



OFFICE OF THE MAYOR, CITY OF GREENVILLE

# *Proclamation*

**WHEREAS**, the year 2010 marks the 45th anniversary of the federal Older Americans Act, which is the core legislation that established home and community services and supports for seniors and their caregivers;

**WHEREAS** this year's national theme for Older Americans Month—*Age Strong! Live Long!*—mirrors North Carolina's theme of "*Living Wise to Age Well*," that acknowledges aging as a lifelong process during which it is never too early or too late to strengthen one's physical, mental, social and financial well-being, or to address disparities among individuals in their opportunities for aging well;

**WHEREAS**, Pitt County's aging population continues to grow, with the number of citizens age 60 and older projected to increase over the next 20 years from about 23,540 citizens age 60 and older as of July 1, 2010 to more than 42,940 by July 1, 2029;

**WHEREAS**, the older adults in Greenville are among our most "treasured resources," united by historical experiences, strengthened by diversity, and interpreting events through varied perspectives and backgrounds to bring wisdom and insight to our community;

**WHEREAS**, our older adults deserve recognitions for the contributions they have made and will continue to make to the culture, economy, and character of our city, county, state and nation; and

**WHEREAS**, our community can provide that recognition and respect by improving the quality of life for older Americans by:

- Increasing their opportunities to remain active and engaged in community life;
- Providing individualized services and support systems to maintain the dignity, independence, and self-determination of older Americans as they age;
- Combating ageist attitudes by honoring their past, present, and future contributions.

**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, Patricia C. Dunn, Mayor of the City of Greenville, North Carolina, do hereby proclaim the month of May, 2010 as

## **OLDER AMERICANS MONTH**

in Greenville and urge every citizen to take time this month to honor our older adults and the professionals, family members, and volunteers who care for many of them. Our recognition and involvement of older Americans can enrich our entire community's quality of life.

This 13th day of May, 2010.

  
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Patricia C. Dunn, Mayor