



July 2025 Newsletter



Dear Sunflower Hill Friends,

Summer is in full swing at Sunflower Hill!

We had a blast on our recent field trip to the Alameda County Fairgrounds! From enjoying delicious fair food to



exploring fun and fascinating exhibits, it was a day to remember. One of the highlights was seeing the beautiful artwork created by some of our talented residents and program participants proudly on display.

We're also excited for more summer fun ahead—starting with the Dublin Leprechauns baseball game on **July 8!** We have a limited number of **FREE tickets available for individuals with intellectual or developmental disabilities**, so be sure to reserve yours soon.

And don't miss our **sports-themed Friday Night Live** on **July 18**—an evening full of laughter, games, and team spirit!

With gratitude,
The Sunflower Hill Team



Mardi Gras Gala: Sold Out!

Our Mardi Gras Gala is officially SOLD OUT! We're so grateful for the incredible support from our community.

If you'd still like to attend, we encourage you to join our [waiting list](#). As we confirm current reservations, we do expect some tickets to become available—and **we'll be reaching out to those on the waiting list first** as spots open up. Please contact us at info@sunflowerhill.org if you have any questions.

Thank you for helping us make this a night to remember!

Join the Waitlist

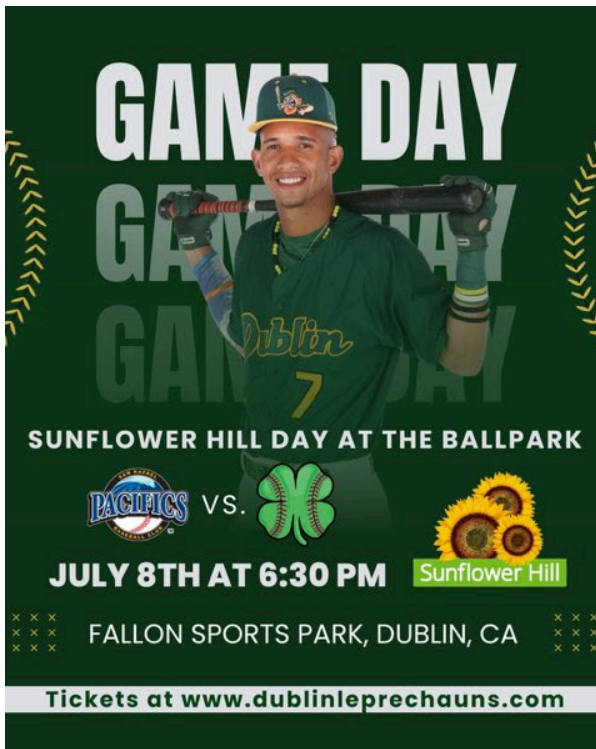


Livermore Valley Wine Auction

We're thrilled to share that **Sunflower Hill** has been chosen as one of the beneficiaries of the [31st Annual Livermore Valley Wine Auction](#), taking place on **Saturday, September 20, 2025**, from 2–5 PM at Wente Vineyards. This exciting outdoor garden party celebration will feature local wines, gourmet hors d'oeuvres, and both live and silent auctions—all in support of underserved members of our community.

Thank you to the Livermore Valley Winegrowers Foundation for all they do to uplift nonprofits in our region! Sip wine, support local organizations, and soak up a beautiful day in Livermore — get your event tickets now!

[Purchase LVWA Tickets](#)



Dublin Leprechauns Baseball Game

Join us for Sunflower Hill Day at the Dublin Leprechauns game on **Tuesday, July 8!** Sunflower Hill is proud to sponsor this event and has a limited number of [FREE tickets for individuals with intellectual or developmental disabilities \(I/DD\)](#). Must be reserved in advance, while supplies last.

Ticket pick-up at Irby Ranch:

- Monday, July 7: 9 AM–12 PM and 5–6:30 PM
- Tuesday, July 8: 9 AM–1 PM

Important Information:

- This is not a staffed Sunflower Hill event — if a participant needs support to attend

independently, a caregiver or staff member must be present

- Caregivers and support staff must purchase their own tickets on the [Dublin Leprechauns website](#)

We can't wait to see you at the game!

Free Tickets for I/DD Individuals



Irby Ranch Mural

Local artist Stina Johansson donated her skills to create a stunning mural at Irby Ranch, and everyone is loving the color and vibrancy it brings to our community!

We're so grateful for her incredible talent and generosity. Thank you, Stina!



Eagle Scout Project: Transforming Table-Benches

We are incredibly honored that Rudra Sharma, a Life Scout with Troop 998 in Pleasanton, chose Sunflower Hill for his Eagle Scout project!

Rudra built two transforming picnic table-benches, creating comfortable and versatile outdoor seating for our garden participants and visitors. He also raised the necessary funds to bring his vision to life.

These benches will be put to great use during our summer camp coming up in July!

Thank you, Rudra, for your generosity, talent, and dedication to making a lasting impact in our community!



Girl Scouts Project: Bat Box

We're so fortunate to be surrounded by a community that continues to give! Girl Scouts from Troop 33287 recently created and donated a bat box for our garden — providing a safe, cozy place for bats to roost during the day and protecting them from predators.

Bats can eat thousands of insects each night (including mosquitoes!), making them fantastic natural pest control for our garden.

Thank you, Troop 33287, for supporting our space and local wildlife!



Garden News

The garden is bursting with summer energy! Tomatoes and grapes are beginning to form, while cucumbers and squash are being harvested weekly. Peaches and other stone fruits are ripening, and cheerful sunflowers are in bloom. Our flower bouquet production is also underway for the season—bringing fresh blooms to Hope Hospice, Heritage Estates, and other community partners to help brighten their day.



Welcome, Mila!

Please join us in welcoming Mila Iacaban, our new Administrative Assistant!

Mila will play a vital role in supporting Sunflower Hill's mission by providing day-to-day administrative, operational, and event support. We're excited to have her on the team!

JULY 2025 Activity Calendar						
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
1 Happy Summer	2 Learning with Olivia Daily Hygiene Activities and Staying Healthy 4-5 PM	3 Fitness Class w/ Bri 4-5 PM Jam Session with Olivia and Jennifer T 5:30-6 PM	4 4th of July Crafts with Tina 4-5 PM Adaptive Yoga w/ Kristen 5:15-6:05 PM	5 Sunflower Hill Offices Closed	6 Sunflower Hill Offices Closed	7 Sunflower Hill Offices Closed
8 Songs from 13 Jr. Performed by Pleasanton Youth Theater Company 4-5 PM	9 Dublin Leprechauns Baseball Game Tickets Required 6-9 PM	10 Fitness Class w/ Bri 4-5 PM Bring-Your-Own-Dinner + Bingo Night 5-6 PM	11 Pet Therapy and Coloring Hour with Crystal 4-5 PM Adaptive Yoga w/ Kristen 5:15-6:05 PM	12 Fitness Class w/ Keith 4-5 PM	13 Fitness Class w/ Keith 4-5 PM	14 Fitness Class w/ Keith 4-5 PM
15 Learning with Olivia Week 2: Daily Hygiene Activities and Staying Healthy 4-5 PM	16 Cooking Class: Patriotic Parfaits 4-5 PM	17 Fitness Class w/ Bri 4-5 PM	18 Adaptive Yoga w/ Kristen 5:15-6:05 PM	19 Farmers Market: Fresh Produce, Baked Goods, and More! 3:30-6 PM	20 Farmers Market: Fresh Produce, Baked Goods, and More! 3:30-6 PM	21 Farmers Market: Fresh Produce, Baked Goods, and More! 3:30-6 PM
22 Bring-Your-Own-Dinner + Movie Night with VHS 4:30-6 PM	23 Fitness Class w/ Keith 4-5 PM	24 Adaptive Yoga w/ Kristen 5:15-6:05 PM	25 Fitness Class w/ Keith 4-5 PM	26 Fitness Class w/ Keith 4-5 PM	27 Fitness Class w/ Keith 4-5 PM	28 Fitness Class w/ Keith 4-5 PM
29 Virtual Popcorn Chat: Book Club: This Month's Book: Chronicle of a Woman: The Lion the Witch and the Wardrobe 4-5 PM Zoom Link	30 Irby Ranch Farmers Market 3:30-4:30 PM Fitness Class w/ Bri 4-5 PM	31 Creative Movement with Tina Taught by Kelly and Julie 4-5 PM Adaptive Yoga w/ Kristen 5:15-6:05 PM	Sunflower Hill Led Activities HCER Led Activities Parent/Resident Led Activities SAHA Led Activities			

Irby Ranch Activities

Friday Night Live

Join us on Friday, July 18, 5:30-8:00 PM, for a night full of laughs, games, and team spirit! The theme is "Game On!" — come dressed in your favorite sports team gear and get ready for a night of active fun and hilarious entertainment. Cost: \$25 — [reserve your spot now!](#)

Farmers' Market

July 18 & July 30, 3:30-4:30 PM
Here's your chance to grab fresh, seasonal produce straight from the Sunflower Hill Garden! Shop a delicious selection of fruits, veggies, and herbs harvested by our program participants. Everything is grown with care, right here in our garden. Bring your own bag if you have one! Cost: Free — [sign up today!](#)

Register for Irby Ranch Activities



Sunflower Hill Shirts & Hats

The Sunflower Hill Shop is open! You can purchase exclusive Sunflower Hill shirts and hats—perfect for showing your support in style. Every purchase helps fund our programs for individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities.

Shop now and wear your sunflower pride!

Shop at the Sunflower Hill Shop

COMMUNITY MEMBER

Spotlight



**ANDREW
BRUMM**

Irby Ranch
Resident

Written by Janeen Rubino-Brumm

Dan and I feel incredibly blessed to be the parents of two kind, thoughtful, and genuinely fun sons. We love them with every piece of our hearts. Parenting our oldest, Andrew, hasn't always been easy—but it has been profoundly meaningful. As I've always said, Andrew has changed our lives and the lives of our friends and family, in the most beautiful ways. We are all better, more compassionate people because of the lessons he's taught us—lessons in patience, joy, resilience, and unconditional love.

We've celebrated everything, no matter how small it might seem to others: turning a D into a C, saying "hi" to a new friend, understanding a sarcastic joke, reading body language, learning how to compromise. The things most people take for granted, Andrew works hard to master—and when he does, we celebrate. We don't overlook the little things, because with Andrew, they are *big* things. And those victories have brought so much joy. I often

think—how lucky am I to receive these daily reminders of progress, persistence, and the purest kind of love?

Like so many parents of children with special needs, we used to lie awake wondering: *What will happen to Andrew when we're gone?* Then, a friend shared a vision to build a residential community for adults with I/DD. I felt the tug on my heart immediately and got involved.

Twelve years later, that dream has become a reality. For the past three years, Andrew has been living independently—with support—at Sunflower Hill. To say it's been life-changing feels like an understatement. Andrew thrives there. He loves having “his own pad,” just like his brother and peers. For Dan and me, it brings peace and joy knowing he's safe, happy, and living a life with dignity and independence. And for his younger brother Robbie, it's a gift—he doesn't carry the pressure of having to someday be Andrew's caregiver. Instead, they simply get to be brothers—each in their own homes, each writing their own story.

Our hearts are full of gratitude for the incredible gift that Sunflower Hill has brought to our family. It gave us not just a home for Andrew—but a future filled with hope, independence, and love.

Donate to Sunflower Hill

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