



HOOD COUNTY EXPRESS

TRUTH. ACCOUNTABILITY. COMMUNITY.

MARCH 21, 2026

WEEKLY / MARCH 14-20 IN REVIEW

HOOD COUNTY, TEXAS

GOVERNMENT 02 / CITY FINANCES 03 / STUDENTS & SPORTS 04-06 / ARTS 08

SQUARE'S HISTORY SET IN STONE

Monument unveiled March 19 at courthouse.



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

Hood County Judge Ron Massingill and Maurice Walton of the Bridge Street History Center unveiled a monument on the courthouse square March 19, according to Hood County News.

The history center had purchased a plaque recognizing the square's National Register designation. The

announced site was the courthouse's south entrance, opposite the William Travis letter. Before the ceremony, Walton described the marker as recognition of a milestone that helped spur the square's restoration.

The National Park Service dates the Hood County Courthouse Historic District record to June 5, 1974. It

identifies commerce, architecture and performing arts as areas of significance, with a period of significance spanning 1875-1899. The federal record includes Late Victorian and Second Empire architecture.

Source: Hood County News, March 28; Hood County News, March 14; National Park Service register

1974

National Register recognition

June 5 / Historic district

FOUNDERS DAY

Stories, music and a Bean Queen.

Page 7

ON STAGE

Anything Goes nears closing.

Page 8

GOVERNMENT & PUBLIC SERVICE

02

FALL CREEK HIGHWAY
SPEED LIMITS LOWERED

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 council voted March 17 to lower posted speed limits on FM 167, also known as Fall Creek Highway, at the request of the Texas Department of Transportation.

Ordinance 26-13 reduced the limit from 55 to 45 mph between U.S. 377 and Kemah Court, and from 45 to 35 mph between Kemah Court and FM 4.

The measure passed with the consent agenda, 6-0.

Council also unanimously appointed Greg Corrigan to the Hood County Dispatch Advisory Board. City Manager Chris Coffman said the county had given notice in fall 2025 that the dispatch agreement would be canceled. The city wanted the

advisory board to meet to discuss the decision and its response.

Other consent items included a \$127,081 backhoe purchase for water distribution and up to \$484,000 for Jesse James Addition electrical infrastructure.

Source: Granbury council minutes, March 17

CITY MANAGER INVITES QUESTIONS

HCE STAFF WRITER

Granbury announced March 18 that residents could bring questions, concerns or compliments to City Manager Chris Coffman at a March 24 session.

The city scheduled the gathering for 2 p.m. in the City Hall council chambers, 116 W. Bridge St. Its announcement also invited questions by email at CCoffman@Granbury.org

for people unable to attend, with responses planned during the session.

Source: City of Granbury, March 18

CITY FINANCES & PLANNING

ANNUAL AUDIT
TRACKS CITY FINANCES

\$178.84M

Net position
Fiscal year ended Sept. 30, 2025

\$23.97M

Increase in net position
From restated beginning balance

\$28.10M

Governmental fund balances

62%

General Fund unassigned balance
As a share of expenditures

HCE STAFF WRITER

Granbury's annual financial report dated March 17 showed a \$178.84 million net position at the close of fiscal 2025, an increase of \$23.97 million from the restated beginning balance.

Business-type activities increased net position by \$25.26 million, while governmental activities declined by

\$1.29 million. The figures cover the year ended Sept. 30, 2025.

The report listed \$28.10 million in combined governmental fund balances. The General Fund's unassigned balance was \$15.99 million, equal to 62 percent of its expenditures.

The independent auditor issued an unmodified opinion. The findings summary reported no material weaknesses in financial-reporting controls, no significant deficiencies and no noncompliance material to the financial statements. It also listed no federal-award findings or questioned costs.

Source: Granbury FY2025 financial report

COUNCIL SETS PLANNING PRIORITIES

MARCH 14 / STRATEGIC PLANNING

HCE STAFF WRITER

Granbury council members and city staff established priorities for future projects, plans and ideas during a March 14 strategic-planning workshop at City Hall.

Consultant Ron Cox reviewed the previous day's governance

discussion, then revisited seven strategic focus areas: service delivery, infrastructure, community development, tourism, citizen involvement, intergovernmental relationships and economic development.

All council members were present for the 8:30 a.m. session. During public comments, Jason Hodges presented an amphitheater master plan for Shanley Park.

Source: Granbury workshop minutes, March 14

STUDENT POWERLIFTING

DIAZ LIFTS HER WAY TO STATE TITLE

895

TOTAL POUNDS

Estrella Diaz

198-pound unequipped class

380

SQUAT

Pounds

160

BENCH PRESS

Pounds

355

DEADLIFT

Pounds

HCE STAFF WRITER

Estrella Diaz of Granbury won the 198-pound class at the girls unequipped state powerlifting championship March 19 at Bert Ogden Arena.
Diaz lifted a combined 895 pounds: 380 in the squat, 160 in the bench

press and 355 in the deadlift, according to the Texas High School Women’s Powerlifting Association’s official results.
The total put her 20 pounds ahead of runner-up Kimberly Gonzalez of Laredo Nixon. Aiyanna Dumas-Perry

of Comal Pieper placed third with 855 pounds.
The championship brought together lifters from multiple school classifications in the unequipped division.
Source: THSWPA unequipped state results

FOUR TOLAR LIFTERS PLACE IN TOP 10

DEBRA McCARRELL

3rd / 165-pound class / 945 total

CAMRYN THOMPSON

7th / 181-pound class / 910 total

TAYLOR VAUGHN

8th / 132-pound class / 750 total

CLAIRE CLEMONS

9th / 132-pound class / 695 total

HCE STAFF WRITER

Debra McCarrell led Tolar’s four state powerlifting competitors with a third-place finish in the 165-pound class March 19 at the Class 3A Division 2 championship at Bert Ogden Arena.

McCarrell totaled 945 pounds across the squat, bench press and deadlift. Her lifts were 350, 225 and 370 pounds, respectively.
Camryn Thompson placed seventh in the 181-pound class with a 910-pound total. Taylor Vaughn

finished eighth in the 132-pound class at 750 pounds, followed by Claire Clemons in ninth at 695.
The four results gave Tolar a top-10 finisher in each of its entries listed in the association’s final meet results.
Source: THSWPA 3A Division 2 state results

GRANBURY BASEBALL

THREE WINS
IN SEVEN DAYS

6-0

Granbury at Everman
March 14

10-4

Granbury vs. Saginaw
March 17

9-3

Granbury at Saginaw
March 20

PIRATES SHUT OUT EVERMAN

HCE STAFF WRITER

Granbury’s baseball team opened the reporting week with a 6-0 victory at Everman March 14.

The Pirates collected eight hits and played without an error. Everman

finished with four hits and three errors, according to the game’s box score.

Granbury scored once in the second inning, added three runs in

the third and scored single runs in the fourth and sixth. Everman was held scoreless through all seven innings.

Source: MaxPreps March 14 baseball box score

GRANBURY SWEEPS SAGINAW

6 RUNS

Third inning / March 17

NO ERRORS

Granbury / March 20

HCE STAFF WRITER

Granbury followed its Everman shutout with a pair of baseball wins over Saginaw, taking the March 17 home game 10-4 and the March 20 road game 9-3.

A six-run third inning powered the first victory. The Pirates totaled 11 hits and scored in four consecutive innings, from the second through the fifth.

In Friday’s rematch, Granbury scored four runs in both the second and fourth innings before adding one in the seventh. The Pirates had seven hits and no errors.

Source: MaxPreps March 17 baseball box score; MaxPreps March 20 baseball box score

LIPAN SOFTBALL BLANKS GORMAN

LIPAN

31

MARCH 16 / HOME GAME

GORMAN

0

SOFTBALL

HCE STAFF WRITER

Lipan’s softball team defeated Gorman 31-0 at home March 16.

The Monday result appeared in GM Sports Media’s March 16-18 regional scoreboard and in Gorman’s dated game results. The shutout gave Lipan

a decisive start to the week on its home field.

Source: GM Sports Media March 19 score report; MaxPreps Gorman results

LADY PIRATES FALL IN BI-DISTRICT

3-0

Grapevine over Granbury

Girls soccer / March 20

HCE STAFF WRITER

Granbury’s girls soccer season ended with a 3-0 loss to Grapevine in the Class 5A Division II bi-district playoffs March 20.

The result was reported in the Fort Worth Star-Telegram’s Friday playoff roundup and appears in the

University Interscholastic League’s Grapevine season archive.

The loss closed the Lady Pirates’ spring campaign at the opening round of the postseason.

Source: UIL Grapevine girls state archive; Fort Worth Star-Telegram March 20 results

SPRING BREAK IN GRANBURY

HCE STAFF WRITER

Granbury ISD’s calendar marked March 16-20 as spring break, giving students and staff a five-day weekday pause in the school schedule.

The district calendar listed a school board meeting for 5 p.m. March 23 at the administration board room. Coffee with the CFO was scheduled

for 9-10 a.m. March 24 at the administration building, 217 N. Jones St.

Source: Granbury ISD March calendar

FOUNDERS DAY CELEBRATES LOCAL ROOTS

DEBORAH ROLLINS

Crowned Bean Queen
Founders Day weekend

A.P. GORDON

Family members shared history
Granbury square

HCE STAFF WRITER

Founders Day festivities continued through March 14-15 with local history, live entertainment, vendors and the annual cook-off on the Granbury square.
Hood County News's March 21 photo report documented members of the A.P. Gordon family sharing

stories about their family's place in local history. Many descendants still live in Hood County, the report noted.
Deborah Rollins was crowned Bean Queen. The Paddy Parade brought St. Patrick's Day color to the celebration,

including horseback riders carrying flags.
The newspaper's scenes from the March 13-15 weekend also documented presentations on local and Texas history, alongside music and food.
Source: Hood County News, March 21

VEHICLES SOUGHT FOR RESCUE TRAINING

HCE STAFF WRITER

Granbury's volunteer fire department asked March 18 for donated cars, trucks and SUVs to use in vehicle-rescue training.
The city announcement said vehicles had to be in Hood County. Donors were asked to provide a signed clear title, keys when available and the vehicle's location.
The notice directed owners to Fire Station 1 at 817-579-1111, option 1, to arrange pickup. M & D Towing Services offered retrieval at no charge. The vehicles would give volunteers hands-on practice freeing people from wrecked vehicles.
Source: Granbury fire training announcement

CLEANUP TEAMS INVITED TO REGISTER

HCE STAFF WRITER

Granbury promoted team registration March 17 for the Great Granbury Cleanup, encouraging residents to form groups for the community effort.
The city's March 18 newsletter identified April 11 as the planned cleanup date. Bulk-trash pickup and the Shred It Instead event were also listed for that day. The announcements directed residents to the city's cleanup page and event guidance.
Source: Granbury cleanup signup release; Granbury council news, March 18

APRIL 11 / PLANNED CLEANUP

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

08

FINAL WEEKEND NEARS
FOR ANYTHING GOES

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

Anything Goes remained on the Granbury Opera House calendar during March 14-20, with the advertised run scheduled to close March 22.

The Cole Porter musical follows nightclub singer Reno Sweeney,

broker Billy Crocker and their fellow passengers aboard an ocean liner sailing from New York to England. Romantic complications and mistaken plans drive the shipboard comedy.

The Broadway on the Brazos listing advertised floor seats at \$44 and balcony seats at \$39, with discounts for seniors, military patrons and students. The production was listed at the Opera House, 133 E. Pearl St.

Source: TheaterMania show listing

GUILD FUNDRAISER ON CALENDAR

HCE STAFF WRITER

The Opera Guild of Granbury scheduled its Sip & Support fundraiser for March 19 at D'Vine Wine on the historic square.

The organizer's listing set the evening for 5-8 p.m., with entertainment by B-Ray and the Humans Band, food, door prizes and

baskets offered as prizes. The announced arrangement called for D'Vine Wine to donate a portion of drink sales to the guild.

Advance tickets were available through guild members, with admission also planned at the door.

Source: Opera Guild March 19 listing

RETROSPECTIVE EDITION

Produced October 4, 2026 (Central Time). Covers March 14-20. Reconstructed from dated records; no historic publication or distribution is claimed.