

The Mt. Lemmon Echoes

A publication of the Mt. Lemmon Homeowner's Association

Vote!



www.mlhoa.org

Chili and Candy

The Community Center was jumping on Saturday night October 19th as the Chili Cook-off Challenge and Trunk or Treat party shared the space for a terrific double-header get together! Approximately 90 Chili Challenge attendees lined up for bowls of the steaming good stuff made by community members. There were about 13 different chilis to try - ranging from the sweet and smoky to spicy! All of them spoon-licking, eye-watering good! It was a tough competition as all the entries were GREAT!

Chili-makers were tight-lipped about the specifics of recipes, but discerning palates could taste hints of chipotle, chocolate, cumin, cilantro, chicken, beans, and beef! One entry even had vodka in it! There were lots of everyone's favorite add-ins: sour cream, chopped green onion, cheese, cornbread, and crackers. No one left hungry! Attendees voted on their favorites, and many needed two or more tastes to "make sure." See winners right.

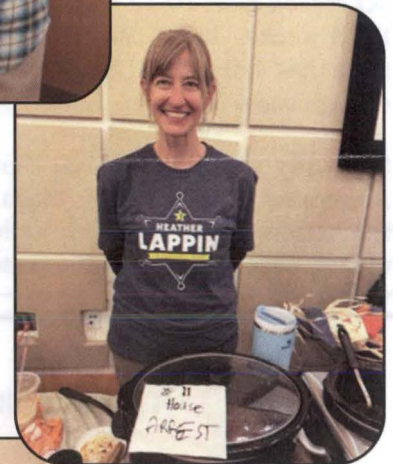
The Chili Challenge proceeds from \$5 ticket sales support Fire Department volunteers.

At the other end of the Community Center, Deputy Sloan hosted a fun Trunk or Treat party where chocolate reigned supreme! The highlight was a haunted house with spooky spiders, creepy cobwebs, skeletons, and a gooey box of "body parts" that participants could try to identify just by touch (Eww!). Many trick or treaters showed up to get candy, walk through the haunted house, and pose for pictures. It was clear everyone had a great time and left with enough candy to last through the end of the month.

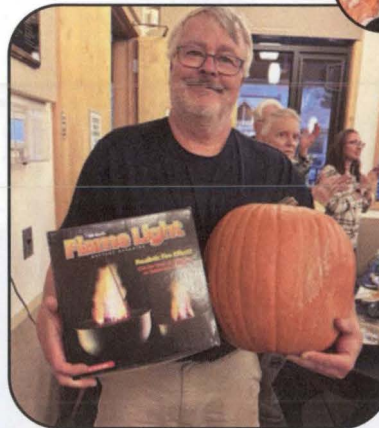
See photos from the Chili Cook-off Challenge and the Trunk or Treat Party on p. 11.



Judy, Ed, and Reagan Rheimheimer took the trophy with their Terralingua Chili!



Diane Allerton came in second for her "House Arrest" chili!



Tim Wright and his Super Duper Chili came in third!

WHAT'S INSIDE: Oktoberfest & President's Corner 2 | MILHOA Meeting and Fire & Sheriff Reports 3 | Grand Canyon Trip & Business Winter Hours 4 | Vaccine Clinic & Water Improvement District 5 | Supervisor Christy & Updated Website 6 | Back in the Day 7 | MLWC & USDA and State sign Agreement 8 | Calendar of Events & Winterizing Your Cabin 9 | Thank you Dorothy! & Holiday Safety Tips 10 | Chili cook-off and Trunk Treat photos 11 |

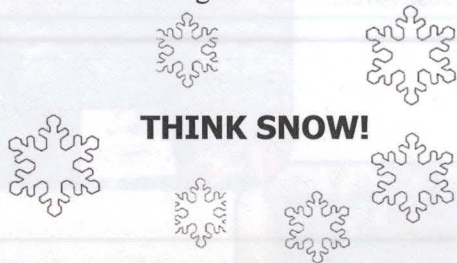
Oktoberfest at Ski Valley

Oktoberfest at Ski Valley was a jam-packed family fun event, according to Graham Davies, whose family owns and manages Ski Valley. Hundreds of people from all over come to the mountain to enjoy bratwurst, red cabbage, steins of German beer., and listen to music. Davies said attendance grows every year. Next year will be the 50th annual Oktoberfest! It will also be the 50th anniversary of Ski Valley.

But after the last bratwurst is eaten and the last beer drunk, Davies and his team turn their attention to getting ready for the winter ski season. Davies said they will all be busy weed whacking, brush cutting, and mowing grass to get the slopes in condition for that first beautiful snowfall! Equipment maintenance is also a huge part of the effort to get everything operational. It's a big job to care for all the equipment and slopes!

Ski Valley needs about 16 inches of snow before it opens to the public. Davies is unable to make snow, so Ski Valley depends on whatever natural snow falls. A good ski season lasts 10-12 weeks; last year the hill was open for 8 weeks. In the 50 years the ski hill has been here, there has only been one winter where there was not enough snow to open.

Ski Vally has recently been showcased in both *Arizona Illustrated* and *Powder* magazine. As the nation's southernmost ski hill, Ski Valley is one of Arizona's unique curiosities and gets visitors from all around the world.



THINK SNOW!



Graham Davies is ready for Ski season 2024

President's Corner



It's not too hard to believe the season is winding down as I watch snowflakes swirl around outside the community center! Many cabin owners are busy winterizing and getting ready to decamp to Tucson to enjoy the milder winter temps. As the leaves change color and life on the mountain slows down, it's time to reflect back on the year.

We had a good year...there was enough rain to fill water tanks and we were fortunate not to have any serious fires. Our fire station is being rebuilt, our neighborhoods continue to firewise, the tourists keep coming, our local businesses are thriving, and a new gift shop has opened. Life on the mountain is good.

We still have challenges to face, like cabin insurance, maintaining our water systems, and the constant need to reduce the risk of wildfire. The MLHOA is working closely with the County Supervisor's office to address some of the larger issues and we are slowly, but surely, making real progress.

As we look forward to 2025, I hope the new year will see an increase in cabin owners' participation in life on the mountain and encourage people to take on leadership responsibilities across our many organizations, events, and activities. Everything that happens on the mountain happens because of the great people who live and work here, and share their time and energies for the common good!

I hope everyone has a wonderful Thanksgiving and enjoys the love and laughter of the holidays. I look forward to all the great things 2025 will bring!

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MLHOA Meeting

Key takeaways from the October MLHOA Board meeting were:

- ✓ Don DelMastro from the Forest Service explained with workforce reduction and budget constraints, the public needs to be patient as things may take longer than usual.
- ✓ Treasurer Michael Singervalt announced annual dues can now be paid through Zelle.
- ✓ Linda Currin is stepping back from her role as Events Coordinator for the MLHOA board, planning the Annual Meeting and Pancake Breakfast. We need someone to take this on. *How about you?*
- ✓ The MLBEA is working with the Forest Service and County to get large trashcans for downtown.
- ✓ New water meters are in. Our water situation is currently good; we should not see any restrictions in the near future.
- ✓ Construction on the new fire station is progressing according to schedule.

Fire Department and Sheriff Reports

For September 19 - October 19

Fire Department : 22 calls

15 EMS runs
2 dumpster fires
2 hazmat calls
2 propane emergencies
1 cancelled call



Sheriff's Department: 62 calls

9 accidents
5 search and rescue



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Grand Canyon Trip

Angie and Travis Maze were the lucky winners of the flight to the Grand Canyon! They won the trip as part of the Pancake Day silent auction.

It was a smooth and special trip for Angie, Travis, and Angie's Dad, Ron who enjoyed the fabulous Arizona scenery from 8,000-9,000 feet. Expertly piloted by Dr. Dennis Thrasher and attended to by the "hostess with the mostess" Leigh Anne Thrasher, it was a fun and comfortable 2-hour flight to the spectacular Grand Canyon.



Dr. Thrasher and Travis Maze on the way to the Grand Canyon!

The group cruised over Weaver's Needle, the red rocks of Sedona, across the Coconino Plateau to the South Rim and touched down at Grand Canyon Airport. From there, they took a shuttle to the National Park. They went sightseeing along the canyon rim before a delightful lunch at the beautiful El Tovar hotel.

After a day in the comfortable temperatures at the rim, the group got a "warm" welcome home when they landed back in Tucson and it was 102 degrees!



Welcome to the Robin's Nest

The newest addition to Summerhaven's thriving business district is the Robin's Nest, a cute and unique gift shop located downtown. Stop in and welcome our community's new business and take a look around at the wonderful items for sale.



Winter Hours for Businesses

Ski Valley

Mon-Thur-Fri 10:30am-4pm
Sat-Sun 9am-4pm

Sawmill Run Restaurant

Closed Mon-Tue
Wed-Thur 10:30am-4pm
Fri-Sat 10:30am-6pm
Sun 10:30am-5pm

Elevated Espresso

Closed Mon-Tue
Wed-Thur-Fri 10am-3pm
Sat-Sun 9am-4pm

Robin's Nest

Fri 12pm-5 pm
Sat 9am-5pm
Sun 9am-4pm

Mt. Lemmon General Store

Open 7 days a week, 10am-6pm

Mt. Lemmon Lodge

Open 7 days a week

Mt. Lemmon Hotel

Open 7 days a week

Mt. Lemmon Cookie Cabin

Open 7 days a week, 11am-5pm

Turn off your water at the meter.
Turn off your water at the meter.
Turn off your water at the meter.

Whenever you leave your cabin for more than 24 hours!

Just sayin'.....

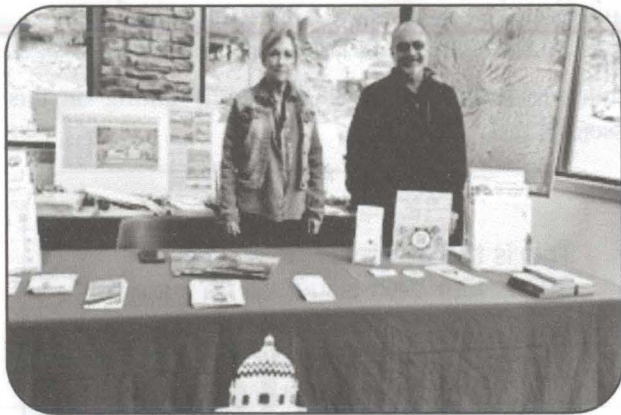
Vaccine Clinic gives shots to just over 20 people

The Pima County Health Department came to the mountain to provide Flu and Covid vaccines on Saturday, October 20.

Free home Covid tests were also available to anyone who attended.

Approximately 20 people received vaccines during the clinic which ran from 10 am - 1 pm.

To provide vaccines here in Summerhaven, we need to encourage more folks to participate, so the Health Department can justify offering this service to our community.



Pima County Public Health provided Flu and Covid shots to our community.

You're Invited!

The annual White Elephant Party will be December 14 at the Mt. Lemmon Lodge. Watch the MLHOA website and Next Door for information on reservations. Bring a white elephant gift! Come and enjoy the fun, friends, and festivities.

Reservations fill up fast! Don't delay!

Mt. Lemmon Domestic Water Improvement District

That's the *real* name of the organization that oversees the water system. It's important to note *domestic* in this case refers to water used *IN* a cabin.

According to Stu Shacter, everyone needs to remember the water we have falls *from the sky*, as either rain or snow. No rain, no snow, no water.

As of now...we are in a good water situation. The tanks are full. We are hoping for a nice, wet winter season.

Now that new meters are installed in Summerhaven, we have the technology to monitor leaks in real time and other problems. This is great news.....

But, we need to stress this new technology does not mean property owners do not need to stay on top of the situation at their cabin. If you have leak **REPORT IT IMMEDIATELY!**

Turn off your water at the meter Drain pipes. Turn OFF the valve after you drain the pipes, so when pipes warm up, water doesn't run freely through pipes. and into your cabin! (and cost you a lot of \$).



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From the Desk of Supervisor Steve Christy

submitted by Beth Borozan

When our office heard your community was facing a crisis of available and affordable fire insurance, we got to work.

Earlier this year, we collaborated with our colleagues to bring the State of Arizona Insurance Director before the Board of Supervisors for a presentation of her department's role and ability to assist. Several mountain residents attended and had a robust discussion with the director in our building lobby.

We also prevailed in adding fire insurance affordability in wildfire prone areas to the Pima County 2025 Legislative Agenda.

Last month, my chief of staff, your Beth Borozan, attended the County Supervisors Association's Policy Summit. The group considered a resolution submitted by Pima County, which read,

Pima County proposes that the Association adopt a resolution encouraging the Governor, the State Legislature, and DIFI to research and implement reforms, as well as support programs, that ensure the availability of affordable homeowners' insurance coverage in fire affected areas. Further, Pima County proposes supporting legislative action that accomplishes these goals.

I am pleased to report this resolution passed unanimously.

This year's efforts are important steps forward. There will more work ahead when the Legislature convenes in January.

With the nip of fall and the first snowflakes of the season in the air, I and your District 4 team wish you and yours a joyous holiday season.

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Updated Website Gets the Hits!

The newly-updated MLHOA website has had an immediate positive effect on communicating topics of interest and importance to our community.

In just the first couple of weeks, the number of visits to the website has grown leaps and bounds! We know from the tracked data the website is used by non-residents as well as residents. Nearly 300 people visited the website to learn about Oktoberfest at Ski Valley! The web works!

We encourage everyone to use the MLHOA website as their primary source for current information about what is happening in our community.

If you have an event or notice to be posted to MLHOA.org, email atmazel@gmail.com

Kudos to Angie for single-handedly taking on this essential task!

This is the last issue of The Echoes for 2024. Our next issue will be February 2025. Send us your story ideas, photos, comments, and constructive criticism to mtlemmonechoes@gmail.com

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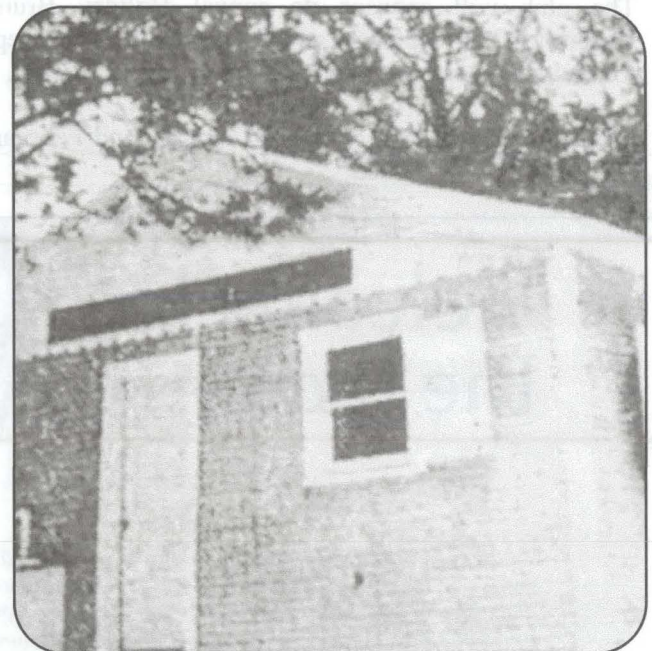
BACK IN THE DAY....

Jenni Zimmerman went to the Zimmerman School from kindergarten to 6th grade. She remembers learning to read and write in the old one room schoolhouse. She recalls there would be many students when school began in the late summer/early fall; after the first snowfall on the mountain, enrollment would drop to around 10 students, as summer cabin owners returned to Tucson.

Jenni recounted how Holly and Heidi Davies, her classmates, would have "fancy" lunches....meaning they got to have M&Ms! When Jenni ultimately went to school in Tucson, she was amazed to see at lunchtime, milk came in tiny cartons! Who knew?

It was a simpler time, not like today. Kids wore hand-me-downs, walked home from school without a care in the world, and obeyed the teacher. Jenni says she and all the kids got a good education at the Zimmerman School.

The school closed after the tragic Aspen fire.



The Zimmerman School in 1962. Photo from **Look to the Mountains** (Revised edition) by Suzanne Hensel, page 206.

Did you know?

Americans eat roughly 535 million pounds of turkey on Thanksgiving!

Mt. Lemmon Woman's Club

The big topic at the meeting was the upcoming conference on October 26 at the Community Center. Women's Club members from all over Southern Arizona will attend, and the local club is busy getting ready to be the host. The *Done in a Day* project for the conference supports More Than A Bed, an organization providing supplies to foster children and their foster families. Donations of pajamas, books, and pillowcases are especially requested.

In other business, the domestic violence awareness project is progressing and is ready to print information cards and purchase card holders so this important information is available in businesses and locations throughout our community.

October was the last monthly MLWC meeting to be held at the Community Center in 2024. November's meeting will be held at the Wilmot Library. The *Done in a Day* project for November is to provide Fry's or Walmart gift cards to schoolchildren from low income families who attend Tucson schools. The March 2025 meeting will also be at the Wilmot Library.

The club will sponsor its annual Holiday Brunch December 7 at Ventana Canyon. Members should reply to invitations promptly so we have an accurate count.

The MLWC will host coffees in January and February; venues to be determined.

USDA and State to Reduce Wildfire Risk

An agreement signed in October by Governor Hobbs and a senior representative from the United States Department of Agriculture focused on responding to land management challenges and concerns across Arizona. This agreement will accelerate existing projects and assist the State and the Forest Service to address wildfire crises in Arizona's high priority fireheds.

Arizona and the USDA Forest Service have a successful record of working together to improve forest health.

According to a Forest Service press release "This collaboration...uses a proven approach to focus on landscape-scale forest restoration activities that increase resilience of at-risk communities and watersheds across national forests in Arizona. This agreement focuses on restoring fire-adapted ecosystems and reducing the risk of wildfire to communities; identifying, managing and reducing threats to forest and ecosystem health; and fostering economic development strategies..."

Sally Crum, MLHOA president requested information from Supervisor Dewberry and District Ranger DelMastro on how this may affect Coronado National Forest. At this time, it is anticipated this will have no direct effect on us.

Welcome to the team!

We are honored to announce that Doug Mance, AWM, CFP® has joined the Schaefer Present Corte Mance Investment Group as a full partner and financial advisor. Doug has distinguished himself as a top industry wealth advisor for 43 years, a community leader and a friend. Together, we offer diverse talent and perspectives, providing our clients with decades of experience and knowledge. We remain focused on creating lasting relationships built on trust, commitment and integrity.

Join us in welcoming Doug to the team.

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24-TU-02340 (08/24)

November Calendar of Events

2nd	Music on the Mountain, Paul Opocensky 1-4 pm (MLL)
5th	ELECTION DAY VOTE!
9th	Music on the Mountain, John Hughes (Sax) 12-3 pm (MLL)
11th	VETERANS DAY THANK YOU FOR YOUR SERVICE!
16th	MLHOA Meeting 10 am MLWC at Wilmot Library at noon
28th	HAPPY THANKSGIVING!

**SHOP LOCALLY THIS
HOLIDAY SEASON!**

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Check List for Winterizing Your Cabin

Leigh Anne Thrasher was good enough to provide us with important tips for winterizing cabins.

- ◆ Shut off the water supply.
- ◆ Open ALL faucets and hose bibs to drain the system and leave them open.

Flush toilets. Add RV Antifreeze to the last flush. (It is safe for plumbing systems).

Turn off water supply to refrigerator, drain lines, and discard the ice. Drain the water heater.

- ◆ Add enough anti-freeze to ensure you fill the U-trap beneath the sink or tub.
- ◆ Add some inside your washing machine and dishwasher.
- ◆ Remove or store dry goods properly. Canned goods and soda cans can explode if they freeze attracting rodents.
- ◆ Deep clean especially floors, countertops, and ovens.
- ◆ Seal cracks, crevices 1/4" or larger.

Post *No Trespassing* signs. If deputies see a vehicle they do not recognize, they can legally come on to posted property to investigate.

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Thank you, Dorothy!

Dorothy Johnson has been a driving force behind our community's successful Firewise efforts. She worked tirelessly to create an up-to-date informative website, led the Firewise Captains, encouraged Firewise assessments, and worked hand-in-hand with neighborhood Firewise Captains, and the Mt. Lemmon Fire Department.



The scope and effect of Dorothy's accomplishments managing the Firewise initiative on the mountain cannot be overstated. Her steady leadership has been an important catalyst to get us where we are today.

Dorothy is "retiring" from her Firewise leadership position to pursue her research interest childrens' brain development. Learn more about Dorothy's research interests at everybrainmatters.org.

Scan this QR code to go to the FIREWISE tab on the MLFD website.



Many thanks to all the great folks who volunteered to help with chipping a couple of weeks ago!

Firewising is the **single best** thing you can do to protect your cabin from a wildfire!



Holiday Safety Tips from Dan Leade

According to the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA), *Thanksgiving has the most home cooking fires annually*, followed by Christmas Day and Christmas Eve.

Turkey frying accounts for an average of 5 deaths, 60 injuries, and over \$15 million in property damage *each year*. If you deep fry a turkey, make sure a fryer is on a sturdy, level surface and not moved once in use. Keep at least 10 feet from walls/roofs. Do not overfill a fryer and make sure a turkey is completely thawed.

The winter holidays are always a good time to revisit safety tips for fireplaces and space heaters:

- ◆ Keep flammable materials away from heat sources
- ◆ Make sure your chimney is clean
- ◆ Only burn what your stove/fireplace is intended to burn
- ◆ Know locations of gas shutoffs and electrical panels
- ◆ Check smoke and carbon monoxide detectors
- ◆ Know where fire extinguishers are and be sure they work

NFPA notes between 2016 and 2020 an average of *160 Christmas tree fires occurred each year*. To keep your family safe:

- ◆ Keep your tree hydrated and away from heat sources
- ◆ Use only lights listed safe for Christmas trees and turn off when leaving or going to bed,
- ◆ Secure the tree to prevent it from falling
- ◆ Consider an artificial flame-resistant tree.

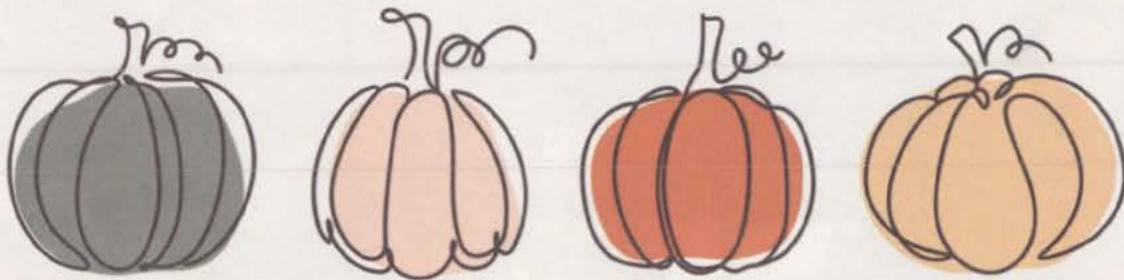
MLFD wishes everyone Happy Holidays and looks forward to catching up in 2025!

Pictures from Trunk or Treat and Chili Cook-off Challenge



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