

Introduced by: Councilman John J. Cartier
Date: November 24, 2009

RESOLUTION 09-

**HONORING THE FRIENDS OF ROCKWOOD WITH THE NEW CASTLE COUNTY COUNCIL
VOLUNTEER SERVICE AWARD**

WHEREAS, the purpose of the New Castle County Council Volunteer Service Award is to recognize, thank and reward volunteers for service to our community which has benefited all citizens of New Castle County; and

WHEREAS, the mission of The Friends of Rockwood is to enhance and support the educational, historical, and horticultural benefits of Rockwood Museum for the citizens of New Castle County; to assist New Castle County by supporting educational programming not only on site but also at various places in the Delaware Valley; to encourage volunteerism on site, help with the preservation and conservation of the collection and allow New Castle County to use their 501(c)3 designation when applying for grants which may not be available to government entities; and,

WHEREAS, in 1974, the executors of the estate of Nancy Sellers Hargraves gifted the Rockwood Manor House to New Castle County. New Castle County accepted the obligation of preserving the historical, aesthetic, and cultural character of Rockwood and of providing an example of Victorian life in Delaware to area residents and visitors through a museum setting; and,

WHEREAS, in 1977, The Friends of Rockwood was incorporated to support the County in its effort to preserve and maintain Rockwood; and,

WHEREAS, one of the first actions of the Friends was to raise funds to purchase and conserve the original collection of furniture, accessories, textiles, books, letters, and photographs which had been left in the manor house ; and,

WHEREAS, the current focus is to raise the funds needed to repair The Conservatory, which ,built is 1852, is the oldest surviving conservatory attached to a dwelling in the United States; and,

WHEREAS, the Friends of Rockwood continue to sponsor a variety of special events, and provide volunteer staff to assist with museum projects and programs. All of The Friends' activities are geared toward increasing visibility, strengthening community support, and providing financial growth for continued efforts.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: by and for the Council of New Castle County that Friends of Rockwood are recognized and honored for their continued service and achievements by receiving the New Castle County Council Volunteer Service Award

Adopted by the County Council
Of New Castle County on

Synopsis: Same as Title
Fiscal Impact: None

President of Council
New Castle County