

Bank of Granite

NEWS FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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Bank employees build a united front for United Way

Bank of Granite and its employees have combined efforts to gift more than \$81,000 to the United Way 2007 Annual Pledge Campaign. Participation at each of Bank of Granite's 22 banking offices was 100 percent. Those offices include seven in Catawba County, six in Caldwell County, four in Mecklenburg County, and one each in Burke, Forsyth, Iredell, Watauga and Wilkes Counties.

Employee pledges ranged from 'Leadership Givers' pledging in excess of one thousand dollars, 'Fair Share Givers' offering .6 percent of their annual salaries, to the 'Everyday Hero' giving one dollar per day. The fund raising efforts of the bank's employees far surpassed campaign results of previous years.

"We're always behind United Way," commented Morganton Banking Officer and Office Manager Sam Stephenson. "Their organization is fundamental to our community; we are more than happy to contribute."

"Our employees are always forthcoming in their efforts," said Vice President and Lenoir Office Manager Rahn Chase. "The families of many of our employees here in Caldwell County have been directly affected by declining businesses and lay-offs. However, our folks continue to dig deep into their pockets to support this worthwhile cause."

In Catawba County, Banking Officer and Mountain View Office Manager Aaron Hughes led the bank's United Way drive. "The generosity, caring and compassion of all our employees made our 100

percent participation possible,” said Hughes. “I’m proud to be a part of a bank that believes in helping neighbors.”

United Way’s mission is to provide state level support to assist in building healthier and more caring communities. “It says a lot for any business to help the community,” remarked Chris Davis, director of the United Way of Caldwell County. “Bank of Granite *practices* and stands by the philosophy of always giving back to the community — they are at the top of the list.”

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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