

## HAPPY BIRTHDAY, ANDREW BAIRD July 18, 1762 - December 27, 1827

On Sunday, July 17, 2022, the Granite Falls History Committee celebrated what would have been Andrew Baird's 260th birthday by serving cake and iced tea to visitors between 2 and 4 p.m. In addition to touring his former home (photo on the right) and seeing regular exhibits, visitors viewed a special display of vintage clothing, which included the wedding dress worn by Mrs. Don (Joyce) Kirkpatrick, a suit worn by Mrs. O. J. (Alice) Corpening, and other fine garments that date back over the past 100 years.



Shown left to right: Claudia Bujold, Peggy Poe, Caryl Burns, Elizabeth Hudson, Suzanne Barlow, Diane Williams, Renae Winkler, Jeanne Whisnant, Barbara Ross, and Linda Crowder

## AN AFTERNOON TEA PARTY To Honor our Mayor

Members of the Granite Falls History Committee surprised Mayor Caryl Burns with an afternoon tea party at the Baird House on Saturday, July 23, 2022. While Dr. Burns knew about the party in advance, she did not know that she was the inspiration until the event was almost over. The ladies wanted to show their appreciation for her leadership and guidance over the years since the museum opened. After being elected Mayor in December 2021, Dr. Burns announced that she would no longer be able to serve as chairman of the group. In her place, the committee

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## HISTORY IN THE MAKING

### Saying "Good-Bye" to COVID-19 - An Unwanted, Lingering Visitor

According to the CDC Community Levels, Caldwell County remained in the medium category July 7th and 14th and climbed to the high level on July 21st. The level was still high on July 28th.

News from the Federal Government: On July 6, 2022, the U. S. Federal Drug Administration (FDA) authorized state-licensed pharmacists to prescribe Paxlovid when they have sufficient information from the patient's medical records to determine whether or not the drug is suitable and appropriate.

On July 13, 2022, the FDA issued an emergency use authorization (EUA) for the Novavax COVID-19 Vaccine for adults (18 years and older). The Novavax requires two doses administered 21 days apart. This vaccine contains the SARS-CoV-2 spike protein and Matrix-M adjuvant. The manufacturer uses insect cells to produce the spike protein and obtains materials for the Matrix-M adjuvant from the bark of the Soapbark tree in Chile.

News from the State: On July 12, 2022, N. C. Governor Roy Cooper announced that the State of Emergency he declared in response to the spread of COVID-19 on March 10, 2020 would end on August 15, 2022. He had already ended the lockdown and mask mandates, but had left in place the actual emergency declaration.

(COVID-19 continued on page 2)

Summer Meals for Children: Caldwell County Schools has added the William B. Shuford Recreation Center in Granite Falls as a site for children (0 - 18) to eat lunch free Monday through Friday from 12:15 until 12:45 p.m. through August 19, 2022.

**GRANITE FALLS PARKS & RECREATION**  
**Let's Play Ball! Let's Have Fun!**

Youth (co-ed, ages 4 - 12) may register for fall soccer at the William B. Shuford Recreation Center between July 25th and August 29th. The cost is \$40 for residents and \$60.00 for persons who live outside the city limits. The fee includes the uniform.

**COMING ATTRACTIONS**  
**Save These Dates**

Saturday, September 17, 2022 from 2 until 8 p.m. - Granite Falls Merchants Association presents the 12th Annual Festival on Main (See page 3 for more information.)

Thursday, November 10, 2022 at 10 a.m. - Veterans Days Ceremony at the rec center

Monday, November 21, 2022 at 6:15 p.m. - Festival on the Square and Light Up Granite Falls Christmas Tree Lighting

Saturday, December 3, 2022 at noon - Granite Falls Christmas Parade

**GARDEN CLUB NEWS**

Members of the Granite Falls Garden Club not only beautify the downtown area, but they also recognize a Yard of the Month during the growing season. If you would like to nominate a yard or garden for recognition by the Granite Falls Garden Club, please contact Barbara Ross at (828) 396-1668. (photos provided by Barbara)

**July Yard of the Month**

The Granite Falls Garden Club presented the July Yard Of The Month (below) to the home of Steve and Jenny Wilson on Granite Creek Drive in Granite Falls, NC. The Wilsons moved here from Ohio seven years ago. They have taken pride in their yard by planting perennials and annuals with a touch of yard art. Garden Club member Wanda Prince presented the award.



**June Yard of the Month**

Steve and Debbie White, 26 Meandering Drive, were tickled pink to receive the Garden of the Month Award from the Granite Falls Garden Club. Debbie loves gardening and spends almost every waking hour in her garden. As you can see from the above photo, she loves to shop at yard sales and consignment shops for unusual garden pots or garden art. Kathleen Dukelow presented the award to the Whites.



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chose Linda Crowder and Jeanne Whisnant to serve as co-chairs. Martin D. Townsend joined the committee to represent the town. Mayor Burns remains dedicated to the museum and will continue to support its work. She is also Vice President of the Granite Falls Historical Association, Inc.



Photo by Barbara Ross

The Association plans to offer tea parties to the general public in the future, and this event served as a “practice session.” Each member brought a different treat [cheese/fruit, delicate sandwiches (cucumber and pimiento cheese), chicken salad tarts, scones (with marmalade and clotted cream), lemon meringue pies, macarons, and a variety of teas]. Peggy Poe made monogram napkins for each participant and provided tea towels and handcrafted tabletop trees for door prizes.

The hostesses brought items from home to use at the party, but they are collecting teacups, saucers, utensils, plates, etc. to keep at the museum. They will gladly accept donations of silverware, vintage glass, crystal, china, tiered trays, etc. Donors may drop off items between 2 and 4 p.m. on Sundays when the museum is open, or they may call (828) 396-1066 to make other arrangements.

### **Meetings Scheduled**

The next meeting of the Granite Falls Historical Association Board of Trustees will be held Tuesday, August 16, 2022 at approximately 2:45 p.m. It will follow a meeting of the History Committee, which begins at 2 p.m. Both meetings are open to the public, but persons wishing to attend should call Linda R. Crowder at (828) 396-1066 in case there are last minute changes to the schedule.

The History Committee will review maintenance issues and discuss future exhibits. Members plan to feature local inductees into the Caldwell County Schools Hall of Honor in September and have a military memorabilia display that features the Vietnam War in November. Persons willing to lend items for this display may call Jeanne Whisnant at (828) 320-3725.

Association trustees will get an update on mapping Pinecrest Cemetery and maintaining the Baird Cemetery. They will also set a date/time for a general meeting to allow all members an opportunity to participate in planning the Annual Meeting in October. Both groups will review the tea party and share ideas for future events.

### **GETTING THE WORD OUT *There’s an App for That***

The Western Piedmont Council of Governments (WPCOG) has launched an app that promotes the Unifour (Alexander, Burke, Caldwell, and Catawba Counties) by pinpointing attractions and amenities that add to the quality of life in our area. Designers believe the app will help prospective residents and businesses decide to move here. The Granite Falls History and Transportation Museum is listed under Fun Places. Click on the dinosaur logo near Granite Falls, and there will be a link to the town’s website where there is a link to the museum’s website. The app is located on the internet at [exncfoothills.com](http://exncfoothills.com). Funding came from the EDA CARES Act.

### **FESTIVAL ON MAIN - SEPTEMBER 17TH *More Information***

The Granite Falls Merchants Association is accepting applications from craftsmen, artists, civic groups, churches, businesses, etc. to set up booths at the 12th Annual Festival on Main. Food vendors must provide proof of insurance by August 30th, and all entries must be received by September 1, 2022. For more information and to download a form, go to the town’s website: [www.granitefallsn.com/vendor](http://www.granitefallsn.com/vendor).



Scene from the last Festival on Main held in 2019

**GRANITE FALLS MIDDLE SCHOOL ON JULY 3, 2022**  
***“We’ll Pray to Keep Thy Portals Wide for All Posterity”***



*Tablet II* is a publication of the Granite Falls Historical Association, Inc. The purpose of the publication is to provide members with news and information about the Association along with articles and photos of historical interest. The purpose of the Association is to preserve and interpret the history/heritage of Granite Falls and Southern Caldwell County by historical preservation, publications, active museum and historical site programs, public meetings, and various activities related to these programs.

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For more information about the Granite Falls Historical Association, Inc and the Granite Falls History and Transportation Museum, go to the website - [www.granitefallshistorymuseum.org](http://www.granitefallshistorymuseum.org) or the Facebook page under “Granite Falls (N. C.) History and Transportation Museum.”