

Photo by Tami Arthur

To ALL of our Mt. Lemmon firefighters, personnel and volunteers,

Saying thank you doesn't even begin to cover how thankful we are for all you did to save our community and our homes during the Bighorn Fire. Your vigilance, skills, perseverance, and quick thinking on June 17, 2020, saved this mountain (and our cabins).

When a well-meaning friend sent us the video of the fire surrounding the Mt. Lemmon Fire Station we were horrified. We thought there was NO WAY our cabins would survive. Not with such dry conditions and 40 mph winds! Had you not been observant and immediately summoned all the necessary resources and equipment to fight the fire and keep the flames at bay, we are pretty sure they would not have survived which would have resulted in the fire spreading to all the surrounding cabins.

To each and every one of you... Your work ethic, professionalism and dedication to this mountain are beyond anything we could ask for. We are so very appreciative.

Perhaps you already know that the "locals" are calling the ridge where the cabins sit that came so close to the fire, "Miracle Ridge." Truly a miracle made possible by you. We are beyond grateful.

With respect and admiration,

Rose Mary & Brett Hinsch, Thompson & John Hughes, Carol Niehoff & Michael Stanley, other "Miracle Ridge" cabin owners and the Mt. Lemmon community



September 2020

- 1st Full Moon
- 5th Flu shot sign-up deadline
- 7th Labor Day
- 11th Patriot Day
- 13th Flu shot clinic 9 -11:00
- 18th National POW/MIA
Recognition Day
- 19th Third Saturday Board
Meetings (via zoom)
8 am MLWD
10 am MLHOA
1 pm MLWC
(maybe in person)

Do you have something to add to next month's Echoes? Please email your contribution to the editor, Pamela Selby-Harmon, at selbyharmon@aol.com

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The Mt. Lemmon Community Center is part of Pima County's Natural Resources Parks and Recreation (NRPR) department. The center is located in the heart of Summerhaven. The facility is dependent upon local volunteers to staff and support the visitors center. The mission is to welcome all who visit the facility and to promote Summerhaven, Mt. Lemmon and Pima County, Arizona. To reserve the MLCC, call Kelly Cheeseman, Pima County Parks and Recreation, 520-724-5208, or email Kelly.Cheeseman@pima.gov.

Mt. Lemmon Homeowner's Association Musings

by Michael Stanley, president

September is here. Hard to believe we have made it through this season, and most of us still have a small bit of sanity. I think all of us want this year and the situations to just vanish. Perhaps the rest of this year and 2021 will be much better. All of us need to keep a positive attitude and know there are blessings that aid us in keeping the faith. It's strange not to have our events and socialize like we have done for many years. I know we all think about everyone and can't wait until we can meet again, hug and shake hands. These are the human things we all do without much thinking. However, as I was watching a past episode of "Downton Abby," I was reminded that in the Edwardian times people did not hug or show public affection. This might have been due to the Spanish Flu of those times. Maybe there are lessons that carry on through from the past to the future. As we are told, "This too shall pass," and we will be on to better days. At least we haven't had Prohibition and most of us have electricity which was not popular until the late 1950's. We all count our good fortunes to have a cabin to share with families and friends. Willow Canyon residents should be back into their cabins, and the road work should be finishing up soon. We have seen the 25 MPH speed limit raised to our standard 35

MPH. Our businesses are operational, and we expect to start the Fire District water line project this month. Wow! It's hard to believe winter is coming really fast. Our monsoons have been slow, but we continue to do the rain dances to bring up the water table and to get the creeks flowing once again. I want to leave you with good hope and a wish for the very best in the upcoming Fall season. Be Safe!

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About your Mt. Lemmon Homeowner's Association

Mt. Lemmon Homeowner's Association (MLHOA) 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, but the mountain community in general. Full membership with voting rights is accorded to private owners and leased land holders upon payment of yearly dues; renters and friends of the mountain can be non-voting members. Being organized, having a legal fund and having active local voice participation enables the Association to accomplish most of its goals. The Association organizes social events such as potlucks, pancake breakfasts, ice cream socials and raffles, enabling owners to mingle. The Annual Dinner and Meeting is traditionally held each year on the first Tuesday after taxes. Unfortunately, most of these events have been canceled this year due to the current health crisis.

Pima County has said the MLHOA is the strongest and most respected homeowner's organization in the entire county.

Members of the board of directors are: Michael Stanley, president; Jenni Zimmerman, vice-president; Linda Currin, treasurer; Sally Crum, secretary; Pamela Selby-Harmon Echoes editor; and members-at-large John Mulay, Pete Krauss, Debbie Fagan, Mike Bernstein, Tom Thomas and Matthew Grossman.

The Mt. Lemmon Echoes is the primary communication arm of the MLHOA. It is published monthly, from February to November. Advertising in the Echoes for one year (10 issues) is \$100 for a proportional business card, \$250 for a quarter page and \$500 for a half page.

Membership dues for the MLHOA are \$35 annually. To join or renew, clip the form below, fill out all the information and send it, along with a check to the MLHOA. If you have questions or concerns regarding your membership status, contact Linda, Currin, treasurer at 520-247-2582 or lcurren@q.com.

Mount Lemmon Homeowner's Association

Annual Membership \$35 (payable to MLHOA)

Mail this form and your check to MLHOA, PO Box 699,
Mount Lemmon, AZ 85619

Name _____

Mailing address _____

City/State/Zip _____

Mt. Lemmon street address _____

Home Phone _____

Mt. Lemmon Phone _____

Email address _____

Check one:

☐ Property owner

☐ Renter

☐ Friend of the mountain



The MLHOA website provides access to information about a variety of issues concerning the mountain community as well as archives of The Echoes, history and current mountain events. Check it out at mtlemonhoa.org

It is a work in progress, so leave suggestions and/or volunteer to help with its development.

YELLOW HANG TAGS

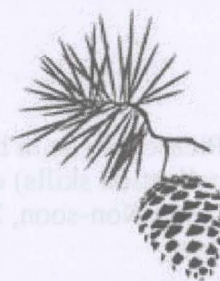
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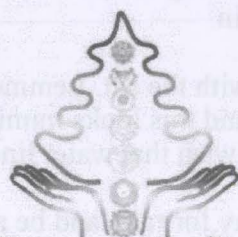
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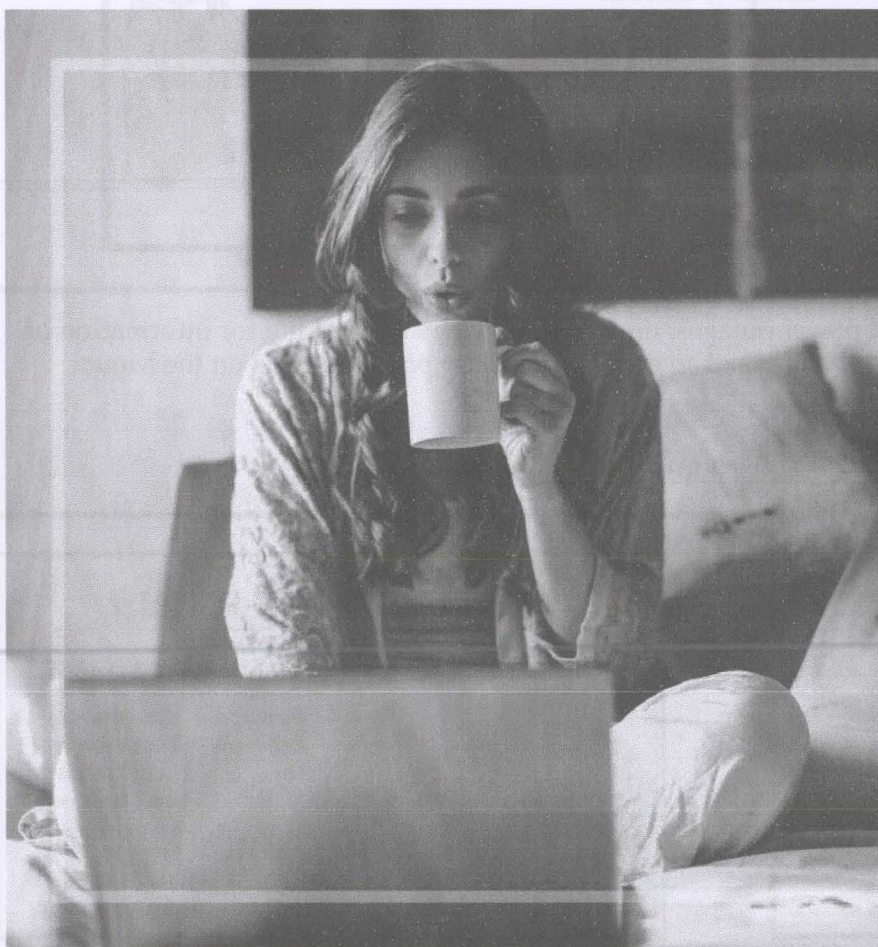
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Mt. Lemmon Water District Greetings

by Doug Mance, chairman Mt. Lemmon Water District Board

Please join us in hoping for...you guessed it...more rain. Even though (because of both conservation and collection skills) our tanks are full, our source water is slowing down because what seems to be the developing Non-soon, 2020. Pray, dance, chat, or sing for nice gentle, regular, soaking rain for the next 30-45 days.

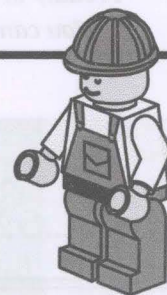
In the meantime, our beautiful green sky island is open to day traffic, helping our businesses and reminding both residents and visitors that Mt. Lemmon and Summerhaven are precious on many levels to many, many people. Part of the meaning of the word "precious" is the word "respect." Respect is also a good thing to bring to the mountain.

Our joint waterline project with the Mt. Lemmon Fire District needs just Tribal approval before we can put out for contractor bids, and this looks imminent as the COVID distressed Arizona tribes gradually and cautiously reopen. I sure do wish that water line had been in place for the Bighorn Fire, but it is coming.

So, conserve your water, pray for rain, and be respectful. It has been quite a 2020 for all of us. Hang in there. We still live in paradise.

Help Wanted!

The Mt. Lemmon Water District is hiring for backup labor and operations of the water system. Perhaps someone with a residence on the mountain may know of a family member or friend that would be interested in working on Mount Lemmon. Please contact Michael Stanley, lemmonh2o@aol.com, 520-576-1538



Since the Bighorn Fire caused prolonged power outages, more cabin owners are looking for information on electric generators. Matthew Grossman has published an article on backup power options on the Mount Lemmon HOA website at

<https://mtlemmonhoa.org/index.php/2020/07/13/backup-power-options-for-your-cabin/>

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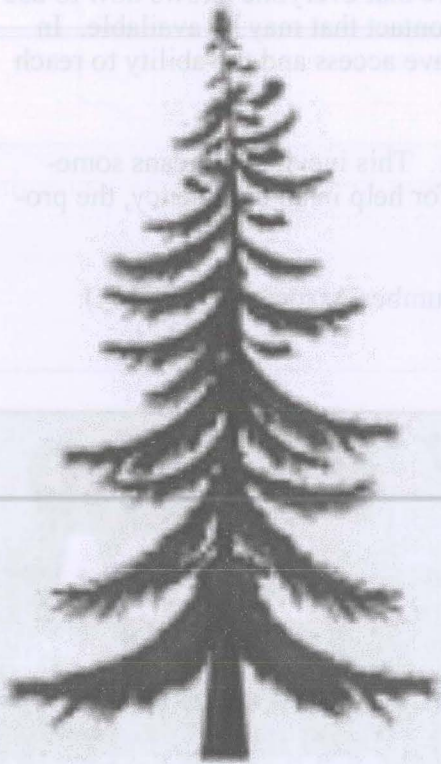
From the Desk of Supervisor Steve Christy

During this challenging year, I think we could all use some good news, and I have some for Summerhaven businesses and residents.

Not only did the Pima County Department of Transportation get the highway open within a week of repair work starting on the Bighorn Fire-burned guardrails, we received word that the DOT-led initiative to alleviate congestion near the village was selected to receive a \$5.5 million grant from the Federal Lands Access Program during Fiscal Year 23/24. A local match of 5.7% is required. The FLAP was identified as a potential funding source back in 2018 when the traffic congestion study was conducted.

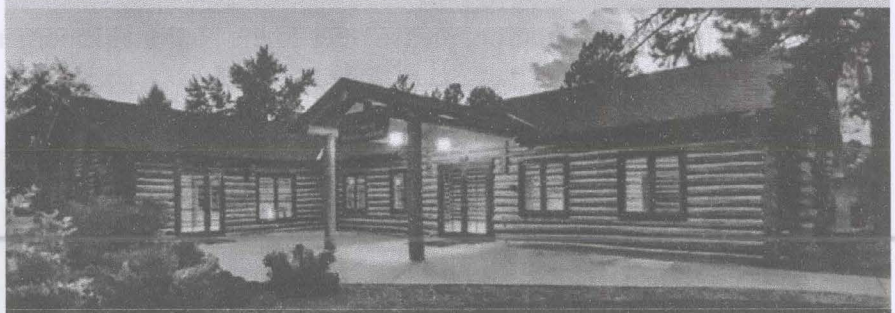
The Sabino Canyon Park Road project includes a new 75 space paved parking lot located below the village and 21 on-street parking spaces, a total of 96 new parking spaces! The project will also include reconstructing about one-half mile of Sabino Canyon Park Road from Carter Canyon Road to the USFS gate above Marshall Gulch, a pathway along Sabino Canyon Park Road as an improvement to the Arizona National Scenic Trail, and a new public restroom above the Wastewater Treatment Facility.

This was a phenomenal team effort by DOT, Deputy Lee Hays, Catalina Forest Service Road Manager Walt Keyes, the MLBEA (Mt. Lemmon Business Economic Association), and a host of the usual suspects, including my office's staff, who loves our Mt. Lemmon community.



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Tips and Guidelines for Contacting 9-1-1

by Dan Leade, Capt/A-Shift MLFD

Calling for emergency services can be a stressful, even scary, event for many. Whether calling on your behalf, that of a loved one, or a complete stranger, the apprehension of dialing 9-1-1 and providing the best possible information to secure a positive outcome can be a daunting task. Keeping this in mind, many agencies have developed a list of important things to consider when calling 9-1-1. While this list is not all inclusive, remembering some of these suggestions will be beneficial if a call for help ever needs to be made.

If you suspect a person needs emergency assistance, but are not entirely sure, it is best practice to call for help. Dispatchers are trained to be able to help make that determination and mobilize the appropriate resources. Do not hang up the phone, even if the call was made by mistake. If the call is truly an emergency, try and stay calm and answer all questions. This means allowing the dispatcher to help you by leading the conversation. Also, do NOT call the fire station directly. If your local resources are out of the station or on another call, the dispatchers will either make radio contact or dispatch another unit. The time that can be lost by not activating the 9-1-1 system immediately can be critical and could lead to an unfavorable outcome.

Know the location of the incident. This can be challenging on the mountain. Make sure your address is clearly marked. Pay attention to mileposts when on the highway. Know the name of the trail that you plan to hike. Give information to the dispatcher that could help resources arrive as quickly as possible. This could be best routing information, known hazards in the area, or where you see smoke in relation to the location you are calling from. This will ensure resources will be moving in the right direction; right away. You can also describe how to best gain access to your physical location. This is especially true if you are trapped or have fallen and cannot answer the door.

It is imperative to teach children the appropriate times to contact 9-1-1 and how to make that contact. This includes explaining why the 9-1-1 system is not a toy. Make sure that everyone knows how to use all the available phones for contacting 9-1-1 and additional ways to contact that may be available. In addition, make sure that children or those with physical disabilities have access and the ability to reach a phone.

Nobody wants to have to contact emergency services by calling 9-1-1. This inevitably means something bad is or is about to occur. By being mentally prepared to call for help in an emergency, the process will go more smoothly.

For additional information, please refer to the National Emergency Number Association (NENA):
<https://www.nena.org/page/911TipsGuidelines>

Jenni Zimmerman
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Ahh, the adventures of driving the mountain road!

Over the years we have seen all sorts of things to keep us on our toes while we drive up and down the mountain in addition to the bicyclists, animals and fallen and falling rocks.

A few weeks ago, the county road crew discovered a "relic" of past road reconstruction. They were cleaning up culverts along the road, just above Willow Canyon, and found a detonator fuse sticking out of the rock face! They called for assistance, and in addition to Deputy Dave Conto, the bomb squad came up from town. Although it had been more than 20 years since any explosives were used along the highway, the determination was made that it was too dangerous to guess whether it was still live. So, while many of us were waiting in line to go up or down, they put a live charge against the rock wall and made it go BOOM! My husband was near the front of the downward line at the time and said it was really loud, rattled the truck, spewed fine-grade rubble down, and then they saw a nice small plume of smoke. It took a little while to get the debris off the highway, but all things considered it was a success.

As Deputy Dave and I were discussing this adventure, we got to sharing a few interesting road stories we've experienced through the years. One of my most memorable was during the highway reconstruction. Several of us were in a line heading up to catch one of the afternoon pilot cars. We rounded the curve at Molino Basin Campground to see a shirtless guy on his motorcycle on the side of the road putting his pants back on! When we got to the pilot car stop, I got out to ask Leroy Day if he had seen what I had. Leroy was driving the school bus back up to the village. He said he had seen the same guy earlier that afternoon riding his motorcycle NAKED up and down the lower section of the road!

What is the craziest thing you have seen while on your drive? Please, let me know!

Pamela
(email me: selbyharmon@aol.com)





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Mount Lemmon Woman's Club

by Carol Niehoff

As we wind down the summer and gratefully welcome cooler weather, we are already planning for the coming year. Is THIS the new normal? Most certainly, we need to continue to observe the CDC guidelines and find ways to creatively maintain the connection with our members, if only by Zoom meetings. Speaking of Zoom, we had 29 participants at the Zoom meeting in August. We appreciate the efforts of our members who struggled through audio, connection and mute issues, but we especially appreciate Dorothy Johnson who offered to set up the meeting and help behind the scenes. Thank you, Dorothy!

We will be revisiting our mountain history from the past twenty years for a project initiated by the GFWC of Arizona. In 1999, our members recounted the years from inception to 2000. *A Tale is Told-* Volume 3 was published in 2001. Remarkably, the Aspen Fire of 2003 altered our community, our lives and our club in ways as dramatic as COVID-19 is altering this community today. We hope you will join in sharing our stellar past for Volume 4 to be published June 2022.

One of the most important benefits of membership in the Woman's Club is our current directory with listings for all our members. Mickie Gelsinger has assumed the task of collecting information and sharing up-to-date listings for our members. If your listing has changed over the past year, please contact Mickie via email: MQGELSINGER@msn.com Thank you Mickie! Plans for the September 19th meeting are in the works. Watch for the notice in your email.

MLWC co-presidents, Carol Niehoff and Tina Hanks



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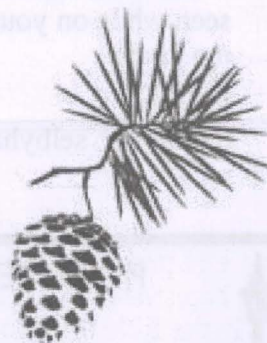
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OH, RATS!

by Michael Stanley

As all of you know, the Bighorn Fire was devastating and has changed the mountain for many years to come. Our green island continues to be inundated with tourists and wildlife. On a personal level, we recently had an encounter with **RATS** under the hood of Carol's car. Just before needing to set up for the elections a few weeks ago, she couldn't start her red car. Sure, she thought, it might be the battery. Inspection revealed that a rat or two had taken up residence under the hood. We would expect this down in the desert but, mind you, we park the car in the same spot and have parked in the same area for the last two years with no damage. Within 5 days or so, the rats had chewed through the wiring harness!

The next day a tow truck arrived, and down the red car went to the dealer. Yes, **RATS!** \$1500 to get the car repaired and back up the mountain. That was like \$200 to \$300 per day of rat damage. Guess the rats thought it was their high-class neighborhood. When we got the car back a week later, we parked it, added peppermint to paper towels to deter said rats and also placed a light under the hood. The rats ate the peppermint and made their presence known in several ways. Then we brought out an extension cord and spotlight to allow them to actually see what they were eating. The light can be seen out in the driveway as they party and perhaps sunbathe in the flood of light. We added aluminum shielding that helps protect them if there happens to be a nonsoon rain storm. **RATS!!** We tried to catch them in a Have-A-Heart trap, but they sent in the little mice to eat the bait without tripping it. Smart rats! **Be AWARE!!**

I guess the warning is that there are varmints outside and perhaps inside your mountain homes and vehicles. Be aware of these hungry mice, rats, and other animals that go squeak in the night.



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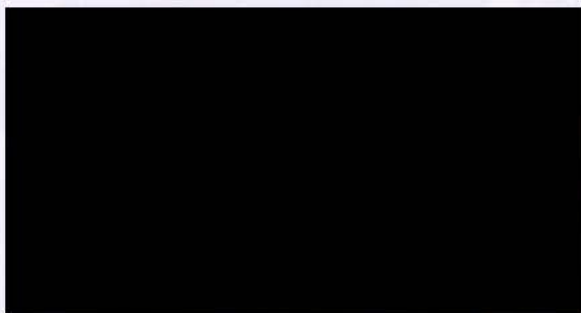
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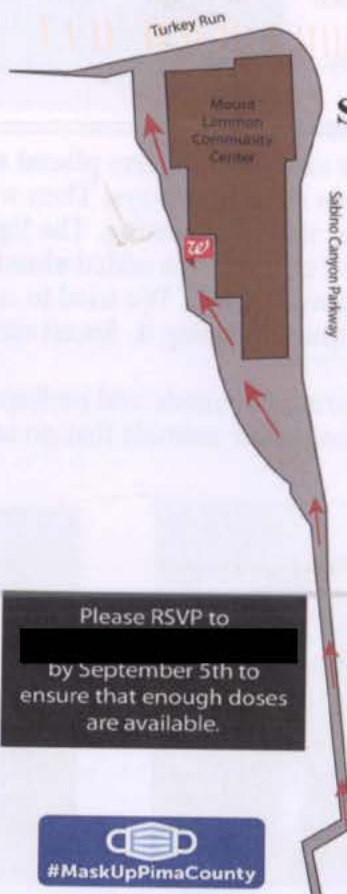
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We are all a bit disappointed, not being able to get together for our pancake breakfast this Labor Day weekend. In addition to a fun, end of summer social event, this annual gathering has been our source for flu shots many years running. So, the MLHO has made other arrangements for Summerhaven's annual flu shot clinic, the Sunday after Labor Day at the Community Center. ➡

Just send Matthew Grossman an email and secure your spot to get your shot.



**Mount Lemmon
Homeowners Association
Seasonal Flu Vaccine Event**

in partnership with

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**September 13, 2020
9:00AM - 11:00AM**

Instructions:

- Bring your insurance information, photo ID and completed assessment/consent form.
- Line up along the sidewalk south of the Community Center.
- Maintain 6-foot social distance between family groups.
- Wear a mask at all times.