



## BOARD OF SUPERVISORS AGENDA ITEM REPORT

Requested Board Meeting Date: 08/17/2015

**Title:** Proclamation to Recognize Martie Maierhauser

### **Introduction/Background:**

Board of Supervisors to present Proclamation to Martie Maierhauser, former operator of Colossal Cave Mtn. Park.

### **Discussion:**

Proclamation (non-formal) to recognize and show appreciation to Maierhausers for their years of service and dedication to the operation and preservation of CCMP.

### **Conclusion:**

### **Recommendation:**

### **Fiscal Impact:**

### **Board of Supervisor District:**

☐ 1      ☐ 2      ☐ 3      ☒ 4      ☐ 5      ☐ All

Department: Economic Development & Tourism

Telephone: 724-7355

Department Director Signature/Date: [Signature] 8/10/15

Deputy County Administrator Signature/Date: [Signature] 8/7/15

County Administrator Signature/Date: C. Prueh 8/10/15

## **PROCLAMATION**

**WHEREAS**, Martie and Joe Maierhauser began their operation of Colossal Cave and its surrounding 465 acres in 1956, with Earl Bockelsby, and became the sole proprietors for the operation in January 1965; and

**WHEREAS**, to protect as much of the region as possible, Joe and Martie expanded the 495-acre Colossal Cave park to today's 2,400-acre Colossal Cave Mountain Preservation Park Historic District with the approval of the Board of Supervisors, which was hence listed on the National Register of Historic Places due to the significance of extraordinary geological, biological, ecological, archaeological, historical, and cultural resources that create a unique environmental landscape and visitor experience; and

**WHEREAS**, the Maierhausers were passionate conservation leaders who worked with Pima County, property owners, and other agencies to preserve Colossal Cave Mountain Park and surrounding open spaces to be enjoyed as both a natural asset and tourist attraction, educating multiple generations through cave tours and interpretive exhibits for over 59 years; and

**WHEREAS**, the Maierhausers were involved in the Vail community, committed to supporting educational experiences related to the cave and natural and cultural history of the area for schoolchildren through field trips and outreach; and

**WHEREAS**, the Maierhausers were awarded the Sonoran Institute's Faces of Conservation Cele Peterson Lifetime Achievement Award in 2005 for their preservation of the cave and surrounding acreage; and

**WHEREAS**, Joe Maierhauser's management of Colossal Cave for over 50 years prior to his passing in March 2007, was the longest continuous management lease to a sole proprietor in Pima County history; and

**WHEREAS**, in 2013, Martie received the Historic Preservation Award from the Tucson Historic Preservation Foundation; and

**WHEREAS**, in 2015, Martie was named a Wall of Honor Recipient for the Cienega Watershed Partnership, where she was chairman of the Board for nine years and contributed -- since its inception in 2006 -- to the oversight of a strategic plan (2009) and its implementation to preserve the Cienega watershed and its resources;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Pima County Board of Supervisors hereby congratulates and thanks Joe and Martie Maierhauser for their selfless dedication and devotion to creating Colossal Cave Mountain Park, their stewardship of the natural and cultural resources, and their lifelong devotion to educating the public about this special place.

**PASSED AND ADOPTED** this 17th day of August 2015.

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The Honorable Sharon Bronson, Chair  
Pima County Board of Supervisors

ATTEST:

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Robin Brigode, Clerk  
Pima County Board of Supervisors