

Bank of Granite

NEWS FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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Bank of Granite Presents Second Annual Flo Rogerson Award

Bank of Granite presented Julie B. Justice its second annual Flo Rogerson Outstanding Service Award. Justice is assistant manager at the bank's Baton office located inside Ingles Supermarket in the Baton community of Caldwell County at 2630 Connelly Springs Road. Bank President and Chief Executive Officer R. Scott Anderson made the presentation assisted by Senior Vice President and Mountain Regional Executive Earl B. Searcy.

"We're so honored to have Julie named as the second annual award recipient," said Anderson. "She's truly deserving of the recognition because she puts into practice every day so many traits that Flo exhibited."

Florencia "Flo" Rogerson, beloved Bank of Granite employee at its Lenoir office, succumbed to cancer in May 2006 at the age of 49. She loved the employees of the bank and all of her customers. Her work ethic and dedication raised the quality bar for all Bank of Granite employees. The Flo Rogerson Outstanding Service Award is given annually to recognize an employee who, like Flo, has an extraordinary way that inspires bank employees to be better at what they do.

"Julie is full of energy and enthusiasm that carries over to the entire office. She is loved by all her customers, always has a positive attitude, and always has a smile on her face," wrote the coworker that nominated her for the award. Searcy added, "We're very proud that this year's recipient is part of the mountain region team. Julie sets a very high standard that we all strive to achieve."

A Caldwell County native, Justice joined Bank of Granite 11 years ago, just prior to the opening of the Baton office in Ingles. She has served as a member of the bank's

Granite Quality Awareness Team, a group dedicated to continuous improvement in quality and service. She is a 1990 graduate of West Caldwell High School and has completed two years at Caldwell Community College in business and accounting.

Justice and her husband, Jeff, reside in Lenoir with their two sons, 11-year-old Hunter and six-year-old Jordan. An active volunteer at their school, she is treasurer of Baton Elementary PTO and taught there during the American Bankers Association-sponsored Teach Children to Save Day event. The family attends Union Grove Baptist Church in the Baton community.

“It is an honor to receive the Flo Rogerson award — she inspired everyone she came into contact with,” said Justice. “I try to deliver the service I would expect for my own family. I go above and beyond for my customers because I want them to walk away knowing that I care.”

Rogerson’s son, James “Jay” J. Rogerson III, also assisted with the award presentation. Jay graduated last year from Hibriten High School and recently completed his first year at Appalachian State University.

“Knowing how important education was to his mother, bank employees and board members have generously contributed to a scholarship designated for Jay at the Caldwell County Schools Education Foundation,” said Karen B. Warlick, senior vice president and chief administrative officer. “Every spring, our joint staff meeting focuses on quality and service.” Warlick continued, “It’s always a rewarding meeting but made more so by being able to honor Flo’s memory with the Outstanding Service Award.”

Last year’s recipient, Geanina V. Neal, is customer service and sales representative at the Bank of Granite Uptown Charlotte office in the bank’s metro region. To honor Neal for this accomplishment, the Mecklenburg County employees, local board of directors, and even a few customers, contributed a significant portion of the total received for Jay’s scholarship this past school year.

Other highlights from the joint staff meeting include honoring the bank's 11 employees who have served in the armed forces; 104 employees who are community volunteers; 61 employees who are fund raising volunteers for non-profit and civic organizations; and the 26 employees who delivered financial literacy information to school children during Teach Children to Save Day.

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.



Photo Caption Left to Right:

Earl Searcy, mountain region executive, Julie Justice, Flo Rogerson Outstanding Service Award recipient, and Rogerson's son, Jay, at Bank of Granite's joint staff meeting.

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