

**PROCLAMATION
SENIOR HOME ASSISTANCE REPAIR PROGRAM (SHARP)
FIRST ANNIVERSARY 2008**

WHEREAS, After Dave Taylor heard the story of his Big Beaver United Methodist Church Minister's visit to a shut-in who asked if he could change a light bulb for her, he had an idea that has now become a successful reality in Troy; and

WHEREAS, Dave's dream was to start a program to help seniors over the age of 60, regardless of income, by providing free labor with homeowners only having to pay for supplies. Working with Carla Vaughan, the senior coordinator with the Troy Parks and Recreation Department, the program took its initial steps; and

WHEREAS, A positive response clearly demonstrated the need for a City wide program so a partnership was established between Dave Taylor, his fellow church volunteers, Troy Parks and Recreation, and the Community Foundation of Troy. Together they developed an implementation plan and organizational structure and the **Senior Home Assistance Repair Program (SHARP)** to include seniors and homeowners with disabilities was officially launched in January 2007; and

WHEREAS, One year later, the program has exceeded all projections, fulfilling 304 requests for 197 homeowners by two dozen volunteers who receive heartwarming appreciation for their work in survey responses and testimonials; and

WHEREAS, In a true sense of community spirit, grants from the Community Foundation, and sponsorships from Home Depot and Trevarrow Hardware enabled the program to evolve. Combined with the generous donations from appreciative homeowners, the program reported a fund balance at the end of its first year; and

WHEREAS, As volunteer workers for the program, especially seniors, are willing to give their time and talents to this worthy effort and requests for help continues to come, **SHARP** is poised to continue its growth; and

WHEREAS, Testimonials on surveys reflect the positive response to SHARP, including one that sums it all up by saying "Not only the people who volunteer their services but the program itself should be recognized and honored in Troy. What a truly beneficial and worthwhile program this is. Thank you!"

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the City Council of the City of Troy does hereby proclaim the **Senior Home Assistance Repair Program** a success on its First Anniversary and encourages all citizens to express sincere appreciation to this organization and its supporters for their work on behalf of Troy seniors and homeowners with disabilities;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the City Council encourages the citizens of this community to consider joining the ranks of our **SHARP** volunteers in order for the program to assist even more seniors and persons with disabilities in Troy.

Presented this 18th day of February 2008.