

Bank of Granite

NEWS FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

August 1, 2008

Winkler Celebrates 40 Years at Bank of Granite

Employees at Bank of Granite's Whitnel office held a surprise event to celebrate Office Manager Janet Winkler's 40 years at the bank. Customers and well-wishers stopped by during the day Friday to congratulate her. The office is located at 1351 Norwood St. S.W. in Lenoir.

Winkler joined Bank of Granite as a teller at the Lenoir office on August 1, 1968. Beginning her career at a time when opportunities were more limited for women than they are today, Winkler has the distinction of being named the first female office manager at Bank of Granite in 1977. She was later promoted becoming the first female vice president at the bank.

Winkler is a graduate of Gamewell-Collettsville High School. She earned her Basic Certificate and General Banking diploma through American Institute of Banking and Certificate in Bank Management from University of North Carolina Chapel Hill. She's a past member of the Catawba Valley Chapter of American Institute of Banking and North Carolina Banking Women's Association and has instructed American Institute of Banking courses.

A long time volunteer in the community and advocate for Caldwell County, Winkler has served in leadership roles on the Economic Development Commission, Hudson Planning Board and Board of Adjustment, Caldwell County Chamber of Commerce, Caldwell County Council for Women, Caldwell County United Way, Altrusa Club of Caldwell County, Caldwell County Retirement Alliance and Caldwell County JobReady Partnership. She has spent countless other hours volunteering for organizations such as American Cancer Society, Caldwell County Heart Association, March of Dimes, Caldwell Community College and Technical Institute, and many more.

Winkler is the 2004 recipient of the Dysart Award presented annually by the Caldwell County Chamber of Commerce to recognize outstanding citizenship and in the same year was named Woman of the Year by the Town of Hudson. She also received the 1998 Sam Walton Business Leader Award.

Winkler and her husband Gary live in Hudson where she serves as a Town of Hudson Commissioner. They are members of Flemings Chapel Baptist Church.

“Janet is truly an icon in Lenoir banking,” said Bank of Granite Lenoir Market Executive T. Rahn Chase. “Her hard work, determination and dedication are an example to young women of how to be successful.”

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Janet Winkler