

Author-farmer to talk about high altitude gardening

Third-generation farmer and author of “July & Winter: Growing Food in the Sierra” Gary Romano on May 20 will answer questions about gardening and mountain farming.

The free talk will be at the South Lake Tahoe Library at 2pm.

Romano will share tips and techniques for growing food in the Sierra Nevada, including the foothills and the east slope. The talk is sponsored by the Friends of the Library in partnership with the UCCE Master Gardeners of Lake Tahoe. “July & Winter” will be available for purchase.

Romano, owner of Sierra Valley Farms in Beckwourth, will discuss which varieties are right for different areas, whether to use seeds or transplants, when and how to plant to maximize yield and the benefits of biodiversity. He’ll also talk about soil, water, nutrients, pest management and how to extend your growing season.

In “July & Winter” Romano details his experience growing food at Sierra Valley Farms. Despite the challenging mountain climate and soil, Romano has successfully grown food on his 65-acre organic farm and shares his experiences in ten essential chapters. Romano hosts the state’s only certified organic on-site farmers’ market each summer, along with barn dinners and concerts. He can also be found in the summer at the Tahoe City, Truckee and Reno farmer’s markets.

“July & Winter” is available through Bona Fide Books and Gaia-Licious in South Lake Tahoe, Word After Word and Bespoke in Truckee, Sundance Books & Music in Reno, the Villager Nursery in Truckee and Amazon.