

Bank of Granite

NEWS FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

September 4, 2007

Bank of Granite School Tools Morganton Event a Success

Bank of Granite last week concluded its first year as a collection site for WSOC-TV's School Tools campaign with a big finish. Last Thursday, its downtown Morganton office hosted a live remote radio broadcast on WMNC 92.1, the Big Dawg, to promote the month-long school supplies collection efforts.

"We're couldn't be more pleased with the turnout and the generosity of our community," said Sam Stephenson, Bank of Granite's Morganton office manager. "SEANC (State Employees Association of North Carolina) District Five is just one example. They contributed 30 backpacks filled with school supplies they had been collecting all month. They changed plans to take them to Raleigh, and brought them to the bank because with School Tools, all collections stay in the county in which they are received."

During the two-hour live broadcast, Ralph Mangum, Big Dawg radio's morning personality, conducted interviews with those making donations as well as Burke County Schools Superintendent David Burlison and bank employees.

Representatives from the Morganton Food Lion, another School Tools partner, were also on hand to register people for the grocery chain's MVP card that can then be linked to schools of the customers' choice. These schools will then receive corporate donations whenever customers use their MVP card.

Rev. W.F. (Mac) McIntosh, long-time volunteer Communities In Schools (CIS) Coordinator came to promote the cause as well. All collections received through the School Tools campaign at Bank of Granite in Morganton are distributed through CIS to Burke County schools.

“Bank of Granite has a 100-year legacy of helping the communities we serve,” said Public Relations and Marketing Director Karen Caruso. “Our customers and employees have helped us to continue that tradition with their giving. We’re especially pleased with the generosity and enthusiasm of our Morganton office employees and customers for this most worthwhile cause.”

In its eleventh year, the School Tools Campaign operates within the 22 county WSOC-TV viewing area. Bank of Granite offices in Caldwell, Catawba, Iredell, Mecklenburg, and Watauga counties collected donations as part of the bank’s School Tools participation.

Bank of Granite and Granite Mortgage are subsidiaries of Bank of Granite Corporation whose stock is traded on The 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, and a lending office in Guilford County. Granite Mortgage, headquartered in Winston-Salem, originates home mortgages in these counties and in Fayetteville and Salisbury, N.C.

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Rev. W.F. (Mac) McIntosh, volunteer Communities In Schools coordinator with School Tools donations at Bank of Granite.