



July 2015 | [sunflowerhill.org](http://sunflowerhill.org)

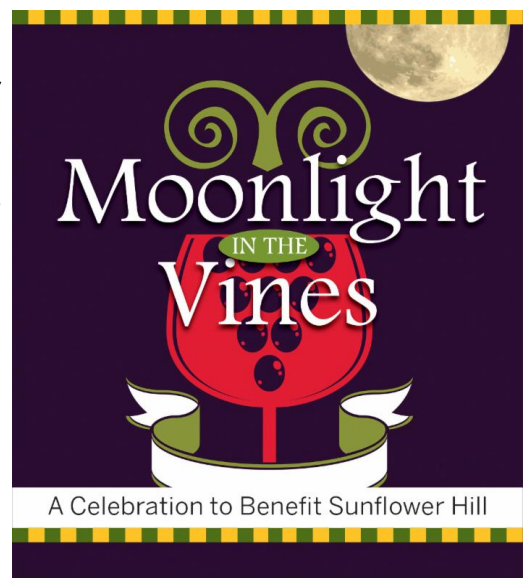
July 17, 2015

## Moonlight in the Vines!

Join us for a spectacular night under the stars at [McGrail Vineyards and Winery](#)! Moonlight in the Vines is our big event this year and will be held on September 26 from 6-10 p.m. You won't want to miss the live music, dancing, and bocce ball, in addition to delicious food, award winning wines and so much more! It promises to be an incredible evening.

Grab your family and friends and come join us! We have a variety of sponsorships available as well. You can find more information, as well as purchase tickets and various sponsorships [here](#).

See you on September 26 at McGrail Vineyards and Winery!



## Sunflower Hill Gardens at Hagemann Ranch Ribbon Cutting!

Sunflower Hill held a ribbon cutting and 'first harvest' ceremony at the Gardens at Hagemann Ranch in Livermore on Wednesday July 1. The one-acre garden is located on the historic Hagemann Ranch, which is owned by the city of Livermore and was once the home to Martin Mendenhall, brother of Livermore's founder William Mendenhall.

Sunflower Hill Gardens will provide vocational opportunities for individuals with special needs and grow food for local pantries such as Open Heart Kitchen. Crops planted onsite include tomatoes, lettuce, basil, corn, peppers, 3 sisters, blueberries, strawberries, raspberries, eggplant, artichokes, kale, beans, pumpkins, collard greens and squash. To date, more than 500 pounds of food have been harvested!

Livermore Mayor John Marchand and Alameda County Supervisor Scott Haggerty spoke at the ceremony. Representatives from Assemblymember Catharine Baker's office, Senator Steve Glazer's office and Congressman Eric Swalwell's office all presented proclamations. Pleasanton City Council members Kathy Narum and Jerry Pentin, along with Livermore City Council members Stewart Gary and Steve Spedowski planted sunflowers to mark the occasion. All the photos from

this great day can be seen [here](#). Thank you again to [Fireboxgirl Photography](#) and Jeanie Haigh from the [Livermore Valley Chamber](#) for the great photos!!



### Sunflower Hill 'Day at the Fair' was a Success!

Sunflower Hill was thrilled to accept a \$3,000 donation from Oak Tree Racing on June 26 at the Alameda County Fair! More than 50 enthusiastic supporters wore their sunny yellow Sunflower Hill t-shirts and proudly watched as several Sunflower Hill young adults rode into the Winner's Circle on a cart pulled by a team of Clydesdale horses. It was a wonderful day and Sunflower Hill is grateful to Oak Tree Racing and the Alameda County Fair Board of Directors for their support!



A Gardener at Birth...



The newest in our series of stories comes from Pam Eckert. She is a master gardener volunteering three days a week at Sunflower Hill garden at Hagemann Ranch in Livermore. She is also a parent of a special needs son, Scott. This is her [story](#).

## Let A Thousand Flowers Bloom: The Bay Area Adult Autism/DD Programs & Housing Summit

[Autism Society of the San Francisco Bay Area](#) is holding their 2nd annual conference, "Let a Thousand Flowers Bloom: The Bay Area Adult Autism/DD Programs and Housing Summit," Friday, October 23 at Santa Clara University. They have a full schedule of more than 50 speakers, and Sunflower Hill will be on one of the afternoon panels. This conference sells out quickly, so get your tickets soon and we hope to see you there! Registration can be found [here](#).

## Upcoming Family Workday at Sunflower Hill Gardens

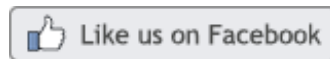
We are going to have our third Sunflower Hill Gardens at Hagemann Ranch Family Workday on Saturday, July 25 from 9 a.m.-12 p.m! We will be doing a variety of activities including harvesting, planting, weeding, and more. ALL are welcome to come and help in the garden.

Please RSVP to [gardens@sunflowerhill.org](mailto:gardens@sunflowerhill.org), and indicate how many will be coming and if you will be bringing a special needs individual.

Note - If this is your first visit to the garden, please download these [forms](#), sign them and bring to the gardens. If you came to one of our last two family workdays and already signed these, no need to do it again. Hope to see you on July 25th!



We still would love to have more VOLUNTEERS at our garden!! Currently, our weekly volunteer days are Tuesdays, Fridays and Saturdays from 8:30-11:30 a.m. and those days are updated periodically on our [website](#).



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