

A Publication of the Granite Falls Historical Association, Inc.



Granite Falls Elementary School Chorus

## 2022 VETERANS CEREMONY *Honoring Those Who Served*

The Town of Granite Falls recognized U. S. Military Veterans with the 8th Annual Veterans Day Ceremony on Thursday, November 10, 2022 at the William B. Shuford Recreation Center on Pinewood Road. Town Councilman Ritch Bolick emceed and read the names of persons from our town who were killed during service to their country. The Caldwell County Sheriff's Department Honor Guard presented the colors while the Granite Falls Elementary School Chorus sang the National Anthem. Rev. Dan Greene gave the invocation, and Mayor Caryl Burns, Ed.D. recognized

(VETERANS CEREMONY continued on page 2)

## FESTIVAL ON THE SQUARE *Getting Ready for the Holidays*

A large crowd joyfully welcomed the holidays to downtown Granite Falls during the 16th Annual Festival on the Square on Monday, November 21st. While waiting for the ceremony to begin at 6:15 p.m., they visited with each other, consumed food and drink provided by local businesses and churches, gave their Christmas lists to Santa Claus, and looked at Christmas trees beautifully decorated by school groups. The trees were a part of the 10th Annual *Light Up Granite Falls* campaign to bring shoppers to downtown.

Gene Crawley welcomed the crowd to Granite Falls and introduced the following entertainers: The Wind Ensemble Percussion Section of the South Caldwell

(FESTIVAL ON THE SQUARE continued on page 4)

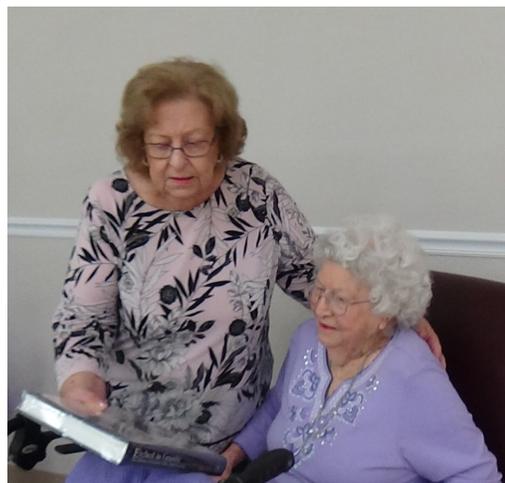


Above: Granite Falls Middle School Combined Chorus

## EXTRA! EXTRA! READ ALL ABOUT IT! *Myrtle Carson is 100 Years Old*

Myrtle Doshia Craven Carson celebrated her 100th birthday on Saturday, November 12, 2022 in the fellowship hall of Clover Baptist Church in Granite Falls. Born on November 16, 1922 in Wilkes County to Paul and Izetta Spicer Craven, Myrtle was the second of six girls. She married Lawrence Carson, also of Wilkes County, on May 13, 1939, and they had two boys and six girls: Naomi Lester, Buddy Carson, Mary Suddreth, Nyoka Triplett, Paul Carson, Robin Lambert, and Gwen Shrum.

Photo: Granite Falls Mayor Caryl Burns, Ed.D. (left) visited with Mrs. Carson (right) and presented her with a copy of *Etched in Granite, the History of Granite Falls, North Carolina* by Maxine McCall.





(Veterans Ceremony continued from page 1)

veterans, the Veterans Monument Committee, and the Town Council. Veteran speakers were SFC Brian Monroe of the N. C. National Guard, SMSgt Daryl Cornett of the Air Force, and Col. Jerry Baird, Jr. of the Army. The South Caldwell High School Symphonic Band played “The Washington Post,” “Marches of the Armed Forces,” and “America the Beautiful.” The South Caldwell High School Chorus sang “This is My Country.” To conclude the program, Mikaela Walsh and Kara Alderete placed a wreath in front of the podium, and Grayson Bumgarner played taps.

**HONORING OUR VETERANS  
At the Museum**

The Granite Falls History and Transportation Museum featured an exhibit of military memorabilia during the month of November and on Sunday, December 4th. The History Committee welcomed the public and served refreshments from 2 until 4 p.m. on November 6th, November 20th, and December 4th. The museum was closed on November 13th and 27th in observation of Veterans Day and Thanksgiving Day.

Linda Crowder made a video of the 2022 Veterans Day Ceremony, posted it on Facebook, and placed a DVD in the museum. Visitors can view this ceremony and all previous ceremonies on a DVD player in the Business Room.



**HISTORY IN THE MAKING  
COVID-19: No Longer Front Page  
News**

Once a major headline, COVID-19 news gradually faded to the background. Although Governor Roy Cooper ended the State of Emergency in North Carolina on August 15, 2022, Xavier Becerra, the U. S. Secretary of Health and Human Services, kept in place the national State of Emergency, which Alex M. Azar II first established on January 31, 2020. The declaration lasts ninety days, so the current order signed on October 13, 2022 expires mid January 2023, unless it is renewed. Keeping the orders active provides some flexibility in administering programs and services.

Local News: Although people continued to catch COVID-19, the Center for Disease Control (CDC) showed Caldwell County remaining in the low risk category on November 3rd, 10th, 17th, and 24th.



**HISTORY IN THE MAKING  
NCSH Award of Excellence**

Linda Crowder (above left), co-chair of the Granite Falls History Committee and President of the Granite Falls Historical Association, recently received the Award of Excellence for historical preservation from the North Carolina Society of Historians. She was unable to attend the awards banquet on November 5th so NCSH Secretary Gretchen Griffith, (above right) presented her the award at the museum on November 19th.



# Honoring Those Who Served - November 10, 2022



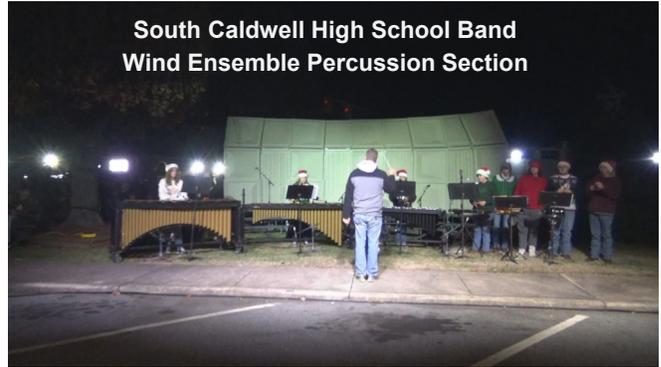
(FESTIVAL ON THE SQUARE continued from page 1)

High School Band, Sims Country Cloggers, the Granite Falls Middle School Chorus, the Granite Falls Elementary School Chorus, and the South Caldwell High School Chorus. Mr. Crawley also introduced Santa Claus and Dr. Caryl Burns, the Mayor of Granite Falls. Mayor Burns welcomed everyone to town, introduced members of the Granite Falls Town Council, and led the countdown for the Tree Lighting. As the trees lit up, snow fell and a combined school choir sang Christmas carols.

Linda Crowder made a video of the Festival and posted it on the Granite Falls (N. C.) History and Transportation Museum Facebook page. She also made a DVD that visitors to the museum can view in the Business Room.



First Baptist Church of Granite Falls



South Caldwell High School Band  
Wind Ensemble Percussion Section



Sims Country Cloggers



Granite Falls Elementary School Chorus



South Caldwell High School Chorus



Santa Claus, Mayor Caryl Burns, and Gene Crawley



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."