

The

Mt. Lemmon Echoes

Serving the Homeowners of Mt. Lemmon

"You can overlook Tucson, but you can't overlook Mt Lemmon"

September 11, 2000

Dear Friends:

There has been much talk and excitement regarding the proposed plans for the Mt. Lemmon /Faul Park Shuttle Stop. In order to fully explain the project, I have scheduled a public meeting for Saturday, September 30th at the Mt. Lemmon Fire Station. I hope that all concerned residents will take the opportunity to attend.

While the September 30th meeting should serve to answer most (if not all) of the questions that have been raised, I hope that you will keep an open mind with regards to the project until then. Although the response to the Mt. Lemmon Shuttle has been overwhelming positive, there has been some opposition to the project that is based on misinformation. Listed below are twelve major issues that have been raised:

1. "The Faul stop is too far from Summerhaven for people to walk." The Shuttle will include a stop at Summerhaven (and always has). Other plans may include a stop at Ski Valley or down to Marshall Gulch as well. With regards to the dangers to pedestrians, our Transportation Department is presently looking at the possibility of slightly widening the street to allow more walkway area.
2. "The Faul stop is in a residential area and will lower the value of property in the area." This unfounded accusation begs the question: since the Fauls house is also adjacent to the proposed shuttle stop, why they would do something to de-value their own land? There is no evidence that property values will be lowered. In reality, the Faul stop is on the main road right next to the County Wastewater Treatment Plant and a holding area for dumpsters. Indeed, with improving accessibility to the area, the shuttle could actually increase property values in the vicinity.
3. "The Fauls want a property tax break." Another untruth. This is impossible to grant them, even if they wanted-or deserved-such a thing. (Of course, by donating this valuable piece of land to the county, the Faul's will no longer pay taxes on the land that is no longer theirs. This is the only "break" that they get, the same as anyone).
4. "The County will provide a free septic tank for the Fauls." Once again, not true. The Fauls already have an existing septic tank, and have never requested Pima County to purchase or install a new septic tank or system. Part of the early negotiations included a discussion to provide a water line to the Faul house. This minor benefit for the Faul's-considering their hugely generous offer for the public good-has subsequently been dropped.
5. "The County is violating its own regulations, such as the set-back requirements for a scenic highway." The County will follow all development regulations to the greatest extent possible. All set back requirements have been reviewed, and according to Pima County staff, there is no problem with the proposed site location.
6. "A full time county employee will be needed to sell bus tickets at a cost to taxpayers of \$20,000." This is another assumption (rumor) also unsupported by any facts. Since a private firm is expected to operate the shuttle, there are no plans to have any county employee involved in its operation.
7. "There will be parking lots for 10-30 cars." The number of parking spaces will be five (5). Although there is a need for additional parking on Mt. Lemmon, it will have to be developed somewhere else.
8. "There will be an amphitheater and loud music will be played at all hours." No such plans exist for such activities. The loudest human noise may be someone giving a nature lecture outside in the park.

9. "There will be another museum built at the Bear Canyon stop." There are no plans for such a museum-though it's not a bad idea! In reality, the Bear Canyon Library will be expanded for the shuttle on a parcel adjacent to the library that Pima County has already purchased. This is an important component of the Mt. Lemmon Shuttle, since this is a SunTran stop, which will provide public transit access to the mountain.

10. "There is no need for a park since Mt. Lemmon is located in a National Forest." There is a need. The small park envisioned would have handicapped access trails for those who cannot enjoy many of the other areas of Mt. Lemmon. This is one reason for the shuttle-to provide access to the Mountain for those that have difficulty driving to the top.

11. "The Faul Museum duplicates the visitor's center at Palisades." Even if this were true-which it is not-what would be wrong with another visitor's center at the top of the mountain? In reality, the Faul stop will serve as a community meeting space in the heart of Summerhaven, a facility presently needed but absent from the Mountain. It will be used for community meetings, lectures, and possibly a Sheriff substation and emergency response center. Its design, content, and purpose are all distinctly different than the Palisades station.

12. "There is no money for the Shuttle." Yes there is. The voters approved one and a half million dollars for capital improvements for this specific project-to build the shuttle stops. Money for the operation of the shuttle must come from grants (federal, rural transit, etc.), unrestricted revenues (like the vehicle license tax), and property tax revenues. This is why it is so important to have community support for the Mt. Lemmon Shuttle.

There may be other issues to be addressed as well. I hope that the meeting of September 30th will serve to answer any other questions or concerns. I think that it is important to realize that Mt. Lemmon is truly an oasis in the heart of the Sonoran Desert. The purpose of the Mt. Lemmon Shuttle is to lighten the footprint on the mountain from traffic congestion and parking problems, and to provide people with another alternative to reach the mountain. It is the reason why the Board of Supervisors agreed to put this project in the 1997 Pima County Transportation Bond, and it is the reason that a vast majority of Pima County residents voted for them. In spite of the efforts by the opponents of this project to use Freedom of Information Requests, to disseminate misinformation, to lobby my colleagues on the Board of Supervisors and the Army Corps of Engineers, Pima County has every intention of working with the community in order to provide a unique service that will be good for the mountain and safe and fun for its visitors.

I hope that you will assist in making this worthy project a reality. Please come to the meeting of September 30th at the Fire House.

Sincerely,

Ray Carroll

From the President

by Larry Waldron

The summer monsoon has delivered a home run (see related weather information). We have received the needed rainfall to put us above a normal monsoon. Mark Hopkins indicates 12 inches of rainfall is considered an average monsoon. Now we turn our attention, hopefully from La Nina, to a normal fall and winter moisture pattern. Get ready to wax those skis.

On behalf of the MLHO board and all the citizens of Summerhaven, I would like to

thank Trico Electric Cooperative for their generous donation of \$1,000 to the Mt. Lemmon Homeowner's Association.

It will be difficult to select from the many worthy causes in Summerhaven. It is unfortunate that the planned outage exceeded projections, but Trico's generosity is extremely appreciated. I would also like to thank Trico for all their efforts to improve electric reliability on Mt. Lemmon. To show our gratitude to Trico for all of their hard work and commitment, I would encourage each of you to call Trico and ask to be included in

the generator dedication, Friday November 3rd at 2 PM. The new generator is located behind the Mt. Lemmon fire station.

Approximately one year ago we first heard of the pending sale of our Mt. Lemmon telephone exchange (576) to Citizens Rural Utilities. In fact, all of Arizona except for Nogales, Sierra Vista, Tucson, Phoenix and Flagstaff will be part of Citizens Rural Utilities. That process is now complete except for the final signatures of the Arizona Corporation Commission officials this fall. The Mt. Lemmon Homeowner's Association had petitioned the utility division and ACC hearings officer to continue

the 50-year service agreement that assured all Mt. Lemmon subscribers a toll-free call to Tucson. Initial reports from the corporation commission are that we will continue to have toll-free calls to Tucson, and the existing rates will be guaranteed for an additional 18-month period before Citizens Rural Utilities can seek a rate increase. A potential toll charge was a major concern for homeowners, businesses and government agencies on the mountain.

I am sure all of you have received information regarding the Mt. Lemmon shuttle and Faul Museum through the mail or during one-on-one meetings. Many have signed petitions, surveys, support forms, etc. (for and against). Mr. Ray Carroll's office will be mailing information to each homeowner very soon. Mr. Ray Carroll has also scheduled a community meeting for September 30th, at 10 AM in the Mt. Lemmon fire station to discuss the Mt. Lemmon Shuttle project. This meeting will separate the fact from rumors that are being circulated within the community. There have been many rumors concerning, rock bands, noisy picnics, 24 hour access to public bathrooms, 35 terminal parking spots, free water, free septic, property tax breaks, \$400,000 yearly maintenance fees for the museum, etc. I can assure you this is not what is going to happen. If they had been true the MLHO board would not have voted to support the project (11 to 1). The board has met with Mr. Ray Carroll and county staff to discuss concerns gathered from neighbors near the Faul property. Our (your) concerns were answered satisfactorily. Additionally we have made suggestions to the county that hopefully will improve the project. In the meantime the board is asking each community resident not to let presumed facts inflate emotions.

Please plan on attending the meeting to hear the facts.

News from the The Watering Hole

by President Chuck Autrey

Your Mount Lemmon Cooperative Water Company would like to thank each and everyone of you for the fine conservation efforts you displayed throughout the long dry summer. With your conservative water use, no fires and Mike Stanley's timely repair of numerous leaks we made it through another summer without water rationing or a system shutdown.

We have added over 100,000 gallons of additional water storage this year and hope to continue increasing our storage capacity in the years to come. The more water we can store during the wet month the less dependent we become on low spring flow during the dry months.

In closing I want to sincerely thank Bea and Joe Shirley on behalf of the entire water cooperative for their generous unrestricted gift of \$10,000. Bea, you can be assured we'll put the money to good use improving the water system for everyone.

OKTOBERFEST 2000

Mt. Lemmon Ski Valley presents Oktoberfest 2000 on Saturdays and Sundays from September 23rd through October 15th. German dancing, music, beer and food will be on the decks ski side, while the Lost Mine with the Iron Door Restaurant will again serve great German dishes. Hours are :

1:00 - 5:00 P.M. ski side

9:00 - 9:00 P.M. Saturdays in the Iron Door

9:00 - 7:00 P.M. Sundays in the Iron Door

Dancers the first two weekends will be from the Tucson Ethnic Dance Ensemble with their great costumes & fancy steps. The second two weekends the Edelweiss Folk Dance Group from the German American Club will show their stuff.

Norm Seiss will be back from Michigan again with his band for the first 3 weekends and the fourth weekend we'll enjoy a group new to our Oktoberfest, Rod Belknap's Generation Gap.

This is always a great party families, seniors, singles and couples.....

Bring a blanket & come enjoy the festivities in the cool and green of the Ponderosa forest.

Remember Ski Valley is open Friday through Monday.

Jay Davies

August weather details:

Year to date moisture

22.87 inches

Monsoon moisture through

8/31/00 17.27 inches

High temperature occurred on several days 83 degrees

Low temperature on 8/31/00 42 degrees

Mean temperature 62 degrees

Information is courtesy of Mark Hopkins, our postmaster

Some helpful hints for homeowners living in the wildland/urban interface

<http://www.nifc.gov/preved/index.html#face>. The National Interagency Fire Center
<http://www.nifc.gov>

Therapist needed

Is there a trained physical therapist on Mount Lemmon who could work with my husband on physical therapy a few hours a week in our cabin? If so, please call

Dorothy Crawford at 576-1455.

Bible Study

Bible Study for Everyone will be meeting on the following Tuesdays:

September 26, October 10 and October 24. Come for coffee, snacks and fellowship at 6:30 PM, Bible study following at 7:00 PM led by Rev. Jim Brunner.

Location: Jan & Jim Stevenson's cabin, 12601 N. Casa Grande off Middle Sabino Road. Look for the wind sock with colored streamers. Phone: 576-1562 or Chris Sheldon at 576-1574.

RIDER IN THE SKY

by Ross & Helen Quigley

Our community has lost a great man, Rosco Christopher, 95, whose family has been here since 1953. His cabin on Carter Canyon always had the mule pens occupied during the 4th of July Holiday. It was such a pleasure for him to bring up the mules and participate in the parade up here even though it was hard work for the family to load the mules and horses, bring up feed and haul the long trailer up the then narrow road. He was with the Rodeo Parade Committee in Tucson for many years and was a Past Grand Marshal. He served as the Wagon Master of the Parade Committee. His love of the Parade Committee for one reason was because he grew up using some of the coaches, buggies and horse drawn trailers and knew how to keep them in tip top shape for all to enjoy seeing them. Many are kept at the Rodeo museum during the Rodeo and some

are still used in the parade. To see him with his daughter Sharon Thomas and his two grand-daughters, Michelle and Shannon, ride the mountain trails was indeed a nice family sight. The stories he had to share of days gone by was history in the making. His neighborly handshake (firm enough to mean that it was sincere) and his "Howdy young man or Howdy young lady" will always be remembered by those who had the pleasure of meeting and knowing him. He was a Charter member of the Lions club and 50 years with the Elks Club. Rose, his wife of 68 years, and Sharon are members of our Homeowners Association and Mt. Lemmon Womens Club.

Wagon Master ride on!

Rosco Christopher

August 14, 1905 - August 19th, 2000

Kids Clubs

On July 29th, the Saturday Morning Kids Club came to a close for another successful year. 21 kids participated this year with a total attendance of 74.

The kids enjoyed a good variety of programs including a Rhythm Band, Nature Walk & rock Study, Fun with Bubbles and Games, Scavenger Hunt and making Cookies, to name a few. And, who will ever forget the Geography Lesson where we made Maps of the U.S. out of Pizza Dough thanks Carol Niehoff's creative leadership and Magpies generous donation of supplies.

A big THANK YOU and note of GRATITUDE to all the parents and Women's Club Members who helped with this years programs.

So many worthwhile activities compete with our youngsters time during the summer months.

The Women's Club will be happy to continue The Kids Club next summer for the Fifth year, if there is enough

interest. Give us some feed back if you enjoyed the programs and wish to see them continued next year. **Thank you!** Olga Pace 577-1993, Fax 529-6448, e-mail pace@azstarnet.com

Bunko Sept 23

Bunko is set for Saturday September 23rd, 6:00 pm at the Summerhaven Coffee house; Dinner will be your choice of Lasagna or Chicken Enchilada for \$12.50 which includes dinner, drink tax and gratuity.

Please RSVP by Sept. 17th to

Linda Mulay- 327-4615

WOMAN'S CLUB NEWS

by president Luann Waldron
SEPTEMBER 9th meeting was held at Sally Coulthard's. She gave a wonderful demonstration of "THAI" cooking, and the food was great. Thanks so much Sally for opening your home to us.

OCTOBER 7th the woman's Club will have their annual FAMILY POTLUCK. This will be at Suzanne Hensel's home at 12:00. The club will provide hot dogs & hamburgers/buns. Please bring a salad or desert to share. This is such a great time. The children have fun running & playing in their big yard, and the adults have a good time visiting; it's a chance for the men to enjoy what we woman get to do on a monthly basis.

Our meetings will be in Tucson starting in November. They will be on the first Wednesday of the month.

We have elected to not have meetings in January & February. DECEMBER 2nd will be our Christmas Brunch. Watch your e-mails or Postcards for details.

We have had a full summer of events with the Kid's Club, Sunday Hikes, and the ever popular 4th of

July parade. The Millennium buttons were a big hit.

We have had several new members join this year. Many from getting the "NEW HOMEOWNERS PACKETS" that are provided by our club. Any one wanting more information on the Mt. Lemmon Woman's Club please call Luann Waldron 743-3034 576-1568 or Olga Pace 577-1993 576-1420.

SUNDAY SUMMER HIRES

Our Sunday hikes took us to some new places this summer. We had between 8 and 15 hikers almost every weekend. We sure enjoyed being out in the beautiful scenery around us. We did three 5-mile hikes. These long hikes were announced in advance to prepare us. Our first one was down to the spring at Box Camp, it is a easy hike until you turn off to the spring trail, then it drops rapidly to the cement encasement of the spring. Our second long one was to find the airplane that crashed in the early 1950's. We started at the Mt. Bigelow fire look out and descended to Novio Spring where the F86-D jet plane is located, and after another decent, we had to climb up and out at Butterfly Trail. My husband Larry called this hike "The Bataan Death March". We were pretty exhausted after that hike. Our third long hike was the Crystal Spring Trail. We did this 2 years ago and it was much prettier this year because of the rain and the water was running in most of the canyons. We located some Arizona madrone trees (a large tree in the heather family and related to the mazanita). After the spring location we had what the trail guide states as "a gradual and steady climb". This was a strenuous hike. Our other hikes included Mint Spring, Aspen trail, Carter Canyon Trail, Incinerator Ridge, Oracle Ridge, Sunset Trail, Lemmon Rock Look-out, Red Ridge Trail, and a side trip to the water falls below

Marshall Gulch.

We hope you will join us next summer. We start our hikes the 1st weekend in June and end our hiking Labor Day weekend.

PS. Larry would like information regarding the F86-D crash. He tried the historian at DMAFB and the Pima Air Museum with no success. If you have information please call me. Luann Waldron , President MLWC 576-1568

George P. Davies Generating Station to be Dedicated November 3

by Barbara Ziemann

The "little generator that could" successfully ran the mountain for several days last month!

Trico Electric Cooperative would like to invite its member/consumers on Mt. Lemmon to the dedication of the George P. Davies Generating Station on the afternoon of Friday, November 3. The facility is named after George P. Davies, owner of Mt. Lemmon Ski Valley and Trico board president.

The generating unit acts as a back up source of power for the mountain to help prevent the extended outages that residents have experienced in the past. Installation of the 1250 Kilowatt generator began last fall. The unit was successfully tested this spring. During the last week of August the generator carried the mountain while repairs were being made on the line that brings power to Mt. Lemmon.

The early afternoon dedication at the generator site, just north of the Mt. Lemmon Fire Station, will be followed by an informal reception. All Mt. Lemmon residents and business owners are invited to attend.

If you would like to join us, please call Barb Ziemann at 744-2944, ext. 1362. She will mail formal invitations to those who call. Invitations will include an RSVP card. Trico asks that people who plan to attend the event please return this card no later October 27.

RSVP to Trico Barb Ziemann by Oct 27th please 744-2944 ext1362

History on Mt Lemmon:

In 1950 Trico built the power line to supply the Air Force Radar Base and community of Mt Lemmon with electricity. Only 50 years ago it was oil lamps, generators, batteries & candle power only. Electricity was an easy 'sell' to the wives as they were tired of cutting wicks and ready for modern conveniences like refrigerators and reading lamps. Old timers tell of many a heavy snowfall & falling tree that broke electrical lines in past winters. Special Thanks to long time friends of the Mountain - George & Jay Davies - we are grateful for their community spirit in looking to the future needs of the mountain!

Mt Lemmon Past Remembered:

(Excerpts from a Sept 82
Echoes article)

The Westfalls built and operated the La Maraposa Lodge in 1921. Mr Westfall served as district ranger at Mrt Lemmon, while his wife operated the Lodge. It was well understood that she carried her 30-30 "bubble stick" not for her own protection but to induce but to induce inquisitive snoopers to keep their distance from her private stock and operation in the rear of the lodge. I am sure her homebrew was equal to the persuasion of the pellets from her 30-30. The Mt Lemmon Inn was built in 1944-45. It had a large

hall for community affairs. It served as a church for 2 groups on Sundays, a movie house where we showed movies twice a week, dances every Saturday night and as a place of business for the community. For a number of years, our movie projector was operated by gasoline motor which gave us many an intermission. What a scramble when the gas ran out, for the lamp-lit counter for drinks, pop corn and candy; then another scramble as the weary motor began chugging and the movie resumed. Thus we wore out 2 gasoline engines before Trico Electricity came to Mt Lemmon. In 1948, Santa Cruz, Pinal and Pima Counties formed a cooperative known as Trico Electric Coop. By 1948, Marana had 115 miles of lines in operation to various farmers in the area. Early in the same year 2 men, Mr Peterson and Mr Smith contacted me in regards to their success in bringing electricity to remote areas. They stated that if about 300 lot owners on Mt Lemmon would sign up as members, chances were good that Trico would run their lines to the mountain. ... Of course, some few hesitated, being reluctant to part with their kerosene lamps; however that feeble excuse was not difficult to overcome.

By Tony Zimmerman

More remembrances next month

SEE THE PRETTY FLOWERS

by Barbara Welsh

Have you ever wondered why we are so lucky to have beautiful flowers in our world? Would it surprise you to know the flowers are not for our pleasure but simply to attract insects, birds or whatever pollinators that plant just happens to need? A plant needs to propagate itself, and our eyes just happen to be able to enjoy these colors and designs.

I looked up some of the ways the Indians used some of the most common flowers we have on the

mountain. I would not recommend trying any of these but it is fun to read about them.

The huge plant growing along Sabino Parkway is the Cow Parsnip. It grows 3 to 6 feet tall and the botanical name is *Heracleum* for Hercules. It has large groups of white flowers and is a member of the parsley family. Some New Mexico Indians used the powdered root to rub on loose teeth. Also it was used for reducing fever and for rheumatism. The leaves and stems were eaten, and the cooked roots are said to taste like rutabagas. Some people are sensitive to the wet leaves.

The red plant that attracts the hummingbirds is the Penstemon. Besides red there are also purple and pink penstemon. One variety of penstemon was used by the Navajos for kidney disorders and syrup was used for whooping cough.

Indian paintbrush is another plant of the snapdragon family and what we see are not the flowers. The flowers are tiny green ones hidden among the highly colored bracts and leaves. Mixed with other ingredients this plant was used for skin disorders and supposed cases of leprosy.

The pretty little plant that has yellow flowers early in the morning and pinkish wilted ones by noon is the Hookers evening primrose. If you go out right at sunset and watch the buds you can actually see the flower opening and sometime the moth flying in to the flower. A drug made from the primrose was used to treat coughs, colds, and asthma.

The woolly thick leaves of the Flannel Mullein make this a very easy plant to spot. It is growing all along the roads and is fairly tall with tiny yellow flowers. Early Greeks and Romans dipped the stalks in tallow and used them for lamp wicks and torches. Parts of the plant were used to treat sprains and pulmonary disease.

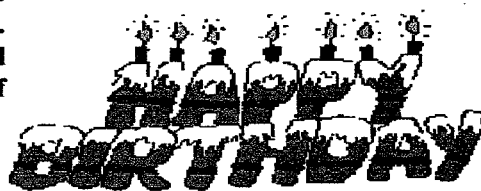
Columbine and Lupine didn't list any unusual uses, however different

species of columbine should be grown as far apart as possible as they hybridize and the seed is impure.

Almost all of these plants furnish food or nectar to many animals, birds and insects. We are the fortunate ones, as we have the ability to stop, and gaze at, and smell the flowers.

Sheri Lee reminds the editor to tell folks that October is the month to plant daffodil bulbs!

Highway Hotline 751-9409



Open Thank You to the Shirleys

Dear Bea & Joe Shirley,

Thank you again for your very generous donations to the Mount Lemmon Fire District & Water Cooperative - your acts of generosity are greatly appreciated! You two are truly an amazing couple deserving of recognition for all the kind deeds you've done for our community.

An appreciation dinner along with presentation awards were given to Bea and Joe on September 3rd to honor and acknowledge all they have done for the mountain in the past.

Helen Forrester volunteered her lovely home for the dinner. While the idea was for Ross Quigley to present awards along with a gift from many of us in the community, we in the community ended up on the receiving end - again to the

Shirley's generosity. Bea & Joe Shirley donated another \$10,000 to the Fire Department and \$10,000 to the Water Cooperative that night! We wish Bea and Joe to know how valued they have been to all of us in this mountain community they have called home. A special Happy Birthday to Bea and

Thank you, thank you,
thank you!

The Mt Lemmon Community
Events Coordinators

Summer of 2000 Memories

by Helen Forrester

I want to express my feelings about this past summer spent in my home here on Mt Lemmon. I have had a home on the mountain since 1948. Mt 3 daughters grew up here with my Mother and Dad. Although my husband Leon and I could not spend time here until 1980 due to 24 hour business responsibilities, we have always felt blessed to have our home here - where we could feel so close to God and nature. Leon passed away in July 1996 and we followed his request to have his ashes here where his heart was - so he is always with me.

I have to tell you that this summer of 2000 has been the most wonderful I have ever known. That's because of the activities that some hardworking wonderful people in this marvelous community have brought to all of us and also due to the gatherings we have all participated in so that people could get together, meet their neighbors and make new friends. I feel so fortunate to have two of the rarest gems ever created living right opposite me- the Thomas's. They are the most generous, caring and loving friends anyone could wish for. They have helped make my summer without my partner wonderful. I have made new friends and gotten

to know to know my neighbors and their families so much better. It's like having a warm loving extended family - such a good thing & something to treasure and appreciate. Not just on Carter Canyon, but on Loma Linda and Turkey Run too. *Special appreciation to Helen Forrester for the gracious use of her mountain home to honor Bea & Joe Shirley.*

School Daze

by Suzanne Hensel, teacher
Zimmerman Elementary has been buzzing with activity ever since our starting date on August 21st. This year we have 15 students with at least one student in each of the seven grades (K-6). With such a large array of abilities I am always juggling to provide each grade with a full curriculum. This is no easy task, but not impossible.

The students were very excited to be back with their friends. The warm weather has allowed for many enjoyable recess and lunch breaks. We will miss that in another month when our sheltered area becomes shaded and cold.

In case you didn't get an opportunity to see the news brief, we were visited by the Channel 9 News. The kids were able to show off a little for the camera, which was a lot of fun for them. They certainly deserve the attention. They are a remarkable group of children.

Of course, we have been doing a lot more than being TV stars and playing in the sun. Our younger students are working hard learning to read, write and compute numbers. While our older students are busy studying the Age of Exploration as well as expanding on their reading, writing and math skills - and all of the students have been learning about the human body this past month.

Last year the students tested their physical abilities with the

Presidential Physical Fitness Test. They perform various exercises such as a mile run and sit-ups to see how they rate with children across the country of the same age. Unfortunately, we were not able to get very involved in this activity until the spring. This year the students are working hard at getting in shape each week. With the enthusiasm and hard work that they have been putting into this I think they will really improve over last year. The big excitement for us this fall is our trip to Kartchner Caverns. This is scheduled for October 31st. This field trip would not be possible without the generous tax donations that we received last spring. The cave charges a substantial entrance fee plus we need to charter a bus since the school bus is not permitted to travel that distance and it is too small. We will be studying about caves the month of October in preparation for our trip. By November we should be cave experts.

Our goal at Zimmerman is to challenge the students so they learn how to push themselves mentally and physically. It is a lot of work but it is worth it when it all comes together in the end. Thanks again to the community members that continue to support the school. We can't do it alone.

Forest Health

By Bob Zimmerman
bobzim@azstarnet.com

You, as a homeowner, can do much to mitigate the fire danger our community faces. Next time you are up, take a good look at your cabin area and the areas surrounding your cabin. The following are factors that increase your fire risk. Hill Side Cabins: Is your cabin situated on a steep slope with heavy vegetation down hill? There isn't much you can do about slope, but if

it is, it is even more important that down hill fuel be reduced to the absolute minimum. If your cabin is situated on the east slope of Sabino Canyon, fuel reduction is even more important. Make sure that you are not storing firewood in the downhill area.

If, in addition to being on a slope, there are other factors which need to be considered. If you have large windows facing downhill, this increases the danger. When fire hits the side of your cabin, these windows typically break out allowing fire to enter cabin. Not good. Not much can be done about these large windows other than making sure downhill fuel loading is minimal. Metal or wood shutters will lessen the danger considerably.

If your cabin has a downhill overhang or is up on stilts fire can get under your cabin. Not good. One good remedy is to close in the open area. Even using wood siding lessens the danger, but masonry is better if it can be used.

Do your eves, particularly the downhill eves, have ventilation openings? These are a danger and need to be closed, although you will need a professional's advice.

Generally speaking the cabins on the east slope of Sabino Valley have the greatest wildland fire risk, so if you are there, you might think of getting together with your neighbors to reduce fire danger. You can make a difference.

If you have needles to burn, call John Roads, Chief at 576-1201 to make arrangements.

Septic Systems

By Bob Zimmerman

Pima County Environmental Quality is fixing to pass into law this January new regulations which remove the flexibility of the Pima County health officer in approving septic system design. Up till now, these

regulations were just rules and they could be bent. This has allowed septic systems to be installed on Mt. Lemmon where the slopes exceed the design allowance for septic systems. After the first of the year, we are told that it will be extremely difficult, if possible at all, to get a standard septic system approved.

The alternative septic systems will be extremely expensive if possible at all. There has been a lot of concern recently in the village about events that will reduce property values. Too bad more attention has not been paid to this problem, because it appears it will devastate the value of all vacant lots that do not have an approved septic system.

Halloween Party is being scheduled for October 28th - mark your calendars! More in the next issue of the Echoes

Fire District Update

by Chief John Roads

THEY'RE BACK

Great news for both MLFD and the community. Dean & DeAnna Barnella are moving back to Mt. Lemmon. As many of you may remember, Dean & DeAnna were both full-time firefighters here between 1994 and 1996. DeAnna has been hired by MLFD as an assistant supervisor to provide supervision and command in the absence of the Chief. Dean will continue to work as a full-time Phoenix Firefighter and part-time MLFD Para-medic Firefighter. Their son Garrett will attend the Zimmerman Accommodation school.

*For all you've done
for MLFD - Bea & Joe -
Thank you Chief
John Roads*

FJanet
Fayleen LMT, BSW
Health Therapist

(520) 884-4222

- Deep Muscle Therapy
- Injury Rehabilitation
- Reflexology
- Posture, Movement, & Flexibility Training
- Swedish Massage
- Lymphatic Massage
- Sports Massage

Certificates Available

Sad farewell to Jason Epling. Jason has worked as a part-time and full-time Firefighter EMT for MLFD for the past two years. Jason has been offered a career in the railroad - an offer he could not refuse. His full-time replacement will be named soon.

Many thanks to Bea & Joe Shirley for their generous donation to the Fire District. Donations are important to help keep this a growing department. **Wow!** The Chief is working on a new proposal that will put the community to task. We have survived the toughest summer of all in respect to a lack of manpower. There has been a shortage of firefighters all over the country. In order to continue providing local services, additional help is **REQUIRED**, not just requested. We cannot handle emergencies with 1 or 2 personnel. In order to keep the department running, volunteers are needed. I am drafting a plan for the Fire Board that will involve recruiting homeowners to volunteer to be on call to assist with dispatching and handling EMS emergencies. If each homeowner volunteers one weekend a month, or even one weekend every two months, we would have the necessary manpower to handle each call more effectively and safely. More to follow - stay tuned or call the fire station if you have questions now.

A CPR class is currently being scheduled at the fire station. Call the station (576-1201) for details. The date was not confirmed at press time.



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Larry Waldron

The Echoes is the publication of the Mt. Lemmon Homeowners Association for its membership. Membership dues are \$25 annually. Renters and Friends of the mountain may obtain an associate membership for \$20. Send your check to MLHO, PO Box 699, Mt. Lemmon, AZ 85619. This Echoes is brought to you courtesy of the Mt. Lemmon Homeowner's Association. It's one of the benefits of being a member. Your board members are President Larry Waldron, Vice President Franny Crowe, Secretary Kathy Shields, Treasurer Florence Wilhoite, Carrie Reitz, Fran Zimmerman, Chuck Autrey, Olga Pace, John Mulay, Pete Krauss, Red Greth, and editor of the Echoes, Dani Hayhurst. Eight to Nine issues are mailed from February thru November with updates on community events and information.

Mt. Lemmon Homeowners' Association

P. O Box 699 Mt. Lemmon, AZ 85619

The Mt. Lemmon Homeowners' Association (MLHO) was formed in 1969 to protect the welfare of the Mt. Lemmon community and to be involved in all aspects of its improvement. The concerns of the organization are not limited to private property owners. Full membership, with voting rights, is accorded to private owners and leased land holders upon payment of yearly dues.

The most visible product of the MLHO is the ECHOES; a newsletter published eight times a year consisting of approximately seven pages. The Association organizes social events such as potlucks, pancake breakfasts, ice cream socials and raffles enabling owners to mingle while at the same time raising funds for various community causes. This group has always depended upon volunteer support and found strength in numbers. An elected board acts on behalf of and for the benefit of the membership.

Being organized, having a legal fund and having active LOCAL voice participation enables the Association to accomplish most of its goals. Pima County has said the MLHO is the strongest and most respected homeowners' organization in the entire county.

Creating a volunteer fire department and preventing condemnation of private and leased land were the priority issues for which the MLHO was originally established. A list of accomplishments includes: establishing the volunteer fire department, helping to purchase its needed equipment, involving the County in development, planning and zoning, expediting highway maintenance and snow removal, fund raising for the Water Co-op, working to improve the environment, assisting in settlement of reserve boundaries, paying for water tank chlorinators, buying fire hydrants, renting a private water tank to "quick fill" fire tankers, establishing the Mountain Watch program, numbering houses for emergency services, helping reduce the 1989 unorganized school property tax and supporting, politically, the now completed land exchange. Two of the most essential accomplishments were assisting to prevent permittees on Mt. Lemmon from suffering the same fate as those in Madera Canyon and hiring an attorney to save the domestic water supply from termination by the Sierra Club. Currently the MLHOs are working with the fire department and water cooperative to add fire hydrants to the distribution line from Miner's Ridge to the Loma Sabino tank.

The Annual Dinner and Meeting is held each year on the first Tuesday after taxes.

Dues are \$25 per year. Renters and friends of the mountain may obtain membership for \$20 a year. Membership fees are prorated quarterly. Checks payable to Mt. Lemmon Homeowner's Assoc., PO Box 699, Mt. Lemmon, AZ 85619-0699