



PIMA COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

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BETTY VILLEGAS
COUNTY SUPERVISOR - DISTRICT 5

MEMORANDUM

DATE: September 29, 2020
TO: Julie Castañeda, Clerk of the Board
FROM: Betty Villegas, District Five Supervisor
REGARDING: Item for the October 20, 2020 agenda

Betty Villegas

Please add the following to the October 20, 2020 agenda:

Proclamation

Proclaiming Tuesday, October 20, 2020, to be "Silviana Wood Recognition Day." (District 5)

Thank you

SEP 29 2020 12:00 PM
AFS

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, over the course of her long and productive career, Silviana Wood has worked diligently and consistently with her community to produce insightful and relevant theater; and

WHEREAS, as a playwright, she gave a voice to women, especially Mexican-American women from the borderlands; and

WHEREAS, the University of Arizona Press published *Barrio Dreams*, Silviana's anthology of plays, in 2016 and it is the first and, to date, only published collection of plays by a Chicana playwright from Arizona; and

WHEREAS, writing in the 1980s and 1990s, she was part of a first wave of professional Chicana playwrights and was awarded fellowships and residencies from the Arizona Commission on the Arts and the Ford and Rockefeller foundations; and

WHEREAS, Silviana twice won the Chicano/Latino Literary Prize from the University of California, Irvine, and in 1993 was recognized with the Artist Award from the Community Foundation of Southern Arizona; and

WHEREAS, because her plays address such issues as social justice, linguistic marginalization, oppressions, gender and sexuality, and class, they remain relevant decades after they were written; and

WHEREAS, her creation, Doña Chona, an iconic busy-body and cultural activist who tells it like it is and by doing so challenges and teaches at once, was a fixture on public television in Tucson for more than 15 years; and

WHEREAS, Silviana is a Tucson native raised in Barrio Anita who attended local schools, eventually earning a Master of Fine Arts Degree in Creative Writing from the University of Arizona; and

WHEREAS, in addition to being a playwright, Silviana has been an activist, a single mother, a social worker, a college instructor, a performer, and a director.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Pima County Board of Supervisors hereby proclaims Tuesday, October 20, 2020, to be:

“SILVIANA WOOD RECOGNITION DAY”

PASSED AND ADOPTED this 20th day of October 2020.

The Honorable Ramón Valadez, Chairman
Pima County Board of Supervisors

ATTEST:

Julie Castañeda, Clerk
Pima County Board of Supervisors