



HOOD COUNTY EXPRESS

TRUTH. ACCOUNTABILITY. COMMUNITY.

APRIL 25, 2026

WEEKLY / APRIL 18-24 IN REVIEW

HOOD COUNTY, TEXAS

SCHOOL BUSINESS 02 / COMMUNITY 03 / SCHOOLS 04 / SPORTS 05-06 / ARTS 08

COUNCIL ADOPTS TEN-YEAR STREET PLAN



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

45 PROJECTS

Improvement and maintenance list

5-0

Council approval / April 21

HCE STAFF WRITER

Granbury City Council voted 5-0 April 21 to adopt a ten-year street improvement and maintenance plan and asked the city manager to return with an implementation plan for its first phase.

TNP representatives Ryan Jones and Jess Hilscher presented a 45-project list. The priorities weigh

pavement material, each road's connections and function, pavement condition and city priorities. The rankings can change as conditions evolve.

Cost estimates include inflation. The list covers work considered practical over the decade, rather than every street need; savings could

allow additional projects. Adoption sets the framework, with first-phase implementation still to be presented.

Council also voted 5-0 to approve an updated \$3,415,088.50 estimate for aesthetic upgrades in the U.S. Highway 377 breakout project, an increase of \$708,679.92 from December 2024 estimates.

Source: Granbury council minutes, April 21

COUNTY ADDS DEVELOPMENT DISCLAIMER

HCE STAFF WRITER

Hood County commissioners voted 4-0 April 21 to add a disclaimer to communications from the county development director's office, according to the Hood County News.

The notice says communications about a project or submission do not convey Commissioners Court

approval. The action followed concerns that exchanges with developers had sometimes occurred without the knowledge of the commissioner representing the affected area.

Six residents spoke before the vote. County Attorney Matt Mills approved

the wording during the special-called meeting. Commissioners also discussed how development proposals and county communications should be handled as regulations are being revised.

Source: Hood County News, April 25, A1/A9

SCHOOL BUSINESS & HONORS

TRUSTEES AUTHORIZE \$250,000 IN HVAC SUPPLIES

6-0

Consent approval / April 20

CAMPUS REPAIRS

Lighting and roofing in package

HCE STAFF WRITER

Granbury ISD trustees approved up to \$250,000 in blanket purchases for emergency supplies needed by aging heating and cooling systems during their April 20 meeting.

The authorization was part of a consent package approved 6-0. It also

included a James Wann Sports Center lighting upgrade, STARS Academy roof repairs, a Category 2 E-Rate bid, budget amendments and the 2026-27 Mentors Care agreement.

Trustees separately approved an audit engagement with Pattillo,

Brown & Hill for the fiscal year ending Aug. 31, 2026, also 6-0. Trustee Mike Moore attended closed session but left before the public votes, according to the approved minutes.

Source: GISD approved minutes, April 20; GISD audit engagement letter

GRIFFIN NAMED NEXT FINANCE CHIEF

HCE STAFF WRITER

LaTisha Griffin will become Granbury ISD’s chief financial officer in June, the district announced April 21 following school-board approval.

She succeeds Emmett Whitefield, who is retiring after 25 years with Granbury ISD. Griffin most recently

directed budget and finance for Duncanville ISD, overseeing accounting, payroll, audits and financial reporting for a district with a budget exceeding \$140 million.

Her earlier work included district facilities and UIL compliance,

high-school operations and career-and-technical education. Griffin holds an MBA from Arizona State University and a marketing degree with an accounting minor from the University of Tampa.

Source: Granbury ISD CFO release, April 21

BOARD HONORS LEADERSHIP & ACHIEVEMENT

HCE STAFF WRITER

Granbury High School teacher Carey Jo Davis and MCJROTC Battalion Sergeant Major Viola Allen received recognition as Lamar Award recipients at the April 20 school-board meeting. The Masonic Lodge award honors education, leadership, citizenship and service.

Trustees also recognized Elyse Jernigan as Shottenkirk Senior of the Month. The district identified her as an Academic Top 25 student involved in AP Art, cross country, soccer and track.

Katie Pigg, Ashley Olea, Emma Tempest and Abigail Sullivan were honored for reaching the state finals in Law Enforcement and Forensic Student Association competition.

Source: GISD achievement report, April 21

52 GRADUATES READY FOR FIRE SERVICE

434 HOURS

Training completed by each graduate

11 DEPARTMENTS

Seven in Hood County / Four nearby

HCE STAFF WRITER

The city of Granbury recognized 52 Granbury Fire Academy graduates in an April 21 announcement. They represented 11 volunteer fire departments: seven in Hood County and four in neighboring counties.

Each graduate completed 434 hours of training through the Granbury Volunteer Fire Department. The city said the resulting certification meets State Firefighters’ and Fire Marshals’ Association and National Fire Protection Association standards.

The announcement thanked the graduates for preparing to serve their communities. Their training adds qualified volunteers across several departments that respond to local emergencies.
Source: Granbury fire academy release, April 21

WINE CELEBRATION ON THE SQUARE

HCE STAFF WRITER

The Granbury Wine Celebration’s spring edition was scheduled for April 24-25 on the historic square, pairing Texas wine with regional cuisine. Friday’s advertised hours were 1-7 p.m.; the Saturday program was set for 11 a.m.-7 p.m.

The organizer listed general tasting tickets at \$45 in advance or \$50 at the door. A \$125 VIP option included shaded seating, selected pours, music and chef bites.

The organizer said part of the proceeds would support a local nonprofit and scholarships in wine study and grape growing.
Source: Wine Celebration organizer listing

WORK CONTINUES AT LAMBERT & PEARL

HCE STAFF WRITER

Granbury advised motorists April 22 that Atmos Energy would continue

road work at the Lambert Road and Pearl Street intersection that day.

The city asked drivers to use caution through the work area.
Source: Granbury road notice, April 22

SCHOOLS & CAMPUS LEADERSHIP

04

THREE NEW PRINCIPALS

FOR 2026-27

BEN SHERLEY Granbury Middle	KELLIE POLLOCK Emma Roberson	AMMIE HILL Acton Elementary
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HCE STAFF WRITER

Granbury ISD announced three principal appointments April 21 following board approval. The changes take effect for the 2026-27 school year. Ben Sherley will move from assistant principal to principal at Granbury Middle School, succeeding retiring principal Julie Rohleder. His experience includes more than two decades in a California high-school district, with work as a principal and director of educational services.	Kellie Pollock will lead Emma Roberson Early Learning Academy after Kellie Lambert’s retirement. Pollock has spent more than two decades at the campus, including service as a kindergarten teacher, librarian and assistant principal. She has held the assistant-principal role since 2022.	Ammie Hill returns to Granbury ISD to lead Acton Elementary. She succeeds Maggie Walton, who was named director of strategic initiatives. Hill worked in Granbury from 2013 to 2017 before moving to Godley ISD, where her roles included principal of Godley Intermediate and Legacy Elementary. Source: GISD GMS appointment, April 21; GISD Roberson appointment, April 21; GISD Acton appointment, April 21
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SEVEN COMPLETE LEAP ACADEMY

HCE STAFF WRITER

Granbury ISD recognized seven graduates of its 2025-26 LEAP Academy in an April 21 announcement. The Leadership Experiences for Aspiring Professionals program develops future campus and district leaders through coaching, collaboration and professional learning.	The graduates are Brittany Aiken, Kristen Taylor and Summer Melendez of Acton Elementary; Lacey Clark of Baccus Elementary; Brook White of Oak Woods; Auva Ball of Acton Middle; and Megan Reyna of Granbury Middle.
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Source: GISD LEAP release, April 21

LIPAN PLANS CHAMPIONSHIP CELEBRATION

HCE STAFF WRITER

Lipan ISD announced April 24 that its girls and boys state-champion basketball teams would be celebrated May 4 in the cafeteria.	The planned event includes a championship-ring fundraiser. The district invited donors to contact Coach Branson or Coach Gaylor about items for silent and live auctions.
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Source: Lipan ISD announcement, April 24

COUNTY BASEBALL

RATTLERS SWEEP
BRECKENRIDGE

TOLAR 14

BRECKENRIDGE 1 / April 21

TOLAR 17

BRECKENRIDGE 2 / April 24 / 5 innings

HCE STAFF WRITER

Tolar swept Breckenridge in baseball, winning 14-1 on the road April 21 and 17-2 at home April 24.

The Rattlers led Tuesday’s game 3-1 after five innings, then scored four

runs in the sixth and seven in the seventh.

Friday’s win took five innings. Tolar answered Breckenridge’s opening run with nine in the bottom

of the first, then added seven more in the fourth.

Source: MaxPreps, Tolar baseball April 21; MaxPreps, Tolar baseball April 24; Star-Telegram, April 21 results; Star-Telegram, April 24 results

SIXTH-INNING RUN
LIFTS GRANBURY

GRANBURY 2

CHISHOLM TRAIL 1 / April 24

LIPAN GOES TEN
AGAINST POOLVILLE

POOLVILLE 6

LIPAN 5 / April 24 / 10 innings

HCE STAFF WRITER

Granbury defeated Chisholm Trail 2-1 at home April 24, scoring the decisive run in the sixth inning.

The Pirates struck first in the opening inning before the Rangers tied the game in the third. Memphis Taylor’s RBI single in the sixth put Granbury back in front.

The victory closed Granbury’s regular-season district schedule.

Source: MaxPreps, Granbury baseball April 24; Star-Telegram, April 24 results; HCN May 2, April 22/24 games

HCE STAFF WRITER

Lipan took Poolville to 10 innings before falling 6-5 at home April 24.

The Indians built a 4-0 first-inning lead and were ahead 5-3 after four. Poolville tied the game in the fifth. Four scoreless innings followed before the Monarchs scored in the 10th and held Lipan in the bottom half.

The extra-inning game followed an 11-2 road loss April 22. Poolville scored all 11 runs across the second, third and fourth innings; Lipan scored twice in the fifth.

Source: MaxPreps, Lipan baseball April 22; MaxPreps, Lipan baseball April 24; HCN May 2, April 22/24 games

SOFTBALL PLAYOFF OPENERS

LADY INDIANS TAKE
PLAYOFF OPENER

LIPAN 2

VALLEY MILLS 1
April 24 / Game 1

7 STRIKEOUTS

Lily Springstead / 7 innings

HCE STAFF WRITER

Lipan opened its softball playoff series with a 2-1 victory over Valley Mills April 24.

The Lady Indians scored in the first inning. Valley Mills pulled even in

the fourth, but Lipan answered in the fifth and kept the Eagles scoreless over the final two innings.

Lily Springstead pitched seven innings and struck out seven. Macy

Castillo supplied two of Lipan's three hits.

Source: MaxPreps, Lipan softball April 24; GM Sports Media playoff results

TOLAR DROPS SERIES OPENER

JACKSBORO 11

TOLAR 1 / April 24

FIVE INNINGS

Bi-district / Game 1

HCE STAFF WRITER

Jacksboro scored five runs in the opening inning and defeated Tolar 11-1 in five innings April 24 in the first game of their softball playoff series.

The Lady Rattlers got on the scoreboard in the fifth. Jacksboro had added one run in the second, four in the third and one in the fourth.

Tolar finished with two hits in the bi-district opener.

Source: MaxPreps, Tolar softball April 24; Star-Telegram playoff results

LAKE & UTILITY SERVICE

07

LAKE GRANBURY
REMAINS 100% FULL

Lake Granbury in NASA World Wind. Public-domain geographic archive uploaded in 2006; not an April 2026 photograph. | NASA World Wind / Wikimedia Commons

692.68 FEET

Elevation / April 22

133,734

Acre-feet stored / April 22

HCE STAFF WRITER

Lake Granbury was listed at 100% full in the Brazos River Authority's April 22 reservoir report. The lake's elevation was 692.68 feet, with 133,734 acre-feet of water in storage.

The main-stem subsystem combining Possum Kingdom, Granbury and BRA storage in Whitney held 678,613 acre-feet, or 93% of capacity. Those reservoirs are managed together for drought-trigger purposes.

The system-wide BRA total was 1,789,098 acre-feet, also 93%. The weekly report provides a common date for comparing storage across the authority's reservoirs.

Source: BRA reservoir report, April 22

CLIVE STREET OUTAGE SCHEDULED

HCE STAFF WRITER

City of Granbury Electric announced a planned April 23 power outage for Clive Street customers in

Harbor Lakes. The scheduled window was 9-11 a.m.

The April 22 notice said only customers on Clive Street would be affected.

Source: Granbury power notice, April 22

ARTS & LIVE MUSIC

08

HANDS-ON ART
ON FESTIVAL SCHEDULE

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

The North Texas Gourd Festival calendar included children's classes from 1-3 p.m. Saturday, April 18, at the David Southern Lake Granbury Conference Center.

Presented by the Texas Gourd Society, the festival was scheduled April 17-19 at 621 E. Pearl St. Visit Granbury's listing advertised vendors, hands-on classes, live demonstrations and door prizes.

The children's classes had limited space, with registration through the Texas Gourd Society.

Source: Visit Granbury festival calendar

IRISH MUSIC SESSION AT D'VINE WINE

HCE STAFF WRITER

D'Vine Wine's monthly Irish music session was listed for 6-9 p.m. April 18 at 107 E. Bridge St., according to the Historic Granbury Merchants Association calendar.

The program invited regional Irish musicians to an informal gathering.

The announcement described a changing mix of players and instruments rather than a fixed concert lineup.

D'Vine Wine was named as both organizer and host of the session.

Source: Historic Granbury Merchants event listing

RETROSPECTIVE EDITION

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