

**No. R-300. House concurrent resolution in memory of Phyllis Gigante of Brattleboro.**

(H.C.R.234)

Offered by: Representatives Kornheiser of Brattleboro, Burke of Brattleboro, and Toleno of Brattleboro

Whereas, Phyllis Gigante was raised in the New York City area, and, for three decades, including while she was a young mother of two children, she was a staff librarian in the Lincoln Consolidated School District in Ypsilanti, Michigan, and

Whereas, after relocating to the Tri-Park Cooperative Housing community in West Brattleboro, Phyllis Gigante immediately volunteered to assist her neighbors in any way she could, and

Whereas, in response, the community formed a well-being committee, which “helped plant peach trees and invite[d] Edible Gardens to provide fresh vegetables” to residents, and

Whereas, the Tri-Park Board of Directors quickly learned that Phyllis Gigante was the person to call to accomplish a task, and, during the height of the COVID-19 pandemic, she assumed a broad swath of responsibilities, and

Whereas, with the community’s office staff absent, Phyllis Gigante took the lead in phoning the 300 Tri-Park households to determine residents’ needs, and this initiative resulted in organizing volunteers to deliver groceries biweekly to more than 30 households, providing medications to disabled residents, driving neighbors to medical appointments, and arranging U.S. Mail pickups, and

Whereas, Phyllis Gigante tackled other COVID-era projects such as organizing a Christmas delivery service featuring Santa Claus and elves delivering a hand-wrapped gift to every Tri-Park child, and

Whereas, she served as an empathetic friend ready to listen to her neighbors’ COVID concerns, and, with her brother, Michael, Phyllis Gigante set up a weekly food distribution table in front of the Tri-Park office, and

Whereas, Phyllis Gigante continued her enthusiastic and energetic volunteer life until her death on March 9, 2024 at 76 years of age, leaving enormous appreciation and sadness in the Tri-Park community, and especially among her surviving brother, children, and grandchildren, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly extends its sincere condolences to the family of Phyllis Gigante and to the Tri-Park community, and be it further

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to the members of Phyllis Gigante’s family and to the Tri-Park Community’s office.