

# Bank of Granite

NEWS FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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## **Bank of Granite celebrates grand opening of new Viewmont office with ribbon cutting**

Bank of Granite will celebrate the grand opening of its new Viewmont office in Hickory with a ribbon cutting ceremony at 11 a.m. on Thursday, November 16. "We've had an office in Viewmont since 1987," said Charles M. Snipes, the bank's chairman and chief executive officer. "But this spacious new facility will serve our customers better than ever before."

Directly across from Wike's Cleaners, the new office is at 1420 2<sup>nd</sup> Street NE, at the corner of Highway 127 North and 14<sup>th</sup> Avenue NE. The former location, at 281 14<sup>th</sup> Avenue NE, just one block east of the new office, has been demolished to make way for construction of a new Lowe's Home Improvement Warehouse.

The ribbon cutting ceremony begins with opening comments by Bank of Granite's Senior Vice President and Office Administrator, Corky Upchurch, and Vice President and Viewmont Office Manager, Pam Harwell. The event continues with a welcome from Catawba County Chamber of Commerce President, Danny Hearn, followed by comments from Hickory Mayor, Rudy Wright, Bank of Granite's Executive Vice President and Chief Operating Officer, Scott Anderson, Marshall Wheeler of the North Carolina Bankers Association; and Snipes. The Dr. Reverend Thomas Gibson of St. Luke's United Methodist Church will conduct the dedication. The event will conclude with the ribbon cutting. All are invited to stay and enjoy refreshments provided by the bank.

Office hours at all Catawba County Bank of Granite offices are Monday through Wednesday 9:00 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Thursday and Friday until 6:00 p.m. Drive through windows open at 8:00 a.m. daily.

A full-service office, Bank of Granite's Viewmont location offers commercial, personal, home equity, and SBA loans; a variety of personal and business checking accounts; several savings accounts, retirement savings, such as IRAs and fixed annuities; and business services. New at the Viewmont office, mortgages are now available with Angelo Apollonio through the bank's subsidiary, Granite Mortgage.

"We couldn't be happier with our new office," said Harwell. "Many of our customers have commented on how spacious and inviting it is." Added Upchurch, "We think our customers will find the new location much more convenient and accommodating."

Bank of Granite and Granite Mortgage are subsidiaries of Bank of Granite Corporation whose stock is traded on NASDAQ Global Select Market under the symbol "GRAN." The bank operates 22 full-service banking offices in Burke, Caldwell, Catawba, Forsyth, Iredell, Mecklenburg, Watauga, and Wilkes counties. Granite Mortgage, headquartered in Winston-Salem, originates home mortgages in most of these counties and in Fayetteville, Greensboro, and Salisbury, N.C.

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