



HOOD COUNTY EXPRESS

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WEEKLY / AUGUST 15-21 IN REVIEW

HOOD COUNTY, TEXAS

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

CITY PROPOSES \$50 MILLION WATER DEBT



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 posted notice August 19 of a proposal to issue up to \$50 million in certificates of obligation for water-system improvements and related professional services.

The notice sets October 20 at 6 p.m. at City Hall for council consideration of issuance ordinances. It is a notice of intended borrowing, not a completed sale.

The city's August 19 explanation connects the financing to a planned desalination facility and removal of PFAS compounds from drinking water. It cites \$57.8 million in previously awarded principal-forgiveness funding.

The notice estimates \$81,128,537 in combined principal and interest for the proposed certificates, with a

latest maturity of August 15, 2056. The proposed certificates would be backed by property taxes and surplus utility revenues; the city said repayment would primarily come through utility rates.

Source: Granbury water-debt notice, August 19; City water-financing explanation, August 19

COUNCIL APPROVES 287(g) AGREEMENT

HCE STAFF WRITER

Granbury City Council voted 6-0 August 18 to enter a 287(g) agreement with the Department of Homeland Security.

Deputy Police Chief Garrett Wiginton said the program allows

trained, certified Granbury officers to perform certain immigration-enforcement functions. Mayor Pro Tem Bruce Wadley pulled the item from the consent agenda for discussion before the separate vote.

The action approved entering the agreement. The minutes do not establish that officer training or federal implementation had been completed.

Source: Granbury council minutes, August 18

COUNTY CAMERAS & CITY POLICY

COUNTY CAMERA SHUTDOWN REPORTED

HCE STAFF WRITER

Hood County’s three contracted Flock license-plate cameras were unplugged and covered, Constable John Shirley reported in a statement circulated during the week of August 15-21.

KERA reported August 19 that Shirley had shared the update over the weekend. His office’s statement said the shutdown work was finished. The coverings were

expected to remain until the equipment could be removed.

The work carried out commissioners’ earlier authorization. FOX 4’s August 17 report emphasized that the county action concerned three devices; Granbury’s separate municipal cameras remained in use.

Source: KERA report on camera shutdown, August 19; Hood Precinct 2 constable statement; FOX 4 camera-shutdown report, August 17

BUDGET DECISION MOVED TO SEPTEMBER

HCE STAFF WRITER

Granbury’s proposed 2026-27 operating budget remained pending after an August 18 public hearing.

City Manager Chris Coffman presented a briefing and video. Mayor Jim Jarratt opened the hearing at 6:40 p.m.; no one requested to speak.

Council then voted 6-0 to postpone the final budget decision until September 1. Councilmember Angela Parker made the motion, with a second from Zeb Ullom.

Source: Granbury council minutes, August 18

CITY RENEWS ECONOMIC PROGRAM

HCE STAFF WRITER

Granbury renewed its economic-development framework through Ordinance 26-55, adopted August 18. The program permits consideration of incentives for business development under Chapter 380 of the Texas Local Government Code.

The code identifies expected tax revenue, economic activity and employment opportunities among the factors considered. Applicants describe their proposed operations, anticipated community benefits and requested assistance.

Available tools include loans, grants, in-kind city services and property purchases for leasing to a business. Any incentives provided are reflected in a performance agreement spelling out their amount, conditions and limits.

The program also calls for consideration of city budget constraints and the business’s own participation.

Source: Granbury economic-development code, August 18 ordinance

ELECTIONS, ROADS & RECOGNITION

TWO CANDIDATES FILE FOR COUNCIL PLACE 4

HCE STAFF WRITER

Janet Logsdon and incumbent Skip Overdier filed for Granbury City Council Place 4 before the filing period closed at 5 p.m. August 17, the city announced.

Alex Wolf was the only candidate listed for Place 6. Both positions carry three-year terms in the November 3 municipal election.

The city scheduled its ballot-order drawing for 11 a.m. August 24 in the City Hall Council Chambers. That drawing determines the order of candidate names on the ballot.

Source: Granbury election filing notice, August 17

WALNUT CREEK BRIDGE DETOUR

HCE STAFF WRITER

Old Granbury Road was closed at Walnut Creek for bridge construction, according to an August 17 city notice relaying information from TxDOT.

Traffic was directed to Industrial Boulevard and U.S. 377. The announced closure extended through spring 2027, weather permitting.

Source: Granbury bridge-detour notice, August 17

PLAQUE MARKS FIFTH TOWN HONOR

HCE STAFF WRITER

Granbury unveiled a plaque August 21 commemorating its selection as USA Today’s 2026 Best Historic Small Town in America.

Mayor Pro Tem Bruce Wadley and Visit Granbury Director Tammy Dooley took part in the ceremony at the David Southern Lake Granbury Conference Center.

The city said the Readers’ Choice recognition was Granbury’s fifth since 2019. The ceremony marked the award with a new plaque and highlighted the historic character and visitor experiences celebrated by the tourism program.

Source: Granbury plaque ceremony report, August 21

GRANBURY ISD FINANCES & LEARNING

GISD ADOPTS LOWER TAX RATE

HCE STAFF WRITER

Granbury ISD trustees adopted a 2026 tax rate of \$0.8781 per \$100 of taxable value Aug. 17, down from the previous \$0.9296 rate.

The new levy consists of \$0.7781 for maintenance and operations and \$0.1000 for debt service. The signed resolution directs excess debt-service revenue toward prepaying approximately \$6.56 million in Series

2020-A bonds, with estimated future interest savings of \$897,940.

The final tax-rate resolution passed 6-0. A separate, earlier motion supporting the higher-than-minimum debt-service rate passed 5-1, with Tim Bolton opposed. Courtney Gore was absent. Trustees also unanimously adopted the operating, child-nutrition and

debt-service budgets among the six members present.

The accompanying taxpayer comparison used average homestead taxable values rather than estimating every property owner's bill.

Source: GISD approved August 17 minutes and signed tax resolution; GISD August 17 taxpayer impact statement

AI & CHOICE PLANNING OUTLINED

HCE STAFF WRITER

Granbury ISD's Aug. 17 board materials outlined two planning efforts: responsible use of technology and artificial intelligence, and future Pirate Choice programs.

Maggie Walton's report described age-appropriate digital tools, balanced screen time and educators' central role in learning. The choice work would build on Mambrino STEAM Academy, BridgeED Hybrid Virtual Learning and STARS Accelerated High School.

The materials called for input from students, staff, families, business partners and other community members. A focus-group signup form was planned for district communication channels later that week. Both efforts were described as being in early development, with no action recommendation accompanying the report.

Source: GISD August 17 strategic-initiatives memo; GISD technology and Pirate Choice presentation

SUMMER REPORT TRACKS LEARNING

HCE STAFF WRITER

Granbury ISD's summer-school update prepared for the Aug. 17 board meeting reported 163 students served in its elementary program, 55 in elementary emergent-bilingual programming and 141 at the middle-school level.

The presentation listed average daily attendance of 77%, 85% and 88%, respectively. Its middle-school section reported positive growth on every targeted academic standard, with average growth by standard of 17.85% in reading and 19.78% in mathematics.

An accompanying memo outlined additional instruction, language development, extended-school-year services and early high-school credits. The presentation also distinguished on-campus credit recovery from remote acceleration for students pursuing early graduation or advanced coursework.

Source: GISD August 17 summer-school report memo; GISD 2026 summer-school update presentation

CAMPUS HONORS & FALL SPORTS

BOARD HONORS
RESCUERS & DONORS

HCE STAFF WRITER

Granbury ISD recognized five people at its Aug. 17 board meeting for actions the district said helped save a man’s life in July.

The honorees were Chuck Matlock, Chris Taylor, Mark Davis, Sharon Rains and Danny Bloodworth. An Aug. 18 district announcement credited their quick response and teamwork during the emergency.

Trustees also recognized Paul Hyde, representing Hyde Law Firm and Hood County News, and Morris Duree of Granbury Realty for donations toward a new, custom-wrapped semitrailer for the Granbury High School band. The district described the trailer as a way for the Pride of Granbury to represent the school while traveling.

Source: GISD August 18 achievement spotlight

PIRATES SCHEDULE
EAGLE MOUNTAIN TEST

HCE STAFF WRITER

Granbury football’s preseason plan included an Aug. 20 scrimmage at Eagle Mountain, with the host school’s varsity schedule listing 7 p.m. at Knight Stadium in Fort Worth.

An Aug. 18 report by NTX Varsity identified the trip as the Pirates’ only scrimmage and described Bobby Allison’s team as being in its second week of fall camp.

The same report placed Granbury’s regular-season opener at Cleburne on Aug. 28. That timetable left eight days between the scheduled Eagle Mountain session and the first regular-season game.

Source: NTX Varsity August 18 Granbury sports report; Eagle Mountain official 2026 varsity football schedule

TOLAR TRAVEL
& RATTLER RALLY

HCE STAFF WRITER

Tolar’s athletics calendar placed volleyball travel and a community rally on the Aug. 18-21 schedule.

Three Tolar High School volleyball squads were scheduled at Blum Aug. 18: JV White at 5 p.m., JV Purple at 6 p.m. and varsity at 7 p.m. The varsity calendar then listed Glen Rose tournament dates Aug. 20-21.

For Aug. 21, the district listed the Hillsboro Invitational for junior-varsity and varsity cross-country runners at 7:30 a.m., followed by Meet the Rattlers at 6:30 p.m. in Rattler Stadium.

Source: Tolar ISD August 18-21 athletics calendar

LIPAN POSTS
JUNIOR-HIGH MEETS

HCE STAFF WRITER

Lipan ISD posted its junior-high cross-country schedule Aug. 20, laying out six fall meets beginning in September.

The plan starts at Glen Rose Sept. 9, continues at Poolville Sept. 16 and sends runners to Brock Sept. 23. A Lipan meet follows Sept. 30.

The October schedule lists Hamilton on Oct. 7 and the district meet at Lipan Oct. 14. The two Lipan dates give the published itinerary a home meet near September’s close and another for district competition two weeks later.

Source: Lipan ISD August 20 junior-high cross-country schedule

COMMUNITY PROGRAMS & PLANS

LAKEFEST PLANS ADD BOAT RACE & DRONE SHOW

HCE STAFF WRITER

An Aug. 20 announcement from K-HITS 95.5 outlined plans for LakeFest on Sept. 26, with a charity cardboard-boat race joining music, vendors and a drone-show finale.

The station advertised free admission and a 3 to 10 p.m. program at the David Southern Lake Granbury

Conference Center and surrounding grounds. Scheduled performers were singer-songwriter Zak Webb and Windy City, a Chicago tribute act.

The announcement described United We Float as a new race benefiting United Way of Hood County. It also advertised beach

activities and an indoor vendor marketplace.

Precision Drones was named for the planned finale over the lakeshore. The station invited businesses to inquire about vendor and sponsorship opportunities.

Source: K-HITS Aug. 20 LakeFest announcement

PHOTO BOOK AUTHOR AT VISITOR CENTER

HCE STAFF WRITER

Roxanne Laney was the featured author in Visit Granbury's Aug. 21 book-signing announcement, which centered on her photo book, Granbury Alive.

The tourism office scheduled the gathering from 1 to 3 p.m. at the Granbury Visitor Center, 201 E. Pearl St. The listing advertised free admission and an opportunity to meet Laney and have the book signed.

Source: Visit Granbury Aug. 21 author program

RENEW GATHERING FOR SINGLE MOTHERS

HCE STAFF WRITER

StoneWater Church included Aug. 21 on its Renew calendar for single mothers, offering a free evening program at the Granbury campus Coffee House.

The gathering was scheduled from 6:30 to 8 p.m. at 911 E. U.S. Highway 377. Dinner, worship, practical teaching and door prizes were included in the program description.

The church also listed free children's ministry and asked parents to register their children. Although the registration page named several StoneWater campuses, including Tolar, the published meeting location was Granbury.

Source: StoneWater Renew registration calendar

MUSIC AROUND GRANBURY

07

TRIBUTE CONCERTS ON
GRANBURY LIVE BILL

AUGUST 15

FLEETWOOD X

Scheduled Fleetwood Mac tribute

AUGUST 21

LOST SHAKER OF SALT

Scheduled Jimmy Buffett tribute

HCE STAFF WRITER

Granbury Live’s August calendar scheduled Fleetwood X Aug. 15 and Lost Shaker of Salt on Aug. 21, pairing two familiar-song tribute programs within the week.

The venue billed Fleetwood X as a Fleetwood Mac tribute. Its ticketing page listed Aug. 14-15 as the two-date run. Lost Shaker of Salt was advertised as a Jimmy Buffett

tribute, and the band’s own event page also named the Aug. 21 Granbury engagement.

Both bookings were at Granbury Live, 110 N. Crockett St.

Source: Granbury Live dated concert listings; Fleetwood X official ticket listing; Lost Shaker band Aug. 21 listing

TWIN CANYONS BILLS CHASER CROUCH

HCE STAFF WRITER

Chaser Crouch was the announced performer for an Aug. 21 music program at Twin Canyons Ranch Resort, with free admission advertised for the evening show.

The dated Visit Granbury listing set music for 7 to 9 p.m. at the property’s Black Star venue, 7631 Hayworth

Highway. Guests could reserve a free seat or attend without a ticket, according to the notice.

The resort’s advertised dining schedule kept its full menu available until 8:15 p.m. Food and drinks were offered separately from the free concert admission.

Source: Visit Granbury Twin Canyons Aug. 21 listing

TOLAR MUSIC & CRAFTS

08

ABBY FRENCH ON
TOLAR MUSIC CALENDAR

HCE STAFF WRITER

Sledge Distillery's Aug. 15 Hootenanny listing named Abby French for the main stage, continuing the Tolar venue's Saturday music program.

The notice set live music from 6 to 9 p.m. at 8210 Paluxy Highway and advertised free admission. The property's

announced hours were 2 to 10 p.m., with tastings scheduled until 8 p.m. and retail sales until 9 p.m.

The food cantina was scheduled from 3 to 9 p.m. The Social Hall and Outback/Coffee bars were listed for the full afternoon and evening.

Source: Visit Granbury Aug. 15 Tolar music notice

CRAFT HOUSE PAIRS
TRIVIA & HANDS-ON PROJECTS

HCE STAFF WRITER

Craft House announced an Aug. 21 after-hours program combining trivia questions with hands-on projects, using a free-admission format with separate charges for selected crafts.

The Chamber event listing scheduled the program from 7 to 9 p.m. at 205 Kings Plaza, Suite 100. Craft projects on the published menu ranged from \$18 to \$45.

The announcement promised rotating trivia categories, a special weekend craft option, free popcorn and prizes. The event was part of the shop's recurring third-Friday schedule, which offered an evening setting for its Craft Cafe activities.

Source: Granbury Chamber Aug. 21 Craft House notice

RETROSPECTIVE EDITION

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