

Friendship House Resolution 2026-01

A Resolution to Award Dr. Joanne Viola for the 2025 City of New Castle Citizen Unsung Hero Award

WHEREAS, in February 2024, The City Council Approved Resolution 2024-5 A Resolution to Create City of New Castle Employee, Citizen, and Business Awards for Exemplary Service, Leadership, and Civic Engagement; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Joanne Viola served the City of New Castle on the Board of Health from 2022 through 2025; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Joanne Jo Viola has been a New Castle gem since 1969 when she moved “to the bricks” with her late husband Mr. Carlo “Corky” Viola. Throughout her life she has lived out the mission of Christian Discipleship that she took from the pew at New Castle Presbyterian Church into her home where she raised her two beloved sons, out into the community through volunteerism by serving on many boards and commissions and into her own life by proving that learning is life-long as she realized her goal of becoming a medical doctor later in life; and

WHEREAS, We have all had our Dr. Jo stories of which we are most appreciative. Anyone who knows her would attest to her kindhearted joyful nature, sweet spirit and as one who is always willing to put in the work by being on the front lines as she advocated and consulted with patients, neighbors, and seniors. She was particularly instrumental in bringing local practitioners to town and driving Christiana Care's geriatric programming; and

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that Dr. Joanne Jo Viola shall be recognized for the 2025 City of New Castle Unsung Hero Award in recognition of her civic minded nature and accomplishments through her actions, words and deeds, furthering the legacy and inherited tradition of the City, and the intricate part in which she plays in enhancing the quality of life of the City's citizens by volunteering and contributing to the building of community and our society through your professional and service minded endeavors that support humanity.

PASSED this 13th day of January 2026.

Suzanne Souder, City Council President

Joseph F. Day, III, Councilperson

Nermin Zubaca, Councilperson

Andrew Zeltt, Councilperson

Brian Mattaway, Councilperson

Attest:

Diane Delgado, City Clerk