



Peggy Poe is shown with a quilt that she made.

AT THE MUSEUM *National Quilt Month*

Members of the Catawba Valley Quilters' Guild and the Pine Needles Quilt Guild celebrated National Quilt month by exhibiting some of their beautiful work at the Granite Falls History and Transportation Museum during the month of March 2025. Peggy Poe arranged the exhibit. Members of the Granite Falls History Committee honored quilters with a grand opening reception on Sunday, March 2, 2025, from 2 until 4 p.m. The quilts remained on display through Sunday, March 30, 2025. The museum is open to the public on Sundays from 2 until 4 p.m. (except holidays) and at other times by appointment.



Left to Right: Marie Woods, Sheila Brewer, and Reba Brewer

DUNKIN' DONUTS *Welcome to Granite Falls*

The Town of Granite Falls and the Caldwell Chamber of Commerce welcomed Dunkin' to town on Saturday, March 22, 2025, with a ribbon cutting at 11 a.m. Bryan Moore, Chamber CEO/President, emceed the event. Mayor Caryl Burns welcomed the business to town and introduced Town Manager Daniel Cobb, Councilman Martin Townsend, and Police Chief "Brine" Branham. The grand opening began at 5 a.m. with the first 100 customers receiving coupons for free coffee for a year. At 7 a.m., the restaurant began giving a free glazed donut with each beverage sold while supplies lasted. Customers could also spin a wheel to receive free prizes and take advantage of other specials throughout the day. The grand opening was broadcast on KICKS 103.3 FM.

After the ribbon cutting, Dennis Harvey, Dunkin' Franchisee, donated \$1,500.00 to the North Carolina Law Enforcement Torch Run for Special Olympics. Stephanie Wilkerson, Davidson County Athlete Ambassador, told about her experiences with Special Olympics and expressed appreciation for the generous contribution. Representatives from the N. C. Highway Patrol, Caldwell Sheriff's Department, and the Granite Falls Police Department witnessed the presentation.

Separate videos of the ribbon cutting and the donation are on the museum's Facebook page - Granite Falls (N. C.) History and Transportation Museum.



Ribbon Cutting (center left to right): Dennis Harvey (black jacket/orange shirt), Dr. Caryl Burns, Daniel Cobb, Bryan Moore, M. D. Townsend, and Chief "Brine" Branham



Acknowledgement of \$1500 donation to the NC Law Enforcement Torch Run for Special Olympics



NEWS FROM GRANITE FALLS *Making a Splash*

The Town of Granite Falls will celebrate the opening of its new splash pad on Friday, May 2, 2025, from 5 p.m. until 9 p.m. on the campus of the William B. Shuford Recreation Center on Pinewood Road. In addition to a ribbon cutting, the festival will feature live musical performances, food trucks, and free activities for people of all ages. The evening will end with a spectacular fire works show. The rain date is Friday, May 9, 2025.

The splash pad will provide summer fun for years to come, and the town hopes the Splash Bash Festival will become an annual event. Above and below are photos of the construction site taken on Saturday, March 22, 2025, by Linda Crowder.



MAKING NATIONAL NEWS *Eric Church*

On March 20, 2025, Eric Church announced that his new album *Evangeline vs The Machine* will be released on May 2. "Hands of Time," the lead single was available on March 24. The album also includes "Darkest Hour," the song he released last fall to support Hurricane Helene relief efforts. For more information about the album, check out Eric's website: www.ericchurch.com.

Carsen Webb

Meanwhile, another Granite Falls native, Carsen Webb, made his debut on the national stage on Sunday, March 16, 2025, during the broadcast of an audition for ABC's American Idol. Carsen, a student at South Caldwell High School (Eric's alma mater), received the votes he needed to appear in season 23 of American Idol. A large gathering of fans at Ale Yeah Fyreside Tavern in Granite Falls cheered him on as his audition aired on TV, and they are looking forward to seeing him achieve his dream.

Copper Penny Grill Lake Hickory

A local business will make national news in the near future. Representatives from CBS Mornings visited Copper Penny Grill Lake Hickory on Wednesday, March 19, 2025, to video a special segment featuring the lakeside restaurant in Rhodhiss. Check out the restaurant's Facebook page to see a photo of the visit.

MESSAGE FROM THE EDITOR *Dateline: Granite Falls, North Carolina*

There is still time to submit articles and photos for *Dateline: Granite Falls, North Carolina*. Although I have written a basic chronological history and have acquired a good number of "treasured memories," I do not feel the book is ready for publication yet. My mind keeps going back to an incident when I was in the first grade at Granite Falls Elementary School (the three-story building on Falls Avenue). After showing Mrs. Fagerstrom a picture I had colored, she put her arm around me, gently patted me on the bottom, and told me I could do better.

In order to publish a better history of Granite Falls, I need to hear from churches, businesses, civic clubs, and other groups. Without your stories, the book is incomplete. I will gladly help. My contact information is at the bottom of page 4. At some point, we will publish the book. Please don't wait until it's too late and say, "I wish I had"

Linda Crowder

NCDOT UPDATE *North Highland Ave and Pinewood Rd*



March 11, 2025 - Trailer Moved into Place



March 11, 2025 - Curbing from Pinewood Road Discarded along North Highland Avenue



March 11, 2025 - Curbing Removed and Cones Set Up along Pinewood Road



March 18, 2025 - Guards around Storage Area

The Granite Falls History Committee is still accepting applications from persons wishing to volunteer at the museum. If interested, please call the town office at (828) 396-3131.

GRANITE FALLS GARDEN CLUB *Plant Swap*

The Granite Falls Garden Club set up its annual plant swap on South Main Street on Wednesday, March 26, 2025. Members of the public may take plants they want and leave plants they don't need for others to use. There is no charge. The Plant Swap is located on the exterior of Granite Restaurant Equipment. (Garden Club Photo)



MARK YOUR CALENDARS! *Dining with the Demons*

The 2025 DWTD Planning Committee has reserved the Granite Falls Middle School for Saturday, May 3, 2025. Alumni and guests will enjoy a potluck lunch together at approximately noon. Persons with special dietary needs and/or preferences may bring their own food and eat with everyone else.

The doors will officially open at 11 a.m. Volunteers may arrive as early as 10 a.m. to help set up. At 11:45 a.m., attendees will pause their activities long enough to hear announcements and bless the meal.

Jeanne Whisnant (class of 1968), Renae Kirby Winkler (class of 1968), and Linda Richards Crowder (class of 1967) met at the school on Wednesday, April 2, to assess the cafeteria and determine how to best arrange the furnishings to meet the needs of their classmates and guests. They were delighted to see some new furniture, which they believe many people will prefer.

After considering different ways to raise money to cover expenses, they decided to conduct a silent auction. The committee is asking classmates to bring suitable items, such as baked goods, crafts, and other merchandise. Please be ready with a minimum bid in mind.

A committee member will post updates on the "Dining with the Demons 2025" Facebook page. DWTD need volunteers to help plan, set up, and clean up. Please call Jeanne Whisnant at (828) 320-3725 if you are available to assist with these and/or other duties.

NATIONAL QUILT MONTH - MARCH 2025

More Quilts to See



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.

Contact the Editor: Linda Richards Crowder by phone at (828) 396-1066, by text (828) 496-2835, or by email lrdcrowder@gmail.com.

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 or the Facebook page under "Granite Falls (N. C.) History and Transportation Museum."