



The Faul property photo by Michael Stanley

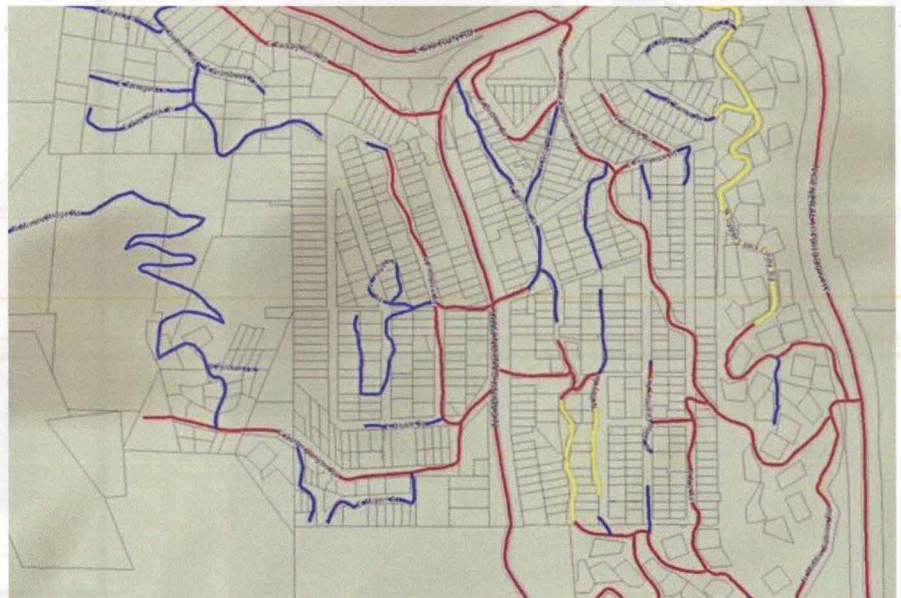
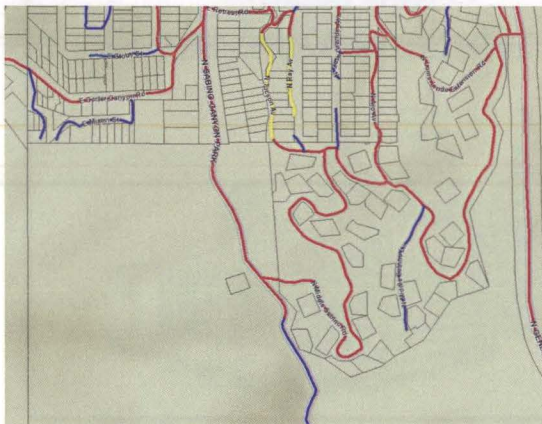
From the Desk of Supervisor Steve Christy

A couple of months ago we provided information about the upcoming residential road repairs in the village, slated for completion this spring. We recently heard that there are a number of new and existing residents asking who maintains the roads. Our thanks to Annabelle Valenzuela in the Pima County Department of Transportation who created the map that depicts paved roads maintained by the county in red, dirt roads maintained by the county in yellow, and roads not maintained by the county in blue. I hope this information is helpful. Please feel free to contact Beth at my office at 520-724-8418 with any questions.

Roads NOT Maintained by Pima County (the maps are more comprehensive than this listing):

Ray Ave. north of Retreat Rd; Middle Sabino Lane; Sabino Canyon Parkway south of Middle Sabino Rd; Miami St; Casa Grande south of Nogales; Guthrie Rd; Wren Lane; Tanager Lane; Cap Rock Tr; Gila Ave; Miners Ridge Rd; Flicker Lane; Hayden Ave; Globe St; Upper Loma Linda Lane; bottom of Yuma Ave; Tucson Ave from highway (north end of town) south; two spurs off of Florence heading south -one is Casa Grande and one is Ajo Ave; southbound spur off Carter Canyon Rd.

Hopefully we can post these on Nextdoor and/or the MLHOA website.



November

- 1st All Saints Day
- 2nd All Souls Day
Election Day
- 11th  Veterans Day
November 11
- 20th Mountain Meetings:
MLWD - 8:30 am
Woman's Club - 1:00 pm
- 25th Thanksgiving Day
- 27th Small Business Saturday
- 28th Hanukkah begins
Advent begins



In 1929, more than 200 horned toads were entered in a race sponsored by the Tucson Lions Club to raise funds for the construction of a road to Mt. Lemmon. Residents and business establishments throughout southern Arizona sponsored entries with such colorful names as "Plumbers Friend," entered by the Arizona Pipe and Heating Company, and "Static," entered by radio station KVOA. The toad entered by the city of Willcox won the race and more than \$2,000 was collected for the Mt. Lemmon road. This little tidbit was submitted by Alice McLaughlin. Thanks Alice!

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.




Tami Arthur
Licensed Massage Therapist,
Certified Lymphatic Therapist

massageinthepines.net
520-449-3339

Massage in the Pines

Helping bring balance to body and mind.

The Living Rainbow, Inc.

P.O. Box 753, 12789 Sabino Canyon Pkwy.
Mt. Lemmon, AZ 85619
(520) 576-1519
rainbowz@mindspring.com
Debbie Fagan



Gifts • Windchimes • Aspen Fire Art
Proudly in business since 1979
"You Can't Sink A Rainbow"

M. C. Harmon Construction, LLC

General Contractor

ROC 219566-221184-221185

520-576-1546 Voice

520-576-1116 Fax

****New email****

SelbyHarmon@aol.com



What's Up from MLHOA Board's September Meeting

by John Osborne, Board secretary

- We welcomed Carter Canyon homeowner, Art Torran, to our meeting. Doug Mance, MLWD Board chair, also attended.
- Carol Mack and Dennis Cozzetti remain volunteers on the MLFD! I apologize for spreading false rumors that they retired.
- FLAP Grant contract for Marshall Gulch renovation work will soon be let to bid. Marshall Gulch could be closed for six to eight months. CJ Woodard will contact engineers to determine logistics.
- CJ reports Forest Service order opens Molino and Peppersauce campgrounds November 1st. Rose Canyon, Spencer, and Whitetail Campgrounds close 10/28. CCC crews are working on Butterfly Trail, but it is not yet open. Fuel wood permits offered next week. The new FS biologist starts November 8 to work beetle-infested trees in Bear Canyon. Control Road opened and will remain open until snow season determines closure.
- Beth Borozan of County Supervisor Steve Christy's office reported funding for FLAP grant passed in amount of \$305,000 for use through 2023 subject to parallel federal funding. Beth will work with County to improve dirt roads including Upper Loma Linda for comfort and to permit snowplows to operate effectively.
- Sally Crum reported for Fire Chief Joe Gunia. State crews started brush cleanup work on Turkey Run. Tanager cleanup is next in line in two weeks. Chipping could not be completed because locust trees jam the chipper. Burn pile was burned on 9/28. Once cooled, remnants will be removed.
- Events: The annual White Elephant party will happen on December 12 from 3-6pm at the Tucson Hop Shop. The menu will cost \$12/head with a maximum of 75 guests, first come first served. See November Echoes for details. The annual meeting is scheduled for April 19, 2022, at the Viscount Suite Hotel.
- Echoes: please respond to survey to determine whether the Echoes continues in print, moves to wholly digital, or a combination of the two.
- Water Department: Michael Lopez joined the Department. Say hello if you see him. New water line construction on Tucson is delayed to next March for lack of materials and employees. Meters and pipe are unavailable. The next project after Tucson will likely be Guthrie improvements.
- Doug Mance of the Water Department emphasized for cabin owners to **TURN OFF YOUR WATER AND DRAIN YOUR CABIN IF YOU ARE NOT USING IT DURING THE WINTER.** We lose time, money, and water when cabin owners' pipes freeze and break.
- Mt. Lemmon Business Economic Association ("MLBEA") President Jenni Zimmerman, reports road closures due to accidents and other mishaps have become big issue. The "Plan" developed last year for communication with the PCSD needs to be updated with new points of contact. Jenni will update the Plan. The Mt. Lemmon Hotel is full. Notice walls going up at the Lodge. Completion projected in late May 2022.
- Sally reported for Deputy Sloan, who emphasized cabin owners be on alert for and report people checking doors as they probably have evil intent. Also that on Halloween, Deputy Sloan would distribute candy from her Sheriff's vehicle for local kids to "Trick or Treat" on the mountain.



Your MLHOA Reflects and Looks Forward

by Sally Crum, MLHOA Board president

As you read this, we are quickly approaching the busy Thanksgiving and Christmas holidays. It is a time to reflect on all the things we have to be thankful for and to look forward, with anticipation, to what 2022 holds in store for us.

While this year continued to have many challenges for our community, we also had much to celebrate. Instead of fire, our summer was blessed with RECORD rainfall! The Mt. Lemmon Fire District received its very own waterline, a new generator was installed thanks to the generosity of our community, and the station was also able to purchase a new fire truck. Thanks to the monsoon, the Mt. Lemmon Water District lifted the local water restrictions. The Mt. Lemmon Hotel opened and continues to expand, and the Mt. Lemmon Lodge construction is moving ahead, with plans to open next year. The MLWC members continued to support each other and many local charities. Yes, we have much to be thankful for.

We are also looking forward to a number of holiday happenings including the **MLWC Holiday event** and the **Annual White Elephant Party**. Details are included elsewhere in this issue.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank our current and previous board members for their hard work and dedication to making our community the special place it is. I owe a special thanks to **Michael Stanley** for his many years of service to us, both at the MLWD and as president of the MLHOA Board. His shoes are hard to fill – **THANK YOU MICHAEL!** You can read highlights of our October Board Meeting elsewhere in this issue.

Bye and be safe, until next year!



CHAIRMAN, NATURAL RESOURCES,
ENERGY & WATER
VICE CHAIRMAN, FEDERAL RELATIONS
HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES
MILITARY & VETERANS AFFAIRS

GAIL GRIFFIN
MEMBER, DISTRICT 14

ARIZONA
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
1700 W. WASHINGTON STREET, STE. H
PHOENIX, ARIZONA 85007-2844

CAPITOL: (602) 926-5895
TOLL FREE: 1(800) 352-8404
TUCSON: (520) 398-6000
ggriffin@azleg.gov



George R. Reitz

Realtor®
Multi Million Dollar Producer



Real Estate
Marketing Professionals
of Tucson

7481 E. Tanque Verde Rd., Tucson, AZ 85715

Home/Office: (520) 722-1265
Cell Phone: (520) 444-1439
Fax: (520) 303-4975
greitz2@cox.net



LET US REMODEL OR UPDATE YOUR CABIN SHM CONSTRUCTION, LLC.

ROC#251270

OF TUCSON IS A LICENSED, BONDED
AND INSURED GENERAL CONTRACTOR IN BUSI-
NESS SINCE 2008 WITH 40 YEARS
PRIOR EXPERIENCE IN ALL TRADES.

WE SPECIALIZE IN:

- *ROOM ADDITIONS
- *KITCHEN AND BATHROOM REMODELS
- *PAINTING INTERIOR AND EXTERIOR
- *ROOF REPAIR AND COATING
- *PORCHES AND ARIZONA ROOMS
- *REPLACE TILE AND OTHER FLOORING
- *UPDATE AND REPLACE WINDOWS
AND DOORS

CALL STEVE MILLER AT
520-349-3761 OR EMAIL AT
shmconstructionllc@yahoo.com

REFERENCES PROVIDED UPON REQUEST.

About your Mt. Lemmon Home Owner'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 tax day.

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: Sally Crum, president; Jenni Zimmerman, vice-president; Anne Skelley, treasurer; John Osborne, secretary; Pamela Selby-Harmon, Echoes editor; and members-at-large Linda Currin, John Mulay, Pete Krauss, Kim McNurlin, Michael Singervalt, 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 Anne Skelley at 520-429-9199 or email sgca891@gmail.com

Please let us know

As costs rise and lifestyles change, more people may be interested in an electronic delivery option for The Echoes. We are not looking to completely eliminate the paper copy. But making a digital edition available for those who prefer to get their info electronically could reduce printing and postage costs. Please let us know by responding to the MLHOA Board's survey at the link listed below.

<https://forms.gle/mNqabNEvzvxxVaF99>

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

Important News You Can Use

by Matt Grossman

There are four online resources available to keep Mount Lemmon residents up-to-date between Echoes editions:

1. A Google Group has been set up to provide email updates. To join, send an e-mail to mtlemmon-hoa+subscribe@googlegroups.com.
2. The Mount Lemmon Homeowner's Association maintains a website at <https://mtlemmonhoa.org/>. Check it out, get informed, and contribute.
3. A neighborhood group has been set up on Nextdoor.com. Sign up using your cabin street address to be connected to the Mount Lemmon group. If you already use Nextdoor for your valley neighborhood, you need to sign up for Mount Lemmon under a different email address, since only one neighborhood is permitted per email address at this time. This venue is important for general information, worthwhile educational benefits and timely communication, especially during critical concerns such as fire danger and road closures.
4. MLFDAZ.org is the web-address for our Fire Department. On their home page, under the Resources tab is *Firewise*. This tab takes you to the compilation of the important Firewise information and forms. This includes an Action List for Property Owners, a Community Communications form, cheatgrass and bark beetle identification, and even more information to help keep your cabin and community safe.

Christmas Shopping Suggestions from the MLBEA

by Jenni Zimmerman

The Holidays are coming, and we're here to make your life easier and more fun. No empty shelves either! Please think about shopping "local" this season. (Small business Saturday is November 27th.)

Ski Valley, The Sawmill Run, The General Store, The Living Rainbow, The Cookie Cabin, The Sky Island Trading Company, and even the Mt. Lemmon Sky Center would love to help you shop for merchandise and gift cards. Treat yourself to a fun shopping experience on the mountain and support the Mt. Lemmon community.



Join the Trico Board

You can help govern and direct the business of your electric cooperative.

Trico is accepting nomination petitions for District 7 (SaddleBrooke, Mt. Lemmon). Visit www.trico.coop to learn more about running for the board.

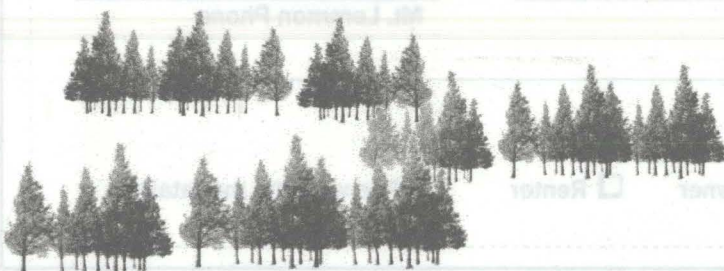


(520) 744-2944 • www.trico.coop

[/tricoelectric](https://www.facebook.com/tricoelectric) [/tricoelectricAZ](https://www.instagram.com/tricoelectricAZ)

Trico is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 



Tucson Avenue Project Update #1 and Freeze Reminder

by Nathan Davis, MLWD

This is an UPDATE to the Tucson Avenue Project for property owners on or near Tucson Avenue, which was originally scheduled to begin in late September. The Water District contractor is having problems with the Tucson Avenue construction project. Due to the pandemic, there are issues getting their prior projects completed and are struggling with lack of materials, employees, and fuel. Their projects require additional time, resulting in a 3-to-4-month extension to their workload. This has put our project start date further into the future than we expected. We regret that it is necessary to postpone our Tucson Avenue Project until spring; the anticipated start date to be March 2022. We will be sending mail out to the customers via USPS before the end of October. **Please send Doug Mance your email contact address for updates on this project to:** dmancemtlemon@comcast.net.

On another note, the weather prediction is calling for a strong influence of La Nina. This could signal a drier and colder winter. There could be possible freezing similar to last year's situation. Please remember to shut off your water when you will be away from your cabin. There are many new owners and renters who have not experienced mountain freezing, and we suggest preparing a procedure list of how to shut off your residence's water and how to turn it back on. Customer leaks are the main reason we lose large amounts of water and create outages for a majority of customers. If a customer has a leak, they are responsible for the leak, the find fee and water loss. There have been extremely high bills for this easy-to-remedy solution. Shut off your water and PLEASE conserve!

Thank you,
Nathan Davis

Mt. Lemmon Water District
mtlemmonwater@gmail.com

520-576-1538



DESERT LIVING, INC.

creating livable landscapes

- rainwater harvesting
- greywater systems
- erosion mitigation
- food gardens
- grow domes
- greenhouses

Get Your Rain Tank Installed in Time
to Collect the Summer Monsoons

Call Now to Schedule Your
\$120* Site Consultation
*applied toward cost of install

ylea olson, mla

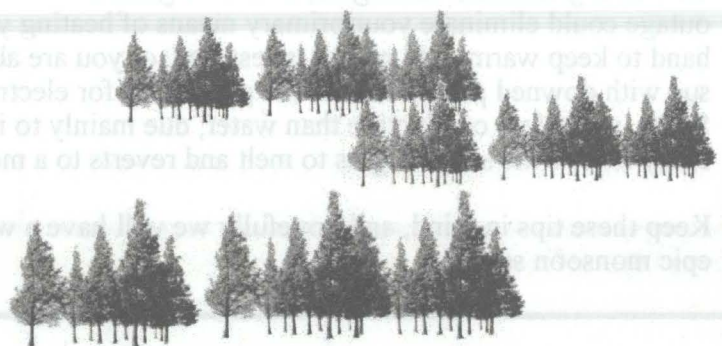
520-834-6932

nathan clark

520-405-8248

We're your local experts in
stormwater management!

DESIGN-BUILD
AZ ROC #076359
desertlivingtucson.com
desertlivingtucson@gmail.com



dennis cozzetti
cozzetti construction inc
520 665-1648
dennis@cozzetticonstruction.com



Winter Monsoon?

by Dan Leade, Capt/A-Shift

It is hard to believe that we have reached the final Echoes of 2021; and what a year it has been! It seems the overwhelming common theme of so many articles this year was the monsoon and the copious amount of precipitation that the mountain received. If the monsoon is a precursor to what our winter may look like, we may be in for a lot of snow in big dumps! While I have not seen any data leaning one way or the other, a few considerations for heavy snowstorms warrant discussion.

Driving in heavy snow is a major concern. Rapidly changing conditions, slippery roads, highway obstructions, heavy equipment, and inexperienced drivers are all things to be considered. Check weather forecasts and call the Pima County Road Conditions Hotline (520) 547-7510. Consider carrying items like snow chains, shovel, food, water, and blankets. Even though the trip up the mountain is relatively short, getting stuck is a real possibility.

Once at your cabin, you will want to be warm. Check your fireplace before the harshness of winter hits to be sure it is clean and unobstructed. Make sure space heaters are the recommended distance from combustibles and NEVER bring outdoor grills inside. Also be sure that smoke and carbon monoxide detectors are in good working condition.

It is also a good idea to be prepared for an extended stay. If a storm makes it impossible to leave your cabin until help can arrive, be sure to be prepared. Have plenty of food and water for a longer-than-planned duration at your cabin. Be sure to have all medications and medical devices that are required. Consider the same suggestions for any pets that you bring up to enjoy the snow.

Anybody who has lived up here for even a short time knows that the winter has a way of knocking out power. Having candles, flashlights, or even a generator will come in handy if the power goes down. A power outage could eliminate your primary means of heating your cabin. Warm clothes and blankets should be on hand to keep warm until power is restored, or you are able to get off the mountain. An often-forgotten issue with downed power lines is the possibility for electrocution while inspecting for a possible cause. Snow, while less conductive than water, due mainly to its air content, can conduct electricity. This is especially true as the snow begins to melt and reverts to a more liquid form.

Keep these tips in mind, and hopefully we will have a winter wonderland to enjoy this year on top of our epic monsoon season.

Cabin cleaning made easy

Next day, same day service available

Open/close cleaning jobs bid on site

Free estimates, flexible hours



Debbie Weatherly

520-203-3740

Email: Debbie.weatherly@gmail.com



**Steve
Littler**



**RANCHO
LINDA
VISTA**



**Amy
Buttery**

ARIZONA'S OLDEST GUEST RANCH

ORACLE, ARIZONA



Fall Comes to the Santa Catalina District

By Imena Ezell, USFS Partnership Coordinator, Visitor Center Manager

As the fall weather arrives, so does visitation in the Canyon! Starting November 8th, Neil Dutt will be the new permanent Wildlife Biologist here on the Santa Catalina District. Neil is a Tucson native and Marine Corps veteran who recently worked as a federal contractor for the US Geological Survey, mostly looking for a threatened native succulent, Bartram's stonecrop. Welcome, Neil!

The following campgrounds have closed as of October 28th: Rose Canyon, Spencer, Whitetail and Shower's Point. The Gordon Hirabayashi and Molino Basin campgrounds are opening November 1st. We have signed into effect updated closure orders for Upper Sabino, General Hitchcock Highway, Bear Wallow and Rose Canyon. These are orders that have been in place for a while and were just reissued with the same restrictions.

Enjoy all the splendor of this season and the mountain.

Mount Lemmon Lodge

ROOMS CAFE GIFTS

COMING
SPRING
2022

mtlemmonlodge.com

Colorado Log Enterprises LLC

Log Home Restoration & Maintenance



"Increase the Value of Your
Dream Investment."

Permachink and Sashco
Zero Failure Certified

Owner
Cole Pavy
303.249.9299

Office
303.887.5065

www.coloradologenterprises.com

2021 Firewise Ends with Great Success!

by Sally Crum, Firewise chair

It has been an exciting year for the Mt. Lemmon Firewise team. THANKS to the leadership of Dorothy Johnson, the Neighborhood Captain program continued to grow and thrive. The captains reached out to their neighbors through emails and snail mail to encourage participation in Firewise activities, and our slash piles began to grow.

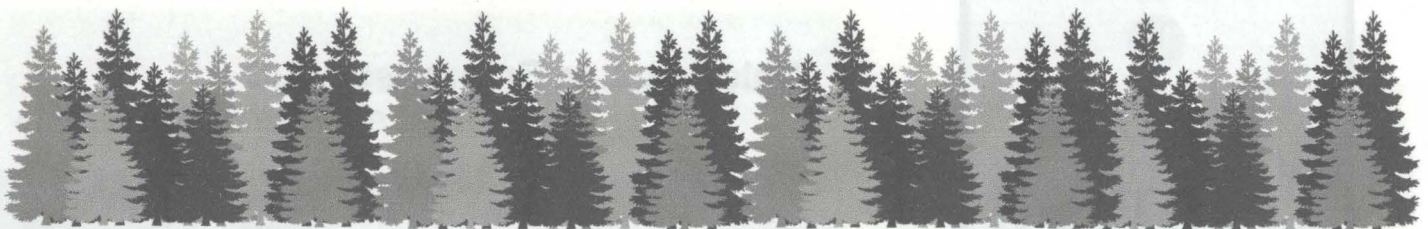
Dorothy organized several cheatgrass pulling events, with participation prizes donated by the Mt. Lemmon General Store and the Cookie Cabin. Fudge and cookies make great incentives!

Thanks to Dorothy and Henry, a combination zoom/face-to-face meeting was held at their cabin, with guest speakers from the U.S. Forest Service, AZ Dept. of Forestry and Fire Management, and MLFD. They provided practical information on how to identify bark beetle infested trees and answered questions on a number of Firewise topics. Plans are underway for another session of Firewise Assessment Training. This practical, hands-on course provides training for our Neighborhood Captains to assess and provide property-specific information on reducing the risk of wildfire to their neighbors.

When the chipper crews became available, they were able to begin the process of chipping our many slash piles. Thanks to some MLWC members who were able to respond on very short notice, and with the help of a number of volunteers, provided a great lunch and snacks for the crew on Oct. 3rd. (See the photos on the back cover.) Although the crew was unable to complete all the chipping that day, there are plans to return and complete the chipping soon. They were slowed by issues involving incompatible chipper material in the piles which had to be sorted and removed.

With the blessing of rain also comes an increase in the number and amounts of hazardous fuels. Please begin early and be vigilant in removing dead weeds, cheatgrass, and slash.

Thanks again to Dorothy Johnson, Neighborhood Captains and YOU, the community. for all you do to support our Firewise efforts.



Sky Island Construction

BUILDING HOMES ON MT LEMMON AND TUCSON

NEW ROOM ADDITIONS • INTERIOR ROOM REMODELS
GARAGE ENCLOSURES, PAINTING / STAINING SERVICES
LOG CABINS & REDWOOD DECKS



GREGG FERGUSON

OFFICE: 471.6322

AZ ROC# 163522

SKYISLANDCABINS@AOL.COM

P.O. Box # 32683

Tucson, AZ 85751

Estab.



1984

"Your Dependable Truckers of Tucson"

www.deserttrucking.com

John "J.J." Johnson

Cell (520) 449-8800

Fax (520) 690-0011

Transfers

Super 16 & 18

Semi's & Bells

10 & 12 Wheel Dumps

EL RANCHO ENCANTO

ASSISTED LIVING

EXTRAORDINARY HOMES. SUPERIOR CARE

Pam Haskell

Phone: 520-885-0004

Fax: 520-885-7077

Cell: 520-245-8292

5705 & 5803 E Ft. Lowell
Tucson, AZ 85712

pamhaskell@elranchoencanto.com

www.elranchoencanto.com



PROUDLY SERVING ARIZONA FOR 48 YEARS

Arizona Propane

GAS PRODUCTS SALES & SERVICE

- ✓ FAMILY OWNED
- ✓ COMPETITIVE PRICING
- ✓ NO HIDDEN FEES
- ✓ UNBEATABLE SERVICE
- ✓ RV COMPATIBLE
- ✓ RESIDENTIAL & COMMERCIAL

ENJOY A
MOUNTAIN
OF SAVINGS!

520-750-9116

Commercial Sales: Rene 520-621-0335

Trisha@arizonapropane.com

Renea@arizonapropane.com



simply bits

High Speed Internet
for your home

Avoid the
Seasonal Rush!
Schedule Your Installation
Today!

Call (520) 574-7445
or visit www.simplybits.com



Mt. Lemmon White Elephant Happy Hours December 12

from Doug and Laura Mance

A white elephant gift exchange is a party game where amusing and impractical gifts are exchanged during festivities. The goal of a white elephant gift exchange is to entertain party goers rather than to gain a genuinely valuable or highly sought-after item.

This year we're mixing it up and moving the White Elephant party off the mountain and into town. It will be held on Sunday, December 12, from 3:00-6:00 pm at the Tucson Hop Shop, 3230 North Dodge Blvd. Doug and Laura Mance and their granddaughters, Addi and Lexi, are the hosts since they ended up with the lucky elephant at our last event in 2019.

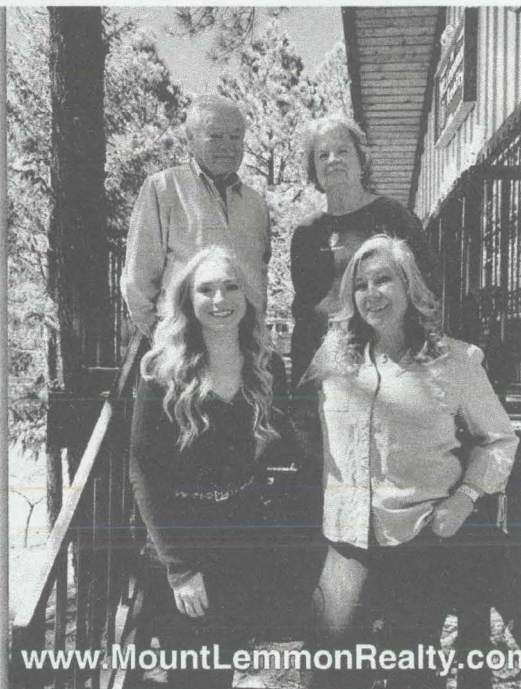
The Hop Shop has a large outdoor beer garden with heaters and chimineas and a vast selection of beer, wine, and non-alcoholic drinks. Snacks will be provided by *Stompin' Grounds* Food Truck (Leroy and Jeanne) and *Malta Joe's* small pies (meat or veggie). Tickets are \$12 per person which covers tickets for drinks and snacks.

Attendance is limited to the first 75 people who RSVP to: dmancemtlemon@comcast.net
(We're not going to host a super spreader!)

Once your reservation is confirmed you'll receive information regarding tickets. Don't forget to bring a gift for the White Elephant exchange. The lucky person who picks the white elephant gets to host next year's party!

5 Reasons to list with Mount Lemmon Realty

- We have specialized in selling Real Estate on Mt. Lemmon since 1940
- We are family owned. We have four licensed agents, two with their Brokers License
- We have the BEST knowledge of Mt. Lemmon
- We are experts on selling vacant lots, cabins, and Forest Service cabins
- We are involved in the Mt. Lemmon Businesses & Pima County



www.MountLemmonRealty.com

So who's going to step up and take over editing The Echoes?

It's a great way to get involved with your community!

I've been at it for two years now. It's time for a new volunteer.

Thanks!

Pamela Selby-Harmon, Postmaster,
Mount Lemmon
selbyharmon@aol.com

Call the office at 520-576-1333

Cordilleran Flycatcher Nesting on Mt. Lemmon During 2021

By Dr. Charles van Riper III

Now that all of the Mt Lemmon Cordilleran Flycatchers (*Empidonax occidentalis*) have finished their summer breeding on our mountain, and are headed back to their winter habitat in southern Mexico, it is time to reflect back on the 2021 breeding season. We are now analyzing all of the data collected at our nesting sites and provided by the residents of Mt Lemmon. The success rates of the breeding season were somewhat disappointing, even though the moister regions of Mt Lemmon usually provide excellent breeding habitat for this flycatcher. The breeding season began with a late arrival of the migrant flycatchers, and while breeding continued at low levels through the summer, the breeding period abruptly ended with many birds leaving early. With all of the nesting platforms that residents placed on their properties, and the great monsoon rains we had this year, one would have expected better nesting success, but we recorded very few Cordilleran Flycatcher young produced during the 2021 breeding season.



Cordilleran Flycatcher with a flying insect in its bill, getting ready to feed nestlings along Sabino Creek in Summerhaven (photo credit Harold Greeney)

What might have caused the poor nesting success of Cordilleran Flycatchers on Mt Lemmon during 2021?

Our lowest elevation study location, Willow Canyon, had almost no Cordilleran Flycatcher young fledged, while at Camp Lawton in Palisades (our mid-elevation site) not a single young successfully fledged from 12 nests that we monitored. The number of flycatcher young that fledged in Summerhaven and along the Turkey Run was greater than at the other locations, but still significantly lower than the last two years. There are a number of possible factors that have contributed to the poor 2021 Cordilleran Flycatcher nesting success on Mt Lemmon, including low food levels, high predation, and late nesting. A reduction in available food (flying insects) seems to be the most important reason for the low nesting success.

Lack of Food for the Cordilleran Flycatcher

We are all aware that before this moist monsoon season, there was extreme drought with lower than normal precipitation and higher temperatures in the southwest. The early 2021 spring drought period certainly contributed to the exceptionally low flying insect numbers, and insect levels remained at low levels on Mt Lemmon even when additional monsoon moisture came to the mountain. There are also long-term ramifications from last year's Bighorn fire and understory removal that factor into this equation. We must consider how all these factors may have worked together to change food availability patterns for the Cordilleran Flycatcher on Mt Lemmon.

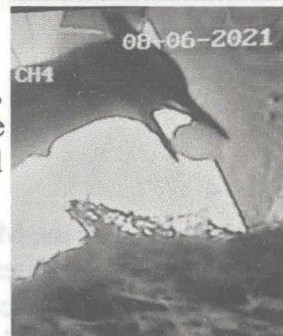
We operate malaise insect traps along Turkey Run road and at Camp Lawton. These traps collect flying insects and provide us with an index of potential Cordilleran Flycatcher food. To simplify our data, we have pooled daily numbers on the graph into 2-week blocks, with each bar being grams dry weight of insects.

During 2019 and 2020 we found that flying insect numbers began to rise in early May-June, kept increasing and peaked in late June (when young are usually being fed), and then fell off in July-August. The patterns and levels of flying insect numbers were similar during 2019 and 2020, but throughout 2021, even though the pattern was the same, numbers of flying insects, were more than 5-times lower. It is now October 2021, and flying insect numbers still remain low. The lower level of available food during 2021 certainly would have an influence on the ability of the Cordilleran Flycatcher to secure enough resources and energy to begin nesting, carry out egg production, and feed young.

Continued on page 14

Predation by aerial predators continues to be high-

The predation rate of Cordilleran Flycatcher eggs and young is very high on Mt Lemmon, when compared to other locations where these flycatchers nest. This is in a large part due to the high number of resident predators such as the Stellar's Jay (*Cyanocitta stelleri*) and Common Raven (*Corvus corax*). We documented that less than half of the Cordilleran Flycatcher eggs laid hatched, due largely to egg-predation. We have continuous video surveillance at some of the Cordilleran Flycatcher nests along Turkey Run. From several of these cameras we were able to document multiple instances when a Stellar's Jay removed and ate Cordilleran Flycatcher eggs.



Video screen shot of a Stellar's Jay removing the second Cordilleran Flycatcher egg from Nest # 20-04 on 8 June 2021, Turkey Run (Photo credit C. van Riper III)

Comparing 2021 with previous years of Cordilleran Flycatcher nesting success

From 2016-2020 we found that the Cordilleran Flycatcher can only complete one successful nest each summer, due to the length of their breeding cycle – it takes over 60 days from the beginning of nest building until Cordilleran Flycatcher young become independent from their parents. Arriving in May and leaving in early-to-mid August, birds only have a total of 70-80 days to breed, so any delay to the start of nesting can have a negative influence on successfully completing their nesting cycle. So, the earlier the birds can begin to nest the better, and earlier breeding does increase chances of successfully raising young.

We reported in an earlier Echoes article this year (Vol. 45 No. 5) that the start of the 2021 nesting season had been greatly delayed. We do not fully understand the delay in the arrival of the birds to Mt. Lemmon and there may be factors in play at their wintering areas. For comparison, during 2020 Cordilleran Flycatchers began building their nests on Mt Lemmon during the first week of May with new nest initiations starting to decrease by early June. In 2021 the temporal pattern of first nests being built was delayed until the 4th week in May. This is a 3-week difference from when Cordilleran Flycatchers normally begin building nests. This late breeding contributed to the overall low nesting success because the later fledged young were exposed to the heavy monsoon rains and many died from thermal exposure and/or starvation.

During 2020 approximately 1.5 young fledged from each active nest. This year the number fledged average 1.1 on Turkey Run Road, none fledged from nests at Palisades, and only 0.5 fledged from active nests at lower elevations (Willow and Rose canyons).

Only 25 Cordilleran Flycatcher young fledged in 2021 from all the nests that we monitored on Mt Lemmon. The platforms that Mt Lemmon residents erected on their properties contributed almost 25% of the young fledged, pointing to the importance of this public outreach effort. The birds continue to use nesting locations on houses and other man-made structures, and this year those nests contributed 68% of the fledged young. We monitored 12 nests that were placed in natural locations (e.g., roots, logs, stream banks) and only two were successful contributing the remaining 8% of the fledged young. Although not all nesting platforms were used for Cordilleran Flycatcher nesting this past year, having this type of nesting substrate available for birds to use in the future will be an important factor in helping to maintain the Mt Lemmon Cordilleran Flycatcher population.

We plan to continue our Cordilleran Flycatcher research next year on Mt Lemmon, and will provide more updates to everyone in 2022 with ECHOES articles about these birds. Next year we will also again focus our efforts on seeing which color-banded birds return and how the 2022 flycatcher breeding season progresses. When the Cordilleran Flycatchers return from Mexico next spring, we may begin to see the consequences of lowered reproduction in 2021. We again wish to thank Bill and Cathie Brown, BJ Singh, Pam and Dennis Winston, and Mike Mayo for permission to mist-net on their private lands. We also wish to thank Tom Tracy and the Catalina Boy Scout Council for allowing us to work in Camp Lawton near Palisades, and Charles Woodard and the USFS to work on their Catalina District lands on Mt Lemmon. We very much appreciate Teo Melis' and Scott Vanderkooi's continued support of our research in the US Geological Survey, Southwest Biological Center's Emeritus Program. Any use of trade, firm, or product names is for descriptive purposes only and does not imply endorsement by the U. S. Government.

Mount Lemmon Woman's Club Asks, "What Motivates You?"

by Carol Niehoff, co-president

We are approaching some of the busiest days of the year as it careens from Halloween through Thanksgiving, on to "Holidaze" and ending with the New Year!

Why do we send out cards to friends and family, plan gatherings, and buy presents? What motivates us? Love of family? The chance to celebrate our friendships? What if we had no family, no money, or if we couldn't even choose our friends? This is the case with the residents of Catalina Village Assisted Living, and we are honored each year to bring our free Holiday Bazaar, Goodie Bags and even Santa and Mrs. Claus to these grateful folks. In order to fill the tables with choice selections from clothes to toiletries to trinkets and magazines, we depend on donations from our MLWC members and Mount Lemmon friends. Last year, our community really stepped up and filled many tables with clothes and toiletries. Let's do it again!

This year the Catalina Village Bazaar will be on Wednesday, December 8th.

We also have donated to the organization "More than a Bed." This awesome group supports foster families and kinship placements and adoptive families. They will have a Christmas party on December 6th and have requested donations of toys for children of all ages.

Contact Linda Mulay 520-327-4615 for donation information.

Carol Niehoff and Tina Hanks, co-presidents

Here are some photos of last year's Holiday Bazaar



Catalina Village Snacks Suggestions: Cup of Noodles, BBQ chips, Cheese Doritos, Plain potato chips, Cheese Puffs, Oreos, Rice Krispies Treats, Cheez-its, chocolate, donuts & honey buns (for residents who don't have teeth to chew), Mac 'n' Cheese cups.

Sodas both regular and diet: Root Beer, Sprite, Dr. Pepper, Coke

The current population at Catalina Village is 34 Women and 47 Men.

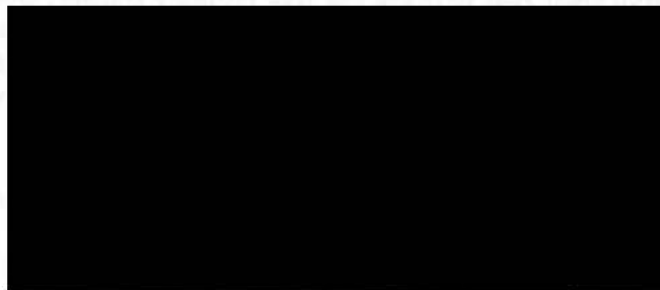


Sizes and counts for Residents		
	Women	Men
Small	6	1
Medium	4	10
Large	5	10
Extra Large	7	12
1 XL		1
2 XL	4	6
3 XL	4	4
4 XL	2	2
5 XL	1	

**Mt. Lemmon Homeowner's Assoc.
P.O. Box 699
Mt. Lemmon, AZ 85619**



**PRST STD
US POSTAGE
PAID
TUCSON, AZ
APS DIGITAL PRINT
85713**



Here's the FS Crew who were up taking care of our forest, doing some thinning and chipping the downed slash. Photo by Sgt. Cooper, DFFM Dept. of Forrest and Fire Management

And here are the awesome mountain volunteers who fed the hardworking Crew. Michael Stanley took this photo.

Thank you for all your efforts!

