



# *The* Mt. Lemmon *Echoes*



December 1991

## 911 system nearly complete for Mt.

By Mike Stanley

For the last 18 months I've been working on the 911 project to straighten out the addresses on the mountain. A lot of other agencies have been attempting to do the same. It's been quite a challenge. I became involved when the Girl Scout camp had a fire and the 911

emergency system's address was a place across from the fire house. The 911 system was never completed for Mt. Lemmon due to the lack of a good address system. I'm sure some of you have seen the Pima County address map showing roads like Ajo Avenue as if they were continuous as in Tucson. Ajo as well as many other streets on the mountain doesn't go through.

I've been working with U.S. West on correcting the 911 system for those of us that have telephones. The Emergency 911 system is based on numbered street addresses coupled with telephone service. When a call is placed to 911, the address that the call is being made from immediately

appears on the dispatcher's terminal. This enables emergency response teams to know where a problem is if the caller is cut off for any reason. This system is only as good as the data entered into it. To make this system work, EVERY lot/building must have a correct number and street name. Telephone service is helpful, but not essential. As it stands now, when you call 911 from any phone on the mountain, it simply registers as "Mt. Lemmon" on the dispatcher's screen and that could be anywhere on the mountain!

In gathering this information, I have encountered several problems. There are locations with telephones, but no addresses as well as

addresses, but no road! U.S. West and Pima county addressing had some of the data available, but it was not always accurate.

It was resolved to develop an address system from existing roads that serve cabins, houses and businesses. The Water Co-op map was used as a base map. Some addresses were changed to the street that gives them access to do this several name additions and changes had to take place. One example was Bowie, a short section at the beginning of Turkey Run Road in Upper Sabino Canyon, will read Turkey Run Road and Bowie will be deleted. Another is Douglas which is at the beginning of Carter Canyon Road will be changed to

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*Happy Holiday*



## 911 Cont.

Carter Canyon Road. Houses on Upper Goat Hill Road will change from Hayden and Winkelman since no one knows how to get there except by Upper Goat Hill Road. There are a few more. Road names had to be put on no-name roads. The biggest is Miner Ridge Road, another is Hummingbird Lane, Wren, Robin, Guthrie and Red Ridge.

The agencies are in the final preparation of completing this project and hope to be on line in January 1992. The plan is to get the names and changes approved and finish the printing of the map. You will be notified by Pima County of any changes to your location address. I'm working with the Homeowner's Association and Pima County Addressing to help prepare a total mail out to all persons and businesses of their correct address whether it has

changed or not. The Fire Dept. and Water Co-op will do the next phase of field work by correcting wrong addresses that have been issued. This is where the homeowners can help by coming by in the spring and pick up your addresses for your cabins. It is important to have your numbers clearly posted on or near your cabins so that they are easily spotted by any emergency team responding to a call.

U.S. West is supplying the reflective numbers and plastic board to mount them. I believe all is going well and completion of the project is going smooth. This will be a great improvement to our area. Oh yes, I forgot to mention the Forest Service and Trico, but that is another story.



## WINTERTIME

Latellies the wintry suna-bed,  
A frosty, fiery sleepy-head;  
blinks but an hour or two; and then,  
A blood red orange, sets again.  
Before the Stars have left the skies,  
at morning in the Dark I rise;  
and shivering in my nakedness,  
by the cold candle, bathe and dress.

Close by the jolly fire I sit,  
to warm my frozen bones a bit;  
or with a reindeer sled, explore  
the colder countries round the door.  
When to go out, my nurse doth wrap  
me in my comforter and cap;  
the cold wind burns my face, and  
blows its frosty pepper up my nose.  
Black are my steps on silver sod;  
Thick blows my frosty breath abroad  
And tree and house,  
and hill and lake,  
are frosted like a wedding cake.

Robert Louis Stevenson



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## **Phase III road construction to begin Nov. 1992**

By Sheri Lee

On the evening of November 7 the Forest Service and the Federal Highways people held a meeting at the Fire House with Merchants, Homeowners and other concerned parties to discuss Phase III of the highway improvement project.

Seven million dollars unexpectedly became available on a 'use it or lose it' basis, and it was quickly decided to use it for two sections of the Catalina Highway where the engineering and environmental studies are nearly completed. These sections are 2.6 miles from MP 5.9 to 8.5 and 4.2 miles from MP 20.8 to the Summerhaven boundary. Phase III will total 6.8 miles. That's longer than the 5.9 miles completed in the first two phases. Actual work should begin a year from now, November 1992, with a lot of design and field review between now and then.

It's estimated 80,000 to 100,000 cubic yards of rock will need to be removed. With blasting this can be done at a cost of about \$12-\$13 cubic yard. This rock could also be removed using rock breaking equipment, but the cost would go up to \$40 a cubic yard

or a conservative increase of \$2.7 million. Blasting was chosen.

The lower section will require blasting of hard granite, anywhere from 50-80 shots. You might be interested to know the previous phase required about 100 shots. The road will have to be closed for the shots and the cleaning up afterward. Blasting must be done during daylight hours, but other work can and will be done at night. Two box culverts will be built. There will be several parking pullouts and the approach and turnoff to Prison Camp will be improved. Construction of this section can be done during the winter.

Work can be done on the upper section April thru September when snow isn't a problem. An additional four feet width will be added to the ditches for snow melt and some ditches will be paved. Left turn bays are proposed for Whitetail, Spencer, Inspiration and Loma Linda intersections. A huge walk-through culvert will be built at Bear Wallow to accommodate floods, people bears and deer. There are several scenic side roads that will be improved somewhat and used for detours while working on the upper section.

The 11% grade into the village will be reduced to an 8.5% grade and the beginnings of a storm

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**Join us for the**

### **Roads' Scholars Christmas Program**

**Friday, Dec. 20 at 7:00 p.m.**  
**Mt. Lemmon Fire Station**  
*Presented by the Students on Mt. Lemmon*

**Phase III cont.**

drain system will be built. Eventually Pima County will complete the drain system to take the runoff into Sabino Creek. Meanwhile, we will still be able to slide our vehicles down into town on the winter ice.

Some spring studies are yet to be done in regard to the Mexican spotted owl, the long-nosed bat and the desert tortoise. District Ranger Tom Quinn expressed confidence that these critters will not have a problem with us. Some timber will be removed. The contractor will need from 200,000 to 500,00 gallons of water, and this might come from Rose Canyon Lake or it might be sold to the contractor by the Water Co-op if they have it to spare.

Merchants and commuters expressed concern about the hours the road would be open for use, and how we and the general public would be kept informed of these hours. More money is in the budget for local media announcements, a daily updated hot-line and possibly a low wattage radio station transmitting at the base and the top.

The Highway Men said they have no idea when the next phase of construction might occur. Funding ultimately comes by way of Congress which is acting now on new highway legislation. We might get anywhere from \$2 to \$10 million, but who knows!

**Meet Phil Anselmi - Our new Fire Chief**

Greetings to Mt. Lemmon homeowners! My name is Phil Anselmi, your new fire chief. After 25 years in the fire service, I am retired from the Boulder, Colorado Fire Department. My fire experience includes structure fire fighting, fire investigation, fire prevention and fire administration.

My wife Karren and I have two children and two grandchildren: daughter Tami Coatsworth and grandsons Dillon, 2 1/2 years and Tanner, 1 1/2 years and our son Kurt attends college. We both enjoy skiing, hiking, reading. When time allows I also enjoy radio controlled aircraft and fishing fly tying.

We live on the mountain in the Carrillo's cabin on Tucson Avenue and are very happy to be here. We are looking forward to meeting everyone.

**Help me! Help me! I'm water logged & can't find my meter!**

By Mike Stanley

I bet quite a few of you got caught with your meters on during our early cold snap. The temperature dropped the last week of October, and the low at my house was about 22oF. Most things didn't freeze on the water lines, but valves, check valves and some copper fittings did. These are the weakest part of the lines. If you have plastic pipe, heaven help you. Galvanized lines had the least problems. Plastic pipe reminds me of Halloween, it's very scary especially during cold weather.

I hope the early cold spell will snap you Co-op water users back to the reality of winter. Remember to shut off your water meter and drain your cabins. Failure to do so may result in a very large water bill and a lot of irate people without water because you drained the tank system.

## Notes from the Chief...

By Phil Anselmi

With winter fast approaching it is time we all look to the fire hazards in the home. I am sure you have heard this before, but I must emphasize the need to keep our fireplaces and chimneys clean. As you know creosote builds up in chimneys from burning various woods, and this buildup will reignite in the chimney when heated. The need to remove buildup cannot be over emphasized.

Another procedure we seem to overlook is our home smoke alarms. These should be checked for operation semi-annually. A very bad habit is to remove the batteries from these units, with the very good intention of replacing them with fresh ones. Generally when the smoke detector begins to "chirp", the battery is in need of replacement. We should do this at our earliest convenience. Putting it off can be very dangerous.

Another practice is to begin a home fire drill and develop an escape plan for our homes. We should all know what to do in case of fire in our residence. A simple plan will save lives. Putting your address on your cabin, making sure the telephone

number is on or near the phone for quick reference and making sure each person in your home knows how to escape and where to meet in case of emergency is vital.

I would like to congratulate the following members of our Volunteer Organization for recently passing the Fire Fighter I and II certifications: Carl Shlenk, Dave Chesleigh, Mike Chesleigh and Mike Garcia.

In addition, Mike Garcia has recently been hired as our third full time fireman. Three applicants applied for the newly opened position, and Mike was chosen based on his final scores on both the written and oral exams. Mike will graduate in December from EMT school and will take the state exam for certification in early January. Congratulations, Mike!

To all I would like to say "Have a safe winter and be cautious!"



## Fall Red Squirrel Census Results Are In

Reprinted from the Conservation Centennial News, Oct. 29, 1991

Results of the Fall 1991 midden survey of the Mt. Graham red squirrel indicate that the endangered animal's population is between 364 to 417 squirrels, said Coronado National Forest biologists. Biologists explained that middens, rather than squirrels, are surveyed. A midden is a cone debris pile which the squirrels use to cache cones and mushrooms for their winter food supply. Each midden is defended by a single animal. Biologists determine if a midden is occupied by looking for signs of recent squirrel activity.

There are 549 known middens on Mt. Graham and biologists visited 236 of them this fall. One hundred sixty-four middens, or about 70 % of the middens visited showed signs of red squirrel activity. This count is an increase from the Spring 1991 survey that reported an estimated 259 to 293 squirrels and also from the survey last fall which estimated

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250 to 300 squirrels.

"Last year's population growth and high over-winter survival were probably due to last year's abundant cone crop. The fall survey also reflects an expected increase from the spring due to the year's breeding season," said Forest Service Biologist Genice Froehlich. Biologists also pointed out that preliminary results from the 1991 cone monitoring show that cone crops are extremely low this year, which may decrease this winter's survival rates. The Spring 1992 survey will help determine the 1991-92 over-winter survival.

The survey was conducted October 21-25, 1991, as a cooperative effort by approximately 20 biologists from Coronado National Forest, Arizona Game and Fish Department, and the United States Fish and Wildlife Service.

## Bird feeding & watering in the winter

By Sheri Lee

After gardening, birdwatching is America's second most popular sport with over 30 million participants. And one of three North American households feeds birds in the winter using an average of 60 pounds of birdseed a year. New Englanders are the most generous with 40% of the households feeding birds.

Cornell's Project FeederWatch had over 7000 participants last winter. The results reported the Dark-eyed Junco was the most widespread species at the nation's feeders (we have the yellow-eyed junco on the mountain).

Ornithologists believe if we all stopped feeding birds tomorrow, no species would become extinct, but some might disappear from some regions. Feeding may pull many birds, especially ones that are weak or sick, through the winter. After snowfalls and ice storms when food is nearly inaccessible the birds rely on feeders for survival. Many remain daily poised on the edge of starvation all winter. Those

unable to find food at sundown quite likely will not survive the night. Studies indicate chickadees are particularly at risk of freezing. Chickadees fed sunflower seeds are able to increase their body fat by 4% thus helping them survive cold nights.

Beef suet appeals to some 80 species. However, suet warmed by the sun can result in matted feathers resulting in poor insulation and loss of waterproofing. Also it can cause loss of facial feathers and skin infections. From this I deduce we should keep our suet hanging on the north side of the house where the sun never sees it.

All birds need water even on the coldest days. A wildlife magazine says one tablespoon of glycerine in a gallon of water will not hurt the birds and yet will keep the water from freezing. So far this winter my birdbath containing this solution has not frozen whereas my other birdbath remained frozen



solid all one week.  
(Do not use antifreeze as it is poison.)

Erratic feeding and watering can result in death for birds on cold, cold nights. If they have been conditioned to depend upon a feeder that suddenly is empty just when they need it most, they will not or cannot have time before sundown to search out a new source of food. If you are feeding the birds all winter and plant to take your annual Caribbean Cruise, arrange for a fellow bird lover to maintain your feeder and waterer until you return. With a little help from us more will survive another winter on Mt. Lemmon.

## Accidents & fires keep new Fire Chief busy

Our fire chief has had quite a busy introduction to the mountain. Since arriving in early October, Chief Anselmi has responded to a bus accident, two structure fires, three forest

fires, a serious rock climbing fall as well as the usual bee stings, auto accidents, etc.

There was a minor fire in the attic of the Alpine Inn which was quickly put out with very little damage.

However, another fire destroyed the D.O. Schwartz cabin, but the Fire Dept. was able to save two other nearby structures. A renter who was asleep in a downstairs apartment of the cabin was awakened by the fire alarm, ran outside and saw the upstairs burning. He was able to grab his computer and run out. He suffered a broken foot, but was otherwise safe. A reminder of how important a fire alarm can be! The cause of the fire has not yet been determined.

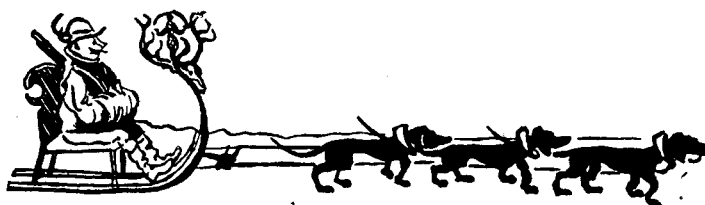
There have been three forest fires, one in the Soldiers Camp area and two on the back side, all contained safely and fairly quickly.

A rock climber suffered very serious injuries in a fall at Windy Point. The rescue took several hours during which time Chief Anselmi suffered cuts.

The climber was taken to TMC by helicopter and was last reported still in a coma. Chief Anselmi suffered serious cuts on his legs which required stitches, but has since recovered.

A bus carrying school children from the Orange Grove Jr. High was involved in an accident near Palisades Ranger station. There were numerous injuries, but all survived. The accident reportedly was caused by a tire blow-out.

As you can see, it has been quite a busy time on the mountain for our emergency services people and quite a welcome to Chief Anselmi.



## Update on our own Roads' Scholars

By Sarah Roads

So much has happened at school. We've had three more guest artists from the Tucson/Pima Arts Council. The first taught us all about African music, dance and folk tales. She also taught us how to make tye-dyed "Hammer" pants and masks of our own faces. Our second group of artists taught us about music and helped us to make headgear for our masks. We combined our new found knowledge with our new costumes and provided Summerhaven with an unscheduled parade. Our latest artist is an actor. We plant to show off the techniques we learned from him at our Christmas Program. More on that later. We are also looking forward to a guest speaker from the County Attorney's office in honor of the 200th anniversary of our country's Bill of Rights.

We had a great Halloween season. The students decorated the school two weeks prior to Halloween. Needless to say, we were constantly ducking and dodging cobwebs and monsters, culminating with a party where a good time was had by all!

We've also taken a few short trips away from school. Since we are studying Wetlands, we took a very eye-opening trip to Soldier's Pond. The children were very

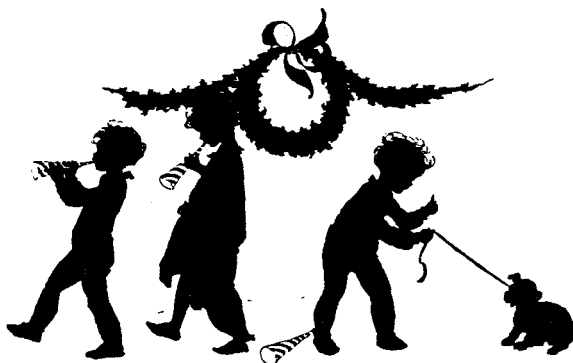
surprised to see the condition of our wetland. We have asked the Forest Service to check into the causes and condition of the pond. We are anxiously awaiting the news.

Now, after all this, please don't get the wrong idea - we do study up here too!

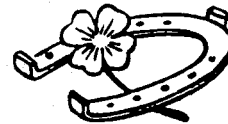
Once again, I'd like to thank all those who have donated time, energy, books, wood, supplies and everything else which has helped keep our school bell ringing. You are all deeply appreciated. A special thanks to the person who left the microwave on the doorsteps (and who says secrets can't be kept on Mt. Lemmon!). Remember that each man's life touches so many lives. Thanks!

Now - about the Christmas Program. The children will perform for the community on Friday, December 20th, at 7:00 p.m.. This year, due to the area needed for the production, the program will be held at the Fire Station. We hope all of you can make the trip up to start your holiday season with a little of the Mt. Lemmon School Childrens' Christmas cheer!

HAPPY HOLIDAYS!



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