



HOOD COUNTY EXPRESS

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JULY 18, 2026

WEEKLY / JULY 11-17 IN REVIEW

HOOD COUNTY, TEXAS

CITY & COUNTY 02-03 / SCHOOLS & SPORTS 04-05 / COMMUNITY 06-07 / ARTS 08

RECALL PETITIONS TARGET ELECTED OFFICIALS



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 residents filed recall petitions July 13 seeking the removal of Mayor Jim Jarratt and four council members, organizers announced. Councilmember Angela Parker was not targeted, the Fort Worth Star-Telegram reported July 15.

Granbury Grassroots said volunteers delivered the documents to City Hall after collecting

signatures. Organizers cited concerns about transparency and the proposed Project Patriot development.

The recall filing was separate from the July 7 no-confidence petitions concerning City Manager Chris Coffman and City Attorney Jeremy SoRelle. Those earlier requests concerned appointed officials; the

new effort targeted elected officeholders.

City spokesperson Jeff Newpher declined to confirm receipt of the recall petitions to the Star-Telegram, which reported that organizers posted photographs of documents bearing the city secretary's stamp.

Source: Granbury Grassroots release, July 13; Fort Worth Star-Telegram report, July 15

CITY LAUNCHES DATA-CENTER INFORMATION PAGE

HCE STAFF WRITER

In its July 17 bulletin, the city announced a new data-center information page at granbury.org/datacenter. Officials described it as a growing collection of city

documents, answers to common questions and other information.

Source: Granbury bulletin, July 17

PLANNING & CITY UTILITIES

02

P&Z BACKS CITIZEN DATA-CENTER PROPOSAL

6-0 RECOMMENDATION

City Council decision still ahead

HCE STAFF WRITER

Granbury's Planning and Zoning Commission voted 6-0 July 13 to recommend a citizen-drafted amendment requiring specific-use permits and 1,000-foot building setbacks for data centers and power generation.

Nikki Sopchak presented the proposal. Staff offered an alternative with smaller setbacks. Commissioners forwarded the citizen version for City Council consideration; their vote did not enact it.

The hearing also raised whether earlier rules would govern Project Patriot because of vested development rights. Community Development Director Cody Nolen said that question needed research. No resolution of that issue was recorded in the meeting minutes.

Source: Granbury P&Z minutes, July 13

EAST 377 PERMITS ADVANCE

HCE STAFF WRITER

Planning and Zoning members voted 6-0 July 13 to support heavy-commercial zoning and permits for used-auto sales and taxidermy at Michael Yanish's 1.536-acre property, 4303 E. U.S. 377.

The recommended taxidermy permit had no expiration because the business had operated since 2008. The used-auto-sales permit carried a two-year limit.

Source: Granbury P&Z minutes, July 13

CITY EXPLAINS WATER-SERVICE NOTICES

HCE STAFF WRITER

Granbury's July 17 bulletin said existing water and wastewater customers' service would continue unchanged during proposed updates to the city's authorized service areas.

Some property owners were receiving notices about the Certificates of Convenience and Necessity. The city said certain properties without existing

connections could require additional steps if their owners later seek utility service.

Source: Granbury bulletin, July 17

COUNTY FINANCING & STREET WORK

03

COUNTY APPROVES
ROAD & JAIL FINANCE PLAN

5-0

Commissioners approve plan

HCE STAFF WRITER

Hood County Commissioners Court approved a financing plan 5-0 July 14 for voter-authorized road and jail projects.

The presentation described project-fund targets of \$30 million for roads and \$24 million for the jail, with bond principal and pricing dependent on the sale structure.

The schedule targeted a competitive sale Aug. 11 and closing Sept. 9. The financial adviser projected that the plan could fit within the existing debt-service tax rate. That was a forecast, with borrowing terms still to be set.

Source: Hood County court recording, July 14



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

FLOCK REVIEW

HCE STAFF WRITER

Commissioners approved up to \$2,500 July 14 for outside legal review of Hood County's Flock Safety contract and refund dispute.

County officials sought \$126,000 over cameras they said were not installed as promised. They described a vendor offer of alternative equipment with credits and possible later service charges.

The motion requested legal advice, without announcing recovery of the money or a settlement.

Source: Hood County court recording, July 14

WEATHER DELAYS EAST MOORE PROJECT

HCE STAFF WRITER

Weather delayed Granbury's wastewater-connection work on East Moore Street, between Switzer Street

and Victoria Court, from July 15-16 to July 20-21, the city said July 17.

The designated Victoria Court access route is East Moore via Barton

Street. Drivers should follow detour signs.

Source: Granbury bulletin, July 17; Granbury street notice, July 14

SCHOOLS & DISTRICT PLANNING

04

GISD BUDGET PROPOSAL
HEADS TO JULY 20 WORKSHOP

HCE STAFF WRITER

Granbury ISD's budget materials prepared July 15 for a July 20 workshop outlined a balanced proposed operating plan of about \$99.28 million for 2026-27.

The draft paired \$99,280,635 in projected revenue with the same amount in expenditures. Its assumptions included enrollment of

7,830 students, average daily attendance of 7,439 and a 2% raise scenario.

The proposal also included approximately \$3.95 million in projected payments to the state through recapture. A separate slide estimated a \$1.64 million operating surplus for the current year.

The presentation, prepared for Superintendent Courtney Morawski and Chief Financial Officer LaTisha Griffin, described the workshop as an update on budget monitoring and the upcoming hearing and adoption process. The figures were proposals and estimates ahead of the meeting.

Source: GISD proposed 2026-27 budget workshop presentation

FACILITY-BOOKING CHANGE PROPOSED

HCE STAFF WRITER

Granbury ISD staff recommended replacing its facility scheduling system with Facilitron in a memo prepared for the July 20 board meeting.

The proposal would replace SchoolDude/FS Direct, now Brightly Software, with a platform covering facility bookings, rentals,

insurance-certificate checks, work orders and equipment records. The proposed start was on or before Sept. 1.

The memo described compensation through a 16% transaction commission rather than a fixed annual base subscription. It also included a minimum-volume

obligation: if completed annual rental payments fell below \$100,000, the district would pay 16% of the shortfall.

Staff recommended that trustees approve the agreement, which district legal counsel had reviewed and revised.

Source: GISD staff memo proposing Facilitron facilities portal

PARENTSQUARE ON THE AGENDA

HCE STAFF WRITER

A ParentSquare introduction was on Granbury ISD's July 20 board agenda, with the district's presentation describing a communication-system launch for the 2026-27 school year.

The plan would bring school messages into one platform, with delivery through app notifications, texts, email and telephone calls.

Family features listed in the presentation included two-way teacher communication, attendance reminders, forms, permission slips, event information and translation into more than 130 languages.

High-school students in grades nine through 12 would use the companion StudentSquare service for announcements, assignment

reminders and connections to school activities.

The presentation framed the change as a way to reduce missed messages and give families a consistent experience across campuses.

Source: GISD ParentSquare presentation; GISD July 20 board agenda with pre-meeting file timestamps

LIPAN SPORTS & SUMMER CAMPS

05

LIPAN'S OTERO ON
NFR OPEN QUALIFIER LIST

COLORADO SPRINGS

July 14-18 NFR Open

HCE STAFF WRITER

Lipan barrel racer Carlee Otero had a place on the qualifying list for the NFR Open, scheduled July 14-18 in Colorado Springs, Colorado.

The Women's Professional Rodeo Association's February 13 newsletter identified Otero as the Wilderness Circuit's year-end qualifier. Caitlyn White held that circuit's average-based qualification.

Otero also appeared in BarrelRacing.com's July 16 discussion of the midseason world-title race. That analysis emphasized a competitive field as the summer schedule continued.

Source: BarrelRacing.com July 16 midseason analysis; WPRA February 13 member newsletter: NFR Open qualifiers; WPRA 2025 Governor's Cup official report: Otero hometown

TENNIS CAMP FOR
YOUNG PIRATES

HCE STAFF WRITER

Granbury's summer sports schedule placed a Pirate Tennis Camp for incoming first- through eighth-graders on July 13-16 at Granbury High School.

The published plan listed sessions from 9 to 11 a.m. and a \$75 cost. The dates brought the scheduled tennis program into the middle of July after an earlier June session.

Later on the same schedule, a football camp for rising sixth- through ninth-graders was planned July 27-29, followed by volleyball dates July 27-30 for seventh-through ninth-graders. The May 30 camp listing cautioned that schedules could change.

Source: Hood County News May 30, 2026 summer sports camp schedule

TOLAR CONTACT
FOR KIDS CAMP

HCE STAFF WRITER

StoneWater Church's summer notice scheduled Kids Camp for July 11-14 at Riverbend Retreat Center in Glen Rose, with Tolar families directed to campus contact Hayley Allbright.

The program was intended for children entering fourth and fifth grades. The dated notice also named Brooklyn Jimenez as the Granbury contact and Lexi Weaver for adult and student leader registration.

Families were offered links to a packing list and scholarship application, while donors could help fund camp access.

Source: StoneWater Kids Camp dated program notice

COMMUNITY & PUBLIC SPACES

06

MASTER GARDENERS ADD COLOR AROUND TOWN

HUNDREDS OF PLANTS

City credits donation and volunteer time

HCE STAFF WRITER

Hundreds of plants donated by the Lake Granbury Master Gardeners have been placed in public landscaping across Granbury, the city reported July 14.

The additions reach beyond the parks. The city named City Hall, Granbury Regional Airport, the Historic Square, Visit Granbury and American Town Hall among the

locations receiving plants, along with the David Southern Lake Granbury Conference Center.

Shanley Park, Hewlett Park and Memorial Lane at Jim Burks Firefighters Memorial Park were also included. The city credited the gardeners for both their donation and their volunteer time.

Source: City July 14 Master Gardeners release

WALK FOR LIVES SPOTLIGHTS FENTANYL AWARENESS

JULY 11

Free program listed at City Park Pavilion

HCE STAFF WRITER

I'm Not Just A Number and the Hood County Substance Abuse Council scheduled a free Walk for Lives July 11 at the City Park Pavilion in Granbury.

The invitation emphasized awareness, education and prevention surrounding fentanyl's impact on families. Visit Granbury listed the program at 1218 W. Pearl St. and directed participants to a United Against Fentanyl registration page.

The local event listing also linked commemorative shirts and tank tops for people wishing to show their support.

Source: Visit Granbury July 11 Walk for Lives listing

COMMUNITY SERVICE & CONNECTIONS

07

VETERANS-BENEFITS
HELP ON THE JULY CALENDAR

JULY 11 / 9-10 A.M.

Free DAV information seminar

HCE STAFF WRITER

Disabled American Veterans scheduled a free information seminar in Granbury July 11 to help veterans and their families navigate benefits, claims and appeals.

The July 3 announcement set the session for 9-10 a.m. at the cooperative-services facility at 320 Fall Creek Highway. DAV said national service officers would staff

the program and that membership in the organization was not required.

The notice asked attendees to bring identification and relevant military-service documentation. The seminar was part of DAV's nationwide program of no-cost assistance for veterans seeking earned benefits.

Source: DAV July 3 seminar announcement in Gilmer Mirror

RISING LEADERS ADDS HEADSHOTS

HCE STAFF WRITER

Rising Leaders of Granbury's July 15 breakfast notice offered a relaxed networking morning with no set agenda, plus a new feature: complimentary headshots by Eric Killingsworth.

The Granbury Chamber of Commerce listed an 8 a.m. start at United Way of Hood County, 301 N. Hannaford St. Breakfast and coffee were part of the advertised gathering, with Taylor Hatfield named as the contact.

Source: Chamber July 15 Rising Leaders breakfast notice

ACTON BAPTIST LISTS MISSION WEEK

HCE STAFF WRITER

Acton Baptist Church's 2026 missions calendar scheduled a July 11-17 trip to Rock Springs, New Mexico, placing the domestic outreach during the middle of the summer.

The church describes its missions work as local, national and international service rooted in its Christian ministry. The published calendar provided an application

link and separate preparation resources for domestic travel.

A second summer trip, to Lithuania, was listed for July 31-Aug. 10.

Source: Acton Baptist 2026 missions calendar

ARTS & LIVE MUSIC

08

TEEN CAST TAKES ON
SOMETHING ROTTEN! JR

Granbury Opera House, June 2018. File photo; cropped. Photo adaptation: CC BY-SA 4.0, creativecommons.org/licenses/by-sa/4.0/. Arts-district archive; Granbury Live is a separate venue. | Michael Barera / Wikimedia Commons

JULY 17-26 / GRANBURY OPERA HOUSE

HCE STAFF WRITER

Granbury Theatre Academy's teen cast was scheduled to begin *Something Rotten! JR* July 17 at the Granbury Opera House, with the children's-series production listed through July 26.

The musical comedy follows brothers Nick and Nigel Bottom in

the 1590s as they try to create a theatrical hit while competing in Shakespeare's shadow. A prediction about singing, dancing and acting sends their efforts toward a new kind of show.

The published listing priced all tickets at \$29 and placed the

production at 133 E. Pearl St. It credited Karey Kirkpatrick and John O'Farrell for the book, and Wayne and Karey Kirkpatrick for the music and lyrics.

Source: TheaterMania July 17-26 academy production listing

FAB 5 BRINGS A BEATLES TRIBUTE

HCE STAFF WRITER

Granbury Live advertised the Fab 5's Beatles tribute for July 17 at 7 p.m., bringing a program centered on the group's songs to the venue at 110 N. Crockett St.

Visit Granbury's event listing described an evening of Beatles hits and also advertised a second performance July 18. The Friday program was listed from 7 to 9 p.m.

Source: Visit Granbury July 17 Fab 5 listing

RETROSPECTIVE EDITION

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