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HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 730

Offered February 14, 2025

Celebrating the life of Mary Carol Evans Hecht.

Patrons—Anthony, Clark, Hope, Keys-Gamarra, Martinez and Mundon King

WHEREAS, Mary Carol Evans Hecht, a devoted volunteer and Everyday Hero Award recipient whose service to her community and to the nonprofit organization ForKids enhanced countless lives, died on November 5, 2024; and

WHEREAS, Mary Hecht began her volunteer work at Good MoJo thrift store, which is owned and operated by ForKids, in August 2017 and remained a dedicated presence there until June 2024; she selflessly gave her time and talents to support ForKids and its mission of breaking the cycle of homelessness and poverty for families in need; and

WHEREAS, over the course of nearly seven years, Mary Hecht contributed more than 2,083 hours of volunteer service, performing a wide range of duties, including pricing items at the thrift store, organizing donations, assisting with plant care at the Landmark Center, and preparing meals for families in shelters and children in after-school programs; and

WHEREAS, Mary Hecht became a beloved and integral part of the ForKids family, serving as a warm and welcoming presence at the front desk, where she greeted staff, volunteers, and visitors with kindness, a bright smile, and uplifting anecdotes that brought joy to those around her; and

WHEREAS, Mary Hecht's generosity and commitment to service extended beyond her assigned tasks, from stepping in as an emergency seamstress to mend a wedding dress for a staff member, to ensuring her colleagues took time for self-care by operating the calming cart, which provided tea, coloring pages, and other small comforts to staff at the Landmark Center; and

WHEREAS, a woman of boundless compassion, Mary Hecht previously served in the Human Resources Department of Saint Mary's Home for Disabled Children, demonstrating her lifelong dedication to the care and well-being of others; and

WHEREAS, Mary Hecht's enduring legacy of service, friendship, and love will be forever cherished by her colleagues, fellow volunteers, the families she supported at ForKids, and all who were fortunate to know her; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the House of Delegates hereby note with great sadness the loss of Mary Carol Evans Hecht, a pillar of kindness and generosity in her community who touched the lives of countless young people; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to the family of Mary Carol Evans Hecht as an expression of the House of Delegates' respect for her memory.