



Rev. Jay Worsley

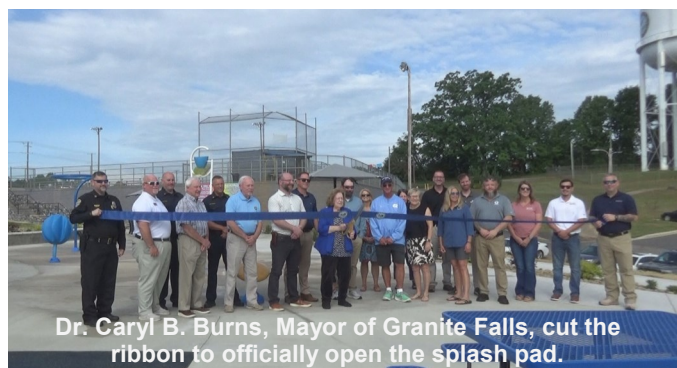


Some of the Prayer Warriors who Attended the National Day of Prayer at First Baptist Church

NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER *"Pour Out to the God of Hope and Be Filled"*

First Baptist Church of Granite Falls hosted a 2025 National Day of Prayer event on Thursday, May 1, 2025, in its sanctuary located at 12 Crestview Street. Rev. Jay Worsley, the church's pastor and event coordinator, welcomed attendees, gave a brief devotional, prayed, and explained that this year he was "turning prayer time to the people." Instead of listening to different speakers, individuals would stop at prayer prompts placed around the sanctuary and speak with God personally. The prompts included the seven (7) traditional topics - government, military, media, business, education, church, and family along with suggestions for personal meditation.

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Dr. Caryl B. Burns, Mayor of Granite Falls, cut the ribbon to officially open the splash pad.



This photo shows the first children to play in the splash pad following the ribbon cutting.

MAKING A BIG SPLASH IN GRANITE FALLS *Ribbon Cutting and Festival*

The Town of Granite Falls officially opened its new splash pad at the William B. Shuford Recreation Center on Friday, May 2, 2025, with a ribbon cutting at 9 a.m. Parks and Recreation Director Chad Raby welcomed attendees to the long anticipated event, expressing pleasure that the project was finally finished despite numerous setbacks. Dr. Caryl Burns, Mayor of Granite Falls, cut the ribbon and activated the splash pad after leading a count down. The first children to enjoy the new aquatic activity were Lola Alspaugh and Everett Miller. Lola was accompanied by her mother, Lindsey Alspaugh, and Everett was with his mother, Megan Miller.

Later the same day, town employees, volunteers, businesses, and nonprofits began setting up for the first ever Splash Bash, which the town hopes to become an annual event. The Splash Bash, which began at 5 p.m., featured activities for children of all ages, including inflatables, axe throwing, jousting, face painting, and various vendors.

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During Rev. Worsley's devotional, he explained the background to the familiar verse, "if my people, which are called by my name, shall humble themselves, and pray, and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways; then will I hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin, and heal their land." [II Chronicles 7:14 (KJV)]. He said that God spoke these words to King Solomon in a vision after Solomon had dedicated the temple and had prayed for God's Protection. He noted that change must begin with God's People seeking God's Help, and that is why we observe National Day of Prayer.

A video of Rev. Worsley's devotional may be seen on Facebook under "Granite Falls (N. C.) History and Transportation Museum."



GRANITE FALLS GARDEN CLUB ***Yard of the Month for May***

The Granite Falls Garden Club recognized the home of Randy and Susie McCall as the Yard of the Month for May. They live on Daniel Circle in Granite Falls. Randy refers to the yard as the Garden of Eden. It features peonies and roses from his mother and brother, who are now deceased, and daylilies and other perennials from his sister. The yard also incorporates various plants from other towns in Florida and North Carolina, where he has lived. Garden Club Member Tammy Ray presented the sign to Randy.



AMERICA 250 ***Semiquincentennial***

Historians have begun planning to commemorate the 250th Anniversary of the Declaration of Independence on July 4, 2026. In Caldwell County, the celebration will include a history wall at the county office building along with special events over the next year. *Tablet II* and *The Granite Tablet* will carry announcements about local festivities and projects as they are made.



SERVICE AWARD WINNER ***Joyce Poteet***

Volunteer Burke recognized the 2025 recipients of the North Carolina Governor's Volunteer Service Awards on May 13, 2025, beginning at 5:30 p.m. at First United Methodist Church in Morganton. Joyce Poteet, a local resident, received one of the awards for her service to Amorem. Mrs. Poteet has been volunteering in medical records at Amorem since 2023. She is retired from Burke County Social Services. A graduate of South Caldwell High School, the award recipient lives in Sawmills with her husband, Chris, and they are active members of Mount Zion Baptist Church. They have a daughter, Emily.

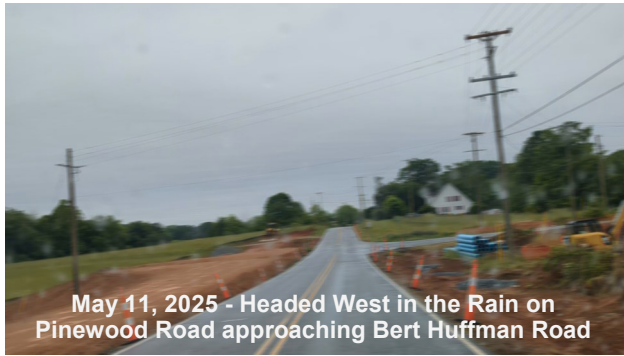
Other volunteers recognized by Volunteer Burke in 2025 are Caroline Avery (Burke United Christian Ministries), Julie Dickison (J. Iverson Riddle Developmental Center), Jasper Hemphill (American Red Cross), Doug White (Outreach Center), and Salem United Methodist Church (J. Iverson Riddle Developmental Center).

PUT IT ON THE CALENDAR! ***It's a "Dam" Party!***

Duke Energy will open the Rhodhiss Hydroelectric Station for tours on Saturday, June 14, 2025, between 9 a.m. and 2 p.m. in celebration of the dam's 100th Anniversary. Visitors can see how this station has provided reliable energy over the last century. Visitors may park at 101 West Caldwell Drive and catch a shuttle to the dam.

Later that same day (from 5 until 9:30 p.m.) the Town of Rhodhiss will celebrate Flag Day and the 100th Anniversary of the Rhodhiss Dam with a Spring Fling. The event will feature local craftsmen, food vendors, live music, and a bounce house. The "Dam" Party, as some call it, will culminate at 9:30 p.m. with a fireworks show.

NCDOT UPDATE
Construction on North Highland Avenue and Pinewood Road



GRANITE FALLS HIGH SCHOOL ALUMNI REUNION
Dining with the Demons

Granite Falls High School Alumni held their 10th Annual Dining with the Demons at their former school, which is now Granite Falls Middle School, on Saturday, May 3, 2025 from 11 a.m. until 2 p.m. Approximately 75 persons attended. They enjoyed a potluck lunch, great fellowship, and “going down memory lane.” The next DWTD will be Saturday, May 2, 2025 at the middle school. For more information, call Linda Crowder at (828) 496-2835.



(SPLASH BASH continued from page 1)

Organizers even had a special area for persons who were sensitive to light and sound. Cassette Rewind played music from the 80s, and the evening ended with a spectacular fireworks display (live streamed for those who needed the noise subdued).

Located behind the pool and near the children's playground, the splash pad is free to the public and available for use from 10 a.m. until 8:30 p.m. seven days a week during warm months. The splash pad is ADA friendly, and the Parks and Recreation Department even has a special wheelchair that can be checked out. The schedule for 2025 is Friday, May 2 through Sunday, September 28. For more information, call the William B. Shuford Recreation at (828) 396-1221. A video of the ribbon cutting may be seen on the Granite Falls (N. C.) History and Transportation Museum Facebook page. Below are photos taken during the Splash Bash.



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