

The Mt. Lemmon Echoes

A publication of the Mt. Lemmon Homeowners' Association

mtlemmonhoa.org

Pancakes & Sledgehammers

A very successful Pancake Breakfast literally brought the walls down in the Fire Station! The breakfast began at 9 am and was well attended with close to 200 community members and friends who enjoyed pancakes and ham served up by the MLHOA board.

After everyone in attendance had their fill, the raffle and silent auction began. Board President Sally Crum was emcee for the raffle which included beautiful gift baskets, prints, fudge, gift certificates from the General Store, flycatcher birdhouses and more. The silent auction saw community members bid on beautiful pieces of artwork, an airplane ride to the Grand Canyon with Dr. Thrasher, and intricate handmade quilts.

At the conclusion of the silent auction, the crowd's attention turned to Fire Chief Gunia who gave background on the history of the new fire station project and introduced the architect who explained how the large project came together.

In lieu of a traditional groundbreaking, past and present members of the MLFD Board donned safety gear and were given gold sledgehammers to break a wall in the old station signaling the start of the new construction. It is hoped the new fire station will be operational Fall 2025.

**The MLHOA Pancake Breakfast
raised over \$2,500 for our Mt.
Lemmon Fire Department!**



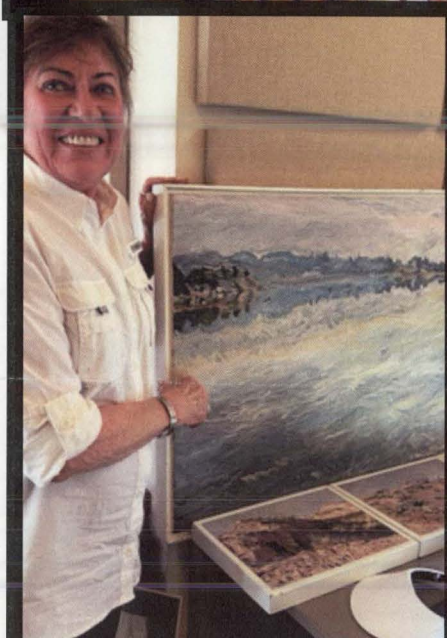
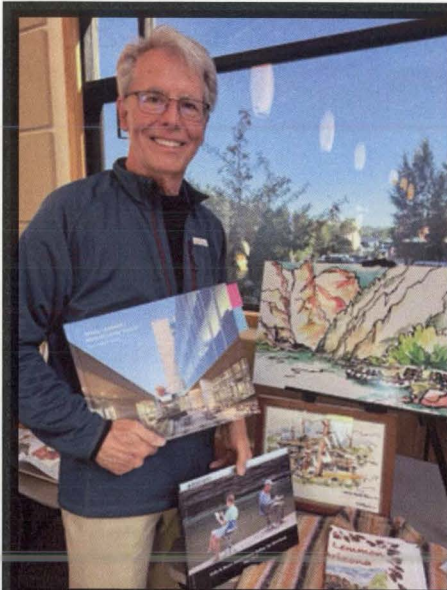
A big crowd turned out for the Pancake Breakfast.



Jerry Taylor & John Mulay cook up the good stuff.



MLFD board members past and present are ready for wall breaking. Left to right: Chief Joe Gunia, Paul Gelsinger, Mitch Cusolito, Diana Osborne, Tom McNurlin, Teri Carpenter, Sally Crum, and Todd Canale.



**Amazing Artists
working in a variety of
media share their
stories and work with
our community!**

Clockwise from top: Steve Brigham, Mary Torrence, Carol Niehoff, Donna Schotter, Lindy Brigham, Jeanne Hartmann, Thompson Hughes, and Pam Haskell.



Artists Showcase Talent

The final Speakers Series of 2024 turned the Community Center into a mountaintop art gallery! Eight local artists presented their work and shared the inspirational personal stories of what drives their art. Lindy Brigham took up weaving to combat the stress of grad school; Steve Brigham explained how he was drawn to the similarities between art and architecture; Thompson Hughes, who began to lose her sight after a successful career as an artist shared how she paints in spite of her disability; Mary Torrence, now also sight-impaired, discussed her early career as a medical illustrator and her evolution to mixed media work; Pam Haskell shared her experiences photographing life in third world countries; Carol Niehoff explained how her extensive travel shaped her art and subjects; Jeanne Hartman told of the strong support she received from her parents and teachers; and Donna Schotter shared her love of the lost art of smocking.

Over 60 people attended this exceptional event!

2024 Chili Cook-off Challenge & Trunk or Treat

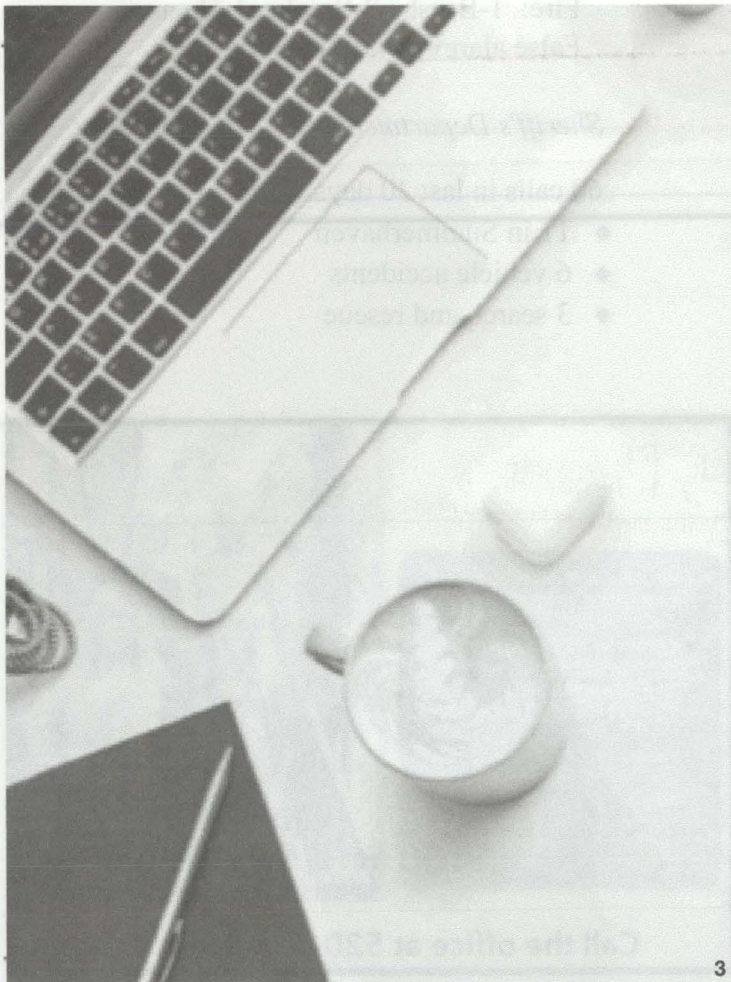
The Community Center offers double the fun Saturday October 19 from 4-7 pm!

The Chili Challenge will let you show off your "hot stuff" with a crockpot of homemade chili. Tickets are \$5. Each attendee will sample all the chilis and vote on their favorite. Prizes will be awarded to the top three chilis!

At the other end of the Community Center, Deputy Sloan will sponsor a Trunk or Treat party! So, all you Mt. Lemmon trick or treaters better get dressed up and come join the fun!

Entries are needed for the Chili Cook-off Challenge! Contact Jenni Zimmerman to volunteer or ask questions. 520-861-0161

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MLHOA Meeting

Key takeaways from the September MLHOA Board meeting were:

- ✓ Water tanks are full, but flow is low and slow; conservation efforts remain acute.
- ✓ Don DelMastro from the FS has been directed to stop hiring seasonal FS employees. **This will result in a workforce reduction of 60%.**
- ✓ Fuels Battalion Chief Ashley D'Antonio hoped budget concerns would not adversely affect burning piles this Fall and Winter. D'antonio suggested looking to Forest Service press releases for updates.
- ✓ Beth Borozon, from Supervisor Steve Christy's office, will attend the Conference of County Supervisors Association this month. An important topic will be the urgent need for insurance for property owners in wildfire prone areas.
- ✓ The Board will look into the feasibility of entering into a Service Agreement with the Forest Service to provide bear-proof waste bins in Summerhaven to address the visitor trash problem in the village.



HOA WEBSITE UPDATED!

A volunteer has taken the initiative to update the MLHOA website! This long overdue effort will be appreciated by everyone in our community looking for up-to-date information on HOA meetings, Firewise recommendations and more!

If you haven't visited mlhoa.org in a while, go check it out! Matthew Grossman's excellent web design and Angie's timely updates are taking us in the right direction for 2025!!

Fire Department and Sheriff Reports

For August 21 - September 21

Fire Department :

EMS/Rescue: 6
Fire: 1-Brush, 3-Smoke, 1-Hazmat.
False alarm/cancelled: 3

Sheriff's Department:

60 calls in last 30 days

- ◆ 11 in Summerhaven
- ◆ 6 vehicle accidents
- ◆ 3 search and rescue

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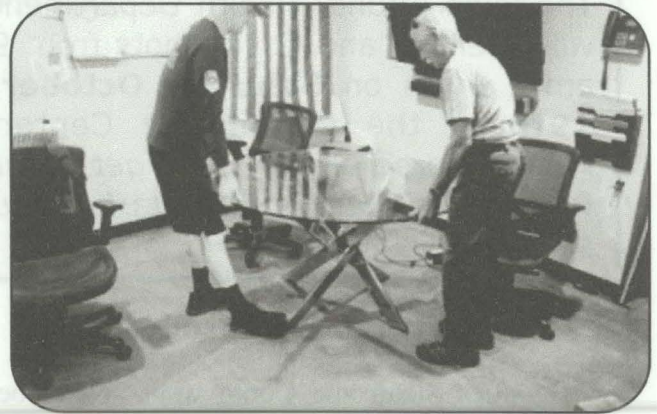
Call the office at 520-576-1333

MLFD Station Remodel Begins

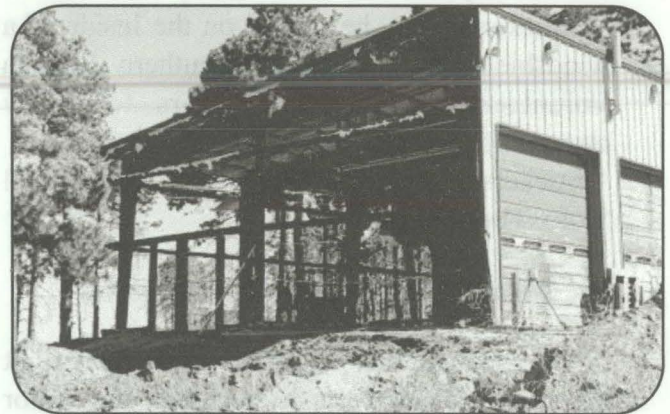
by Dan Leade

As many of you are aware from the groundbreaking ceremony after the annual pancake breakfast (it was great to see all of you and it was a great turnout), the Mount Lemmon Fire District's fire station expansion/remodel is now under way. Our firefighters are officially out of the fire station and staged at a cabin in Summerhaven ready to respond to emergency calls for service. As of this writing, the demolition of the old station has begun, so there will be no firefighters at that location until the new construction is complete. This makes it especially important to remember to dial 911 for an emergency instead of driving to the station. While this should always be the norm, as firefighters could be out on a call, doing field training or completing an inspection, you can be assured firefighters will NOT be at that location for the duration of the project. This is a good time to get in the practice of calling 911 for emergencies to reduce minutes lost when seconds count.

I hope everyone is as excited as we are to see this much needed upgrade taking place. The safety of our firefighters is paramount and this would not have been possible without the assistance and support of so many of you.



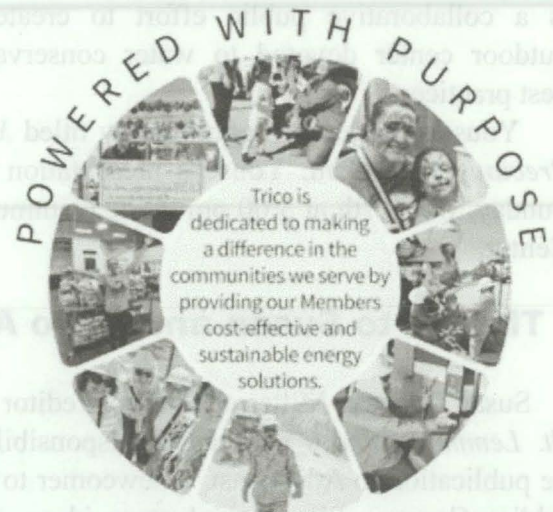
Lou Crum and Sean Matias move furniture out



What it looked like in early September. Photos: D. Leade

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FLU & COVID SHOTS OCT. 19!

The Pima County Health Department will offer Flu and Covid shots from 9 am - 1 pm on **Saturday October 19th** in the Community Center. *Please come down and get your vaccinations before the start of flu season!*

About Those Car Stickers.....

Deputies Sloan and Conto want you to be aware the new car stickers are for property owners *only*, **not** friends or family members.

Stickers are to be placed on the inside of a windshield above the VIN. Southern Arizona Volunteers will still stop cars to verify ownership (a current Trico bill, for example).

Stickers will be available soon at the General Store. They are \$5.

More Precious than Gold

It was the Mt. Lemmon community that influenced Yousef Faraj to complete his senior project on water harvesting and conservation.

The project is a visual art/photo display to educate the community and visitors. Yusef's goal is a collaborative public effort to create an outdoor center devoted to water conservation best practices.

Yousef's project is appropriately titled *More Precious than Gold*. Yousef's presentation will Sunday, Oct. 27th at 3:00 pm in the Community Center.

Thanks to Susan and Hello Ade

Susan Cochran-Miller, the intrepid editor of *The Mt. Lemmon Echoes* has passed responsibility for the publication to Ade Anast, a newcomer to Lower Soldier Camp. Please send story ideas, photos, announcements, short articles, or constructive criticism to: mtlemmonechoes@gmail.com

November will be the last issue of The Echoes for 2024.

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An Important Reminder from the ML Water District

Colder days are coming and it's time to think about winterizing your cabin. The Mt. Lemmon Water Board offers these timely reminders/suggestions.

- ◆ Turn off water at the meter.
- ◆ Drain pipes completely.
- ◆ Use marine-grade antifreeze to winterize drain pipes and toilets.
- ◆ If you don't drain pipes, keep your cabin temperature high enough pipes won't freeze.
- ◆ If you rent your cabin, be sure to check pipes and drains frequently.
- ◆ Call Nate Davis at the MLWD if you have questions or concerns (520-576-1538).

When unattended and unheated pipes break, catastrophic water loss is likely. Our community cannot afford ANY water losses!

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520-576-1546 Voice

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****New email****

SelbyHarmon@aol.com



The Old Fire Station

In a recent Nextdoor post Michael Stanley shared a photo of the old fire station in the 1980s. The small wooden building housed a fire truck that took 20--30 minutes to fill with water! The siren was an old air raid siren that could be heard for miles.

Jenni Zimmerman commented on Michael's post that when the siren went off all the windows in their family home would shake!

Michael's post appeared just after the Pancake Breakfast and the "wall breaking" signaling the start of the new station construction.

The old photo gives us chance to reflect on how far our community has come - from a small wooden building to a large modern three-bay fire station to serve us in the future. Thank you Michael for this great memory from back in the day!



The old fire station circa 1980s. Photo: M. Stanley.

We hope to make **Back in the Day** a regular feature in the *The Echoes*. Please send us your old photos, clippings, and memories of life on the mountain so we may share them with our community. Send your contributions to: mtlemmonechoes@gmail.com. *Thanks!*

Did you know the word for the sound of the wind in the trees is *psithurism*? Pronounced "sith-err-iz-um".

Mt. Lemmon Woman's Club

In September the Woman's Club *Done in a Day* project was part of a larger effort on the part of Women's Clubs nationally to donate non-perishables and money to community food banks. The MLWC members donated a table chock full of canned goods and other non-perishables to the Tucson food pantry.

In October, the Woman's Club will be collecting \$25 gift cards for a program to bring siblings separated by foster care together for reunions. This program is sponsored by AVIVA Children Services.

In other business, a new MLWC member, Kermie Wohlenhaus, created a small flyer promoting a clean and green Mt. Lemmon for distribution in our community. Karen Burrows also announced the MLWC now accepts Zelle payments.

The MLWC is getting ready for the upcoming district conference (*see article to right*) and planning Club activities during the upcoming holidays. These include the annual holiday brunch and coffees for Club members in January and February at a to-be-determined venue in Tucson.

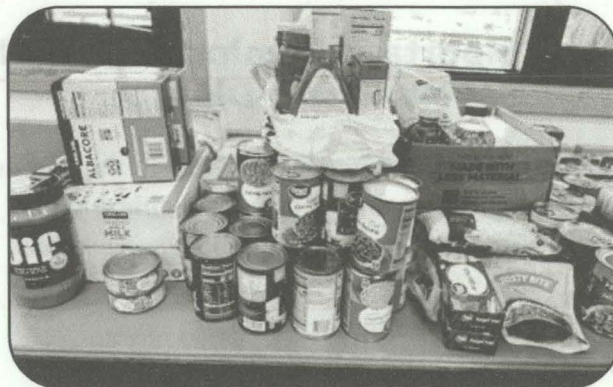
Did you know?

The Mt. Lemmon Woman's Club is the *largest* GFWC club in the State of Arizona!

LAST CHANCE FOR BUNKO!

October 19th will be the last Bunko of the season. Don't miss this one!

Come join us at 6:30 in the Community Center to have a good time with friends old and new. No experience necessary! It's easy and FUN!. Bring a snack to share.



Donations for the Food Bank

Upcoming GFWC Conference

Get out the welcome mat! On October 26 the MLWC will host the annual Conference of the General Federation of Women's Clubs of Southern District Arizona. It is expected 40-50 attendees from clubs all over Southern Arizona will meet to address a variety of matters associated with service projects and the club's mission.

Our local club will provide a soup and salad luncheon for attendees.

According to the GFWC website: "The General Federation of Women's Club is an international women's organization dedicated to community improvement by enhancing the lives of others through volunteer service."

The organization was founded in 1890. Today, the organization has more than 60,000 members in over 2,000 local clubs across the United States and around the world.



October Calendar of Events

4th

7-9 pm Movie Night (MLL)

5th

Chipping! (see p.5)
2-5 pm Greg Morton & Jim Stanley (Bluegrass/Acoustic) (MLL)

12th

5-8 pm Bouncing Czechs (MLL)

14th

Indigenous Peoples' Day

19th

9-1 pm Flu & Covid shots (MLCC)
10 am MLHOA meeting
1 pm MLWC meeting
1- 4 pm Out of the Blue (Mod. Bluegrass - MLL)
4 - 7 pm Chili Challenge
Trunk or Treat (MLCC)
6:30 pm LAST BUNKO of '24!

26th

9 am MLWC Conference (MLCC)
12-3 pm John Hughes (Jazz sax) (MLL)

27th

3 pm Presentation of *More Precious than Gold* by Yousef Faraj (MLCC)

Ice Cream Freeze off

Over 50 ice cream lovers of all shapes, sizes, and ages grabbed spoons and dug in at the annual Ice Cream Freeze Off! This year there were 8 contestants who made delicious homemade ice cream: Mexican dark Chocolate, Banana Berry Blast, Chocolate-Covered Strawberry, Prickly Pear Brownie, Mikey's Marvelous Mocha, and My Money's on Mikey. Attendees sampled and then voted on their favorites. When the votes were counted, Deputy Sloan announced the winners to loud applause.

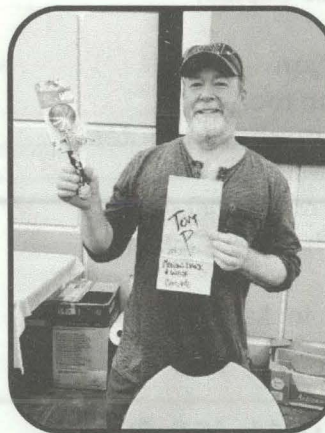
1st Place: Mark Partridge

2nd Place: Jennifer Shacter

3rd Place: Karen Burrows

4th place: Jasmine & Leigh Anne Thrasher

Each winner received an ice cream scoop "trophy". Congratulations and thanks to all



1st Place Mark Partridge



2nd place Jennifer Schacter



3rd place Karen Burrows

4th Place Jasmine & Leigh Anne Thrasher. They weren't present for photos



Fall is Firewise Season!

- ◆ Schedule an assessment on the Firewise tab at MTLFDAZ.org.
- ◆ Clean gutters.
- ◆ Cut back brush, and saplings within 30 feet of your cabin.
- ◆ Caulk holes and small cracks.
- ◆ Clean pine needles off roof.
- ◆ Stack firewood away from your cabin.
- ◆ Clear around large trees to discourage “ladder” fires.

Chipping Scheduled for October 5!

Time to gather slash. Chipper piles are at:

- ◆ the Y in Willow Canyon
- ◆ end of the Sunset Trailhead parking lot
- ◆ Fern Ridge
- ◆ Upper Soldiers at Bear Wallow
- ◆ Summerhaven residents should contact their neighborhood Firewise Captain

7:30 am Willow Canyon

8:30 am Soldier Camp locations

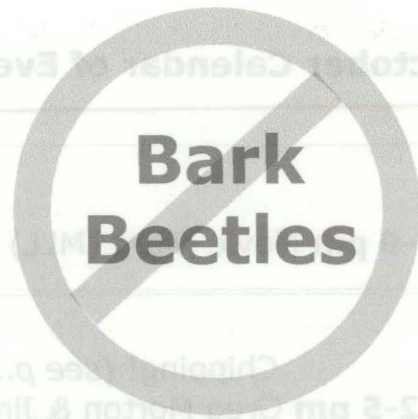
10:00 (approx.) Summerhaven routes

Questions?: See *Slash Piles & Chipper* on the Firewise site for routes and Firewise Captains.

CHIP IN! We need volunteers to keep our mountain community safe. To volunteer:

Call/text Tim Wright (641-455-8831)

Scan this QR code to the Connections for Mt. Lemmon website to provide info to Firewise Captains to reach you in case of emergency.



Save the Ponderosas!

Bark beetles are unwelcome guests on the mountain. These destructive pests can kill Ponderosa and Arizona pines increasing fire risk.

Now is the time to check Ponderosa pines for sign of bark beetles. Look for reddish pitch tubes, tiny exit holes, or winding galleries under bark.

According to a handout available on the Firewise tab at MLFDAZ.org, here are steps to take to prevent the spread of bark beetles:

- ◆ Reduce drought stress by removing small or poorly-formed pines, or trees crowding larger pines.
- ◆ Postpone non-urgent pine trimming until the beetles' dormant season Oct. - March.
- ◆ Examine trees for signs of infestation.
- ◆ Report dead or distressed pines to Karen Burrows.

There are two grant programs available to private property owners to offset the cost of removing diseased/dead trees.

The Bark Beetle Reduction Cost Share Program will cover up to 50% of the costs associated with removing trees.

The Western Bark Beetle Initiative Grant Program may cover up to 90% of the costs of thinning or removing trees on a minimum of 10 acres.

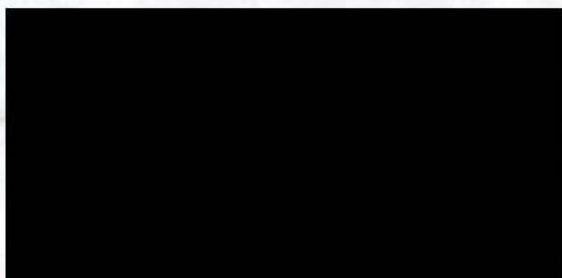
Karen Burrows is the Summerhaven contact for these programs. To learn more or fill out an application form go to the Bark Beetle link on the Firewise tab at MLFDAZ.org.

Pictures from the Pancake Breakfast



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