



HOOD COUNTY EXPRESS

TRUTH. ACCOUNTABILITY. COMMUNITY.

JANUARY 31, 2026

WEEKLY / JAN. 24-30 IN REVIEW

HOOD COUNTY, TEXAS

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ICE DISRUPTS DAILY ROUTINES

Closures and delayed services mark a week of winter weather.



HCE editorial illustration. Not a photograph of the January 2026 storm. | Editorial illustration / Hood County Express

HCE STAFF WRITER

Winter weather disrupted everyday routines in Granbury during January 24-30, closing city facilities Monday and pushing residential garbage collection into the end of the week.

In a Sunday morning update, the city said an extreme cold warning would remain in effect through 9 a.m. Tuesday. Forecasters warned that wind chills could fall to 10 degrees below zero. Officials urged residents to check on neighbors

without dependable heat and said crews were monitoring the city power and water systems.

A 5 a.m. Monday notice extended the closure of city facilities to the entire day because of continuing safety concerns. The next notices moved Tuesday and Wednesday opening times to 9:30 a.m.

Wednesday evening brought a revised Waste Connections schedule:

Monday-route collections were set for Thursday, January 29, and Wednesday-route collections for Friday, January 30. Recycling was suspended for the week. Schools also remained affected, with Granbury and Lipan listed among Wednesday closures.

Source: City cold update, Jan. 25; City closure update, Jan. 26; City opening notice, Jan. 26; City corrected notice, Jan. 27; City collection notice, Jan. 28; KTRH school closures, Jan. 27

GOVERNMENT & CITY LIFE

02

MORE VOLUNTEERS
NEEDED AT CITY HALL

Granbury City Hall, June 2018. File photo; cropped. Photo adaptation: CC BY-SA 4.0, creativecommons.org/licenses/by-sa/4.0/. | Michael Barera / Wikimedia Commons

HCE STAFF WRITER

Granbury issued a January 26 appeal for volunteers to fill vacancies on four city boards and commissions.

The Building Standards Board needed an insurance agent and a plumber. Those two positions carried no residency requirement, according to the notice.

Three places were open on the Charter Review Commission for city residents serving a six-month term. The Ethics Commission had six vacancies for city residents who met its eligibility requirements.

The Zoning Board of Adjustment sought one regular member and two alternates. Applicants for those

positions had to live in Granbury and be registered city voters.

The city directed prospective members to its Boards and Commissions webpage for information and applications. The appeal followed the previous week's council appointments, with these listed seats still needing applicants.

Source: City volunteer appeal, Jan. 26

A CHANGING WEEK AT CITY FACILITIES

HCE STAFF WRITER

Granbury revised its facility hours as the storm continued. Monday, January 26, became an all-day closure after officials initially planned a noon opening.

The city then announced a 9:30 a.m. opening for Tuesday. On Tuesday

evening, an updated notice set Wednesday's hours at 9:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m., replacing an earlier 7:30 a.m. start.

The successive notices illustrate the shifting service schedule during the freeze. They apply to City of

Granbury facilities; they do not establish the operating hours of county offices or private businesses.

Source: City closure update, Jan. 26; City opening notice, Jan. 26; City corrected notice, Jan. 27; City trash notice, Jan. 27

JAN. 26: CLOSED

JAN. 27: 9:30 A.M.

JAN. 28: 9:30 A.M.

BUSINESS & TOURISM

03

A NEW TOURISM DESIGNATION



Hood County Courthouse, June 2018. File photo; cropped. Photo adaptation: creativecommons.org/licenses/by-sa/4.0/. | Michael Barera; perspective correction by Jim Evans / CC BY-SA 4.0

HCE STAFF WRITER

Granbury became a Tourism Friendly Texas Certified Community January 28, adding another state designation to the city's visitor-economy efforts.

The Texas Economic Development and Tourism Office said Visit Granbury completed the program's multistep certification process. Granbury already held the state's Film Friendly and Music Friendly certifications.

Mayor Jim Jarratt linked the recognition to hospitality, customer service and the visitor experience. Visit Granbury Director Tammy Dooley credited the local team's work on behalf of the city.

The program is open to local governments and nonprofit organizations that lead tourism promotion. It encourages those groups to build partnerships, explain tourism's economic role to local

leaders and identify community-driven strategies.

For Granbury, the announcement marked completion of a state certification process. It was recognition of the city's tourism work and planning, rather than a newly reported count of visitors or local tourism revenue.

Source: Texas Governor office, Jan. 28

LOS CAZADORES ADDS GRANBURY STORE

HCE STAFF WRITER

Los Cazadores announced January 29 that it had opened a Granbury store and acquired Gateway Archery & Indoor Range.

The Granbury location became the Texas retailer's fourth, joining stores in Pearsall, Stonewall and Buchanan Dam. The company said Gateway's

owner and staff would continue working at the new location.

The announced offerings included an archery pro shop, indoor range, fishing equipment, outdoor clothing, feed, feeders, blinds and a gun room. The business described the store as serving hunters, ranchers and other outdoor customers.

Chief Executive Officer Craig Harrison said the acquisition was intended to continue Gateway's local archery work while giving its team access to broader inventory and company resources. The announcement did not disclose the purchase price.

Source: Los Cazadores release, Jan. 29

GISD RECOGNIZED ON TEXAS HONOR ROLL

84 DISTRICTS

Recognized statewide in the 2025 Texas Honor Roll announcement

TWO LOCAL CAMPUSES

Acton Elementary and Oak Woods School earned individual honors

HCE STAFF WRITER

Granbury ISD announced January 29 that it had been named a 2025 Texas Honor Roll district, while Acton Elementary and Oak Woods School earned individual campus recognition.

The district was selected in the Star category, the program's highest designation. GISD was one of 84 Texas districts recognized. Statewide, 1,076 schools received campus honors, representing about 15

percent of eligible public schools, according to the district.

Educational Results Partnership, a nonprofit, compiles the list using State of Texas Assessments of Academic Readiness results. The 2025 honors reflect performance during the 2023-2025 academic years, rather than a new set of 2026 test scores.

The review considers sustained achievement, academic growth and

progress in narrowing opportunity gaps, including results for higher-poverty and historically disadvantaged student groups.

Superintendent Courtney Morawski credited teachers, campus leaders, support staff and families for their work with students. The announcement recognized both the district's broader results and the two campuses' performance.

Source: Granbury ISD, Jan. 29

BACCUS SPELLER WINS DISTRICT TITLE

HCE STAFF WRITER

Dania Moreno Bocardo of Nettie Baccus Elementary School won the 2026 Granbury ISD District Spanish Spelling Bee, the district announced January 30. Brawner Elementary

School's Ismeray Pelaez Duque finished as runner-up.

The championship sends Dania to the regional Spanish spelling bee at Education Service Center Region 11 in Fort Worth in March.

Dan Allard coordinated the district competition. Nuvia Velazquez, Jairo Martinez, Rosa Sandoval and Jennifer Luna served as judges, with Edgar Sanchez as announcer.

Source: Granbury ISD, Jan. 30

CHAMPION

Dania Moreno Bocardo
Nettie Baccus Elementary

RUNNER-UP

Ismeray Pelaez Duque
Brawner Elementary

05

LIPAN AND TOLAR SWEEP TWO DAYS

LIPAN BOYS

Jan. 29: Lipan 94, Santo 26
Jan. 30: Lipan 114, Hico 37

LIPAN GIRLS

Jan. 29: Lipan 86, Santo 35
Jan. 30: Lipan 69, Hico 45

TOLAR BOYS

Jan. 29: Tolar 79, Millsap 56
Jan. 30: Tolar 61, Eastland 23

TOLAR GIRLS

Jan. 29: Tolar 57, Millsap 25
Jan. 30: Tolar 59, Eastland 25

GRANBURY BOYS

Jan. 30: Azle 53, Granbury 51

GRANBURY GIRLS

Jan. 30: Granbury 58, Azle 20

HCE STAFF WRITER

Lipan's varsity basketball teams won all four of their January 29-30 home games, sweeping Santo on Thursday and Hico on Friday.

The boys beat Santo 94-26 before scoring 114 points against Hico in a 114-37 victory. Their two-game total was 208 points, with 63 allowed.

The Lady Indians defeated Santo 86-35, then won 69-45 against Hico. The Thursday margin was 51 points; Friday's was 24.

Tolar's boys and girls varsity basketball teams recorded four wins across January 29-30, first on the road at Millsap and then at home against Eastland.

The Rattlers beat Millsap 79-56 Thursday and Eastland 61-23 Friday. Tolar's two winning margins were 23 and 38 points.

The Lady Rattlers allowed 25 points in each game, defeating Millsap 57-25 and Eastland 59-25. They scored 116

points across the pair while allowing 50.

Granbury split its January 30 varsity basketball games at home against Azle, with the Lady Pirates winning decisively and the boys falling in a two-point game.

The Lady Pirates won 58-20, a 38-point margin. In the boys game, Azle finished ahead 53-51.

Source: MaxPreps dated season results

JANUARY 29-30

Varsity basketball final scores from the dated 2025-26 season records

WEATHER & SERVICES

07

AFTER THE STORM THE COLD LINGERED

HCE STAFF WRITER

The January 24-25 storm left North and Central Texas with a mixture of sleet, snow and freezing rain. The National Weather Service's review described a shallow layer of Arctic air beneath warmer, moist air aloft.

That arrangement allowed falling snow to melt above the ground. A sufficiently deep layer of freezing air below could refreeze the drops into

sleet. As the warmer layer eroded late Sunday, precipitation shifted toward snow.

Cold weather persisted after precipitation ended. The weather service documented freezing conditions at Dallas/Fort Worth International Airport through the weekend and into Monday.

DFW recorded 2.4 inches of snow and sleet January 24-25. That is an airport observation, not a measurement for Granbury or Hood County. The regional pattern helps explain why travel and school disruptions extended into the following workweek.

Source: NWS Fort Worth storm review

WARMING-CENTER LIST CHANGED

HCE STAFF WRITER

A January 24 Hood County Emergency Management update said the YMCA could no longer offer its facilities as a warming center.

The notice, archived by the City of Granbury, said First Christian Church and Pecan Plantation EMS remained available through the weekend if needed. The change

removed one announced option while retaining the two other warming locations.

Source: Hood emergency-management update, Jan. 24

TRASH MAKEUP DATES ANNOUNCED

HCE STAFF WRITER

The city's January 28 update moved Waste Connections' Monday residential route to Thursday, January 29, and its Wednesday route to Friday, January 30.

There was no recycling collection that week. An earlier notice had cancelled Wednesday pickup because of continuing weather impacts. The later schedule supplied

the makeup dates residents had been waiting for.

Source: City collection notice, Jan. 28; City trash notice, Jan. 27

WEDNESDAY SCHOOL CLOSURES

HCE STAFF WRITER

Granbury ISD and Lipan ISD were among the North Texas school systems listed as closed Wednesday, January 28, as icy conditions continued after the winter storm.

Contemporaneous closure notices published January 27 by KTRH and KCBI both listed the two districts. KCBI's list, credited to NBCDFW, also

included Premier High School Granbury.

Source: KTRH school closures, Jan. 27; KCBI school closures, Jan. 27

ARTS & COMMUNITY

08

A MYSTERY ON THE MARQUEE



Granbury Opera House, June 2018. File photo; cropped. Photo adaptation: CC BY-SA 4.0, creativecommons.org/licenses/by-sa/4.0/. | Michael Barera / Wikimedia Commons

HCE STAFF WRITER

Baskerville: A Sherlock Holmes Mystery was scheduled at the Granbury Opera House during the final week of January as part of Granbury Theatre Company's Broadway on the Brazos series.

The advertised engagement ran January 23 through February 8. The advance community calendar listed a

7:30 p.m. performance Friday, January 30.

Ken Ludwig's play adapts Arthur Conan Doyle's *The Hound of the Baskervilles* into a comic mystery. Holmes and Watson investigate deaths in the Baskerville family, with five actors taking on more than 40 characters.

The production listing advertised floor tickets at \$44 and balcony tickets at \$39. This is a record of the advertised program, rather than a review or confirmation that every storm-week performance took place.

Source: TheaterMania production archive; HCN community calendar, Jan. 24

STYX TRIBUTE ON FRIDAY SCHEDULE

HCE STAFF WRITER

Grand Illusion, a Styx tribute act, was listed for a 7 p.m. show Friday, January 30, at Granbury Live.

The advance calendar described a program ranging from ballads to rock selections, including Babe,

Lady, Renegade and Blue Collar Man. The venue's event archive preserves the January 30 date. No attendance total was reported in the listing.

Source: HCN community calendar, Jan. 24; Granbury Live event archive

RETROSPECTIVE EDITION

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