

Bank of Granite

NEWS FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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Ward and Link Promoted at Bank of Granite

Kristen L. Ward and Ryan T. Link recently received promotions at Bank of Granite's Boone office. Vice President and Watauga Market Executive Joy Coffey made the announcement. "Ryan and Kristen show a true understanding of the bank's philosophy of service as solid as our name," said Coffey. "It's an honor to announce their well-deserved promotions."

Ward's recent promotion to loan officer comes after joining Bank of Granite as loan officer assistant when the Boone office was opened more than five years ago. "I love helping our customers," said Ward. "In my new role, I'll be able to do a lot more to help them be successful."

A Boone native, Ward is a 1998 graduate of Watauga High School. She is cum laude graduate of Western Carolina University with a Bachelor of Science degree in recreational therapy.

Ward resides in Elk Park with her husband, Derek, and four-year old son, Nathan. They are members of Proffit's Grove Baptist Church in Boone where she teaches Sunday school.

Link has been named management associate and loan officer assistant. He joined the Boone office in 2007 working part-time while in college, most recently as a teller. "I'm thrilled to have the privilege to learn from so many talented and experienced bankers," said Link. "I look forward to continuing the bank's long-standing tradition of providing first-class customer service."

Link graduated from Appalachian State University in May with a Bachelor of Science degree in business administration with concentration in finance and banking. He lives in Boone and is a member of Woodlawn Baptist Church in Conover, N.C. Link is actively involved in Relay for Life for the American Cancer Society.

“Kristen and Ryan have been an important part of our team since joining Bank of Granite,” said Coffey. “The new opportunity each of them has here will enable them to learn and grow and ultimately serve our customers even better.”

Bank of Granite opened a lending office in Boone in April of 2003 and became a full-service office in August of that year. The move to their state-of-the-art permanent facility at 230 Wilson Dr., behind Boone Mall, was in February of 2006. Office hours are Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. until 5 p.m. and Friday until 6 p.m. The drive through window opens at 8:30 a.m. daily.

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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Kristen L. Ward



Ryan T. Link