn Photo Exhibit will be displayed at Bartley Ranch Park's Western Heritage Interpretive Center. It will be open from October 1 – October 31 from 8am-5pm daily. Come by and vote for your favorite fall photo!
- Truckee Meadows Parks Foundation is doing a fundraiser at the Robert Z. Hawkins Amphitheater on Friday, October 30th. It will be the silent movie *Nosferatu*. There will be a live band playing music throughout the length of the movie. The show begins at 7pm.
- Alta Alpina Cycling out of Gardnerville hosted their 4rd Annual Cyclocross event at Davis Creek Park on November 14. They registered 75 riders in 3 heats, 30-minute, 45-minute, and 60-minute.
- Mountain Goat Racing is organized a family fun run at Ballardini Ranch Trailhead on Saturday, November 14th.
- Girls on the Run – Run with the Girls hosted their final run of the series – a 5K at Bartley Ranch Park on Sunday, November 15. They registered 900 racers. This is an afterschool program where girls and sponsors train together from the start of the school year in August to run a 5K. Many of the local elementary schools are involved and the event was well attended.
- Reno Wheelmen hosted the Western Region Championships at Hidden Valley Regional Park on December 5th. They had 75 racers, vendor booths, and an awards ceremony.
- Washoe County Community Services Department teamed up with Nevada Division of Forestry, Nevada National Guard, to cut down trees that are part of an overall thinning project at Galena Creek Regional Park and provide Christmas Trees for Special Families. On December 2 & 3, Washoe County Community Services staff and Nevada Division of Forestry crews harvested and transported trees to Rancho San Rafael Park that were distributed to foster families in need on Saturday, December 5.
- Bartley Ranch Park continues as a drop off location for Keep Truckee Meadows Beautiful Christmas Tree Recycling Program. Trees can be recycled from December 26-Jan 10 from 9-4:30 daily.

UPCOMING EVENTS

- “Come in from the Cold” Winter Family Series will begin on Saturday, January 9th at 7pm. Northern Nevada Bluegrass will kick off the series with an evening of bluegrass music. The programs will continue each Saturday evening through March 12th. The series is free, with a suggested donation of \$3/person to pay the presenter and help with the costs of future park programs.



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- Gardening in Nevada, a co-operative program with University of Nevada's Cooperative Extension will begin February 2 at Bartley Ranch Park's Western Heritage Interpretive Center. These programs will continue each Tuesday evening from 6:30-8:30pm through March 29th. They are free of charge and chock full of great gardening tips for gardening in the Nevada climate.

NORTH REGION HIGHLIGHTS

- The Great Reno Balloon Races were held at Rancho San Rafael on September 11, 12, and 13. Overall, the event went well. There was an issue with wasps but a pest control company was called out and spent the next two days on site just in case.
- The CrossReno cyclocross race was held at Rancho San Rafael on September 19th. Almost 350 riders participated and riders and spectators were entertained by several bands.
- Staff will be working with both special events to help bring the pasture back.
- AAA held a Day of Service at Rancho San Rafael on September 17th. Almost 200 AAA employees worked in the Nevada Farms and Families area of Rancho pulling weeds, painting murals, planting trees and flowers, and staining a barn. AAA also moved three tractors and a 1950's Dodge farm truck into the garage area.
- Dogs were allowed to have their day at Melio Gaspari Water Play Park at Lazy 5 on Sunday, September 20th. About 35 furry friends enjoyed the day at the park.
- Both Melio and North Valley Splash Park closed for the season, with the last day of operation being Labor Day. It was a successful season at both venues.
- The Pumpkin Walk will be held in the May Arboretum at Rancho San Rafael on October 9th from 5:30-8:30 PM.
- Several cross country races are scheduled throughout October at Rancho.
- The very popular "Ranching at Rancho" program continues to draw crowds on Saturdays in the NFF.
- Pony rides are on Saturdays and Sundays in the NFF from 10-1 and are a favorite with families.
- Meet the Turkeys is an annual event held in the NFF at Rancho. This year's event was spread over two Saturdays (November 7th and 21st) and drew around 1,000 visitors per day. The regular Rancho flock was on site as well as turkeys from Pete Lazatich's farm, ducks and rabbits from G's Farm, a hot beverage vendor, and other attractions.
- Park staff including Rangers, Maintenance, and office support staff, along with other members of CSD including Roads, cut trees from Galena Creek Park and hauled them to Rancho San Rafael Park for the annual "Christmas Trees for Special Families" event. Trees that would be removed for thinning purposes are given to foster families and military families to be used as Christmas trees. Nevada Division of Forestry also helped cut the trees and brought out one of their fire trucks for the kids to explore. Reno Rosie (a miniature donkey with a cart) was also at the event to give kids rides.

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