

Bank of Granite

NEWS FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

May 24, 2005

Bank of Granite Names Hilton Chair of Hickory Board of Directors

Frances R. Hilton has been named chairwoman of Bank of Granite's Hickory Board of Directors. In making the announcement, Charles M. Snipes, President and CEO of the bank said, "We are so glad Frances is taking a leading role on our Hickory board. She has been a terrific addition since she joined it in December of 1997 and I know she will be an excellent chairwoman."

Hilton was educated in the Hickory City Schools and took business and banking courses at Lenoir-Rhyne College. She worked in banking for a number of years and was owner of the former Chapter One Booksellers.

Active in the community, Hilton has served on a number of boards, many as past president. They include Service League of Hickory, Advisory Board of Frye Regional Medical Center, Lake Hickory Country Club, Board of Visitors of Lenoir-Rhyne College and Piedmont Education Foundation. In addition to the bank's Hickory board of directors, she also serves on Sipes Orchard Home's board and the Police Promotion Board.

A Hickory native, Hilton was married for 41 years to the late Glenn C. Hilton, Jr. She has two married children, Bill Hilton and Sara Hilton Moore, and two grandchildren, Adam and Emily Moore. She resides in Hickory and is an active, lifelong member of First Baptist Church of Hickory.

Other members of the Bank of Granite Hickory Board of Directors are Iris K. Barrett, J. Steven Brackett, Lee G. Brown, Forest M. Gaines, Kathryn T. Greathouse, James L. Houston, Jr., Marie H. Huffman, Dr. J. Ward Kurad, Landon B. Lane, Jr., Steve M. Mull, Jill J. Patton, David H. Sain, Kenneth R. Turnmyre, Wyman c. (Corky) Upchurch and Rosemary Bass Young.

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Frances Hilton, Bank of Granite, Hickory Board Chairwoman