

FIRST EDITION
WINTER 2021

Explore **Valley Mills** *Like Goin' Home*



an official publication of the Greater Valley Mills Chamber of Commerce

Cover photo: Doug Baum

Welcome from the Chamber!

The Greater Valley Mills Chamber of Commerce would like to welcome you to our town.

Location: Valley Mills is located in both McLennan and Bosque County in Central Texas. That is why we are known as the “Gateway to Beautiful Bosque County.” Roughly, 25 miles away from Waco, 108 miles from Austin, 100 miles from Dallas/Fort Worth, and 210 miles from Houston.

Culture: Valley Mills, named for a flour mill that sat on the bank of the Bosque River in 1867 still has that small town feel. Award-winning Native Singer/Songwriter Allison Gilliam says it best in her song that visiting Valley Mills is “Like Goin’ Home”. Our town might be small but we have all the essentials to make your visit memorable. Stop by and shop at any of the local boutiques including the famous JDH Iron Designs, see the old Gristmill as seen on the Magnolia Network, visit one of the many historical sites including the Santa Fe Depot and Chisholm Trail, take a trip to the Vineyard to wind down and stay the night in one of the many Air BNB’s we have to offer.

Climate: Summers in Valley Mills are hot with an average of 93 days over 90 degrees. Winters are usually mild with an average 42 days below freezing temperatures. Typically, Valley Mills has around 35 inches of rainfall and 226 days of sunshine annually.

Population: The population of the town of Valley Mills is 1,203. However, the zip code 76689 contributes another 2,512.

*Thank you for visiting our town.
Hope to see you again soon.*

Become a Chamber member today! Joining the Chamber comes with many benefits! Membership Dues are \$100 for businesses and \$50 for individuals. Talk to a Chamber director today!

MISSION STATEMENT: The purpose of the Chamber shall be to promote and improve the business environment, stimulate a vibrant local economy, and build a strong sense of community among the businesses, citizens, and organizations in the greater Valley Mills area.



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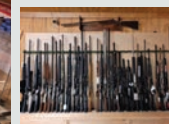

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Calendar of Events

September

- 11th Second Saturday Shop, Pedal, and Stroll
- 11th Farmer's Market and Trade Days
- 11th Anniversary Banquet
- 18th Vet Clinic at Valley Mills Feed and Hardware

October

- 2nd Community Wide Clean Day 8am-12pm
- 2nd Cayote BBQ 5:00-7:00 Dinner 7:00 Bingo
- 9th Second Saturday Shop, Pedal, and Stroll
- 9th Farmer's Market and Trade Days
- 31st Trunk or Treat

November

- 13th Second Saturday Shop, Pedal, and Stroll

December

- 11th Christmas in the Park
- 11th Second Saturday Shop, Pedal, and Stroll



- More than 35 years of professional graphic design experience
- Specializing in print design and desktop publishing (magazine layout and ads, catalogs, brochures, posters, displays, outdoor boards, apparel imprints, and more)
- Graphic Designer for *Explore Valley Mills* and *Discover Clifton* magazines

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Sept 11, 2021

Oct 9, 2021

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The Foundry Market and Floral



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Explore Valley Mills History

Valley Mills has an interesting history, named for the flour mill that was established on the banks of the Bosque River in 1867 by Dr. E.P. Booth and Asbury Stegall on the 300 acres they had purchased. In 1881, Gulf, Colorado, and Santa Fe Railway started laying tracks a mile South of town. Merchants wanting to take advantage of the benefits of the newly established railroad started moving their businesses towards the tracks. However, a year later a tornado hit the new townsite, but that didn't stop the people of Valley Mills. By the end of that year, Valley Mills was bursting at the seams and started to cross into McLennan County. Businesses such as the gristmill, sawmill, general store, grocery store and bar, and cotton gin (just to name a few) were thriving and it wasn't long before Valley Mills became a bustling town in Central Texas between the railroad and the Chisholm Trail. The Chisholm Trail ran through what is now Boy Scout Park and between 1867 and 1889, 35,000 cowboys ran 1 million horses and 6 million head of cattle through our town on their way to the Kansas market. By 1900, the original town site had become a ghost town. There is a historical marker where the old town sat along the Bosque River.

Historical Markers of Valley Mills

There are actually quite a few historical markers around our little town. Beside the one marking where the old town sat, there are nine other historical markers. The most common one would be the Santa Fe Depot. Built in 1910, the depot was a social center for news brought by the conductor before there was radio and television. However, highway and instant communication phased out this once important necessity in 1966. The depot was relocated here in 1969 and turned into a museum that the Bosque County Heritage Society preserves.



credit: Cowgirl at Heart Photography

There are four houses around town that are marked as historical; The Lowry Hampton Scrutchfield, Odle Log Cabin, and the Roden Taylor Cabin, and the Pool Tibbs House. Lowry Hampton Scrutchfield was one of the first leaders who settled and organized Bosque County. He was elected the county's first Chief Justice in 1854.

The Odle Log Cabin was built around 1860 by Tennessee native John Odle. Odle served during the civil war in the frontier ranger company and fought in the Battle of Dove Creek against the Kickapoo Indians. His family lived in the log cabin until he could build a more substantial rock house for their family of 13 children.



credit: Brittany Lannen

The Pool Tibbs House was the residence of S.A. Pool who not only built this house, but also built a store and cotton gin on the river in 1870 in the old town. In 1891, Robert A. Tibbs acquired the house where there were some changes made to the house. This is the oldest house in Valley Mills.

The next three historical markers are on area churches; the First Methodist Church, Rock Springs Cumberland Presbyterian Church, and the Searsville Baptist Church. Methodists in this area can trace their history to the 1840s when circuit-riding preachers began holding camp meetings on nearby farms. In 1916, their first brick-and-mortar church was completed. Rock Springs Cumberland Presbyterian Church was started by the Rev. James B. Sadler in 1870. This building also housed a community school for the time. Searsville Baptist Church is the only building left standing in the town of Searsville. No one ever kept records of the population during the founding and decline of the town.

There is also one cemetery on the list; the Poston-Odle Cemetery. Land for this cemetery was set aside by John Odle after the death of his sister in 1875. At this marker location, there once stood a church and schoolhouse that served some of the earliest settlers. The entrance gate is actually built out of the rocks of the Old Rock Church and is the resting place of many popular Valley Mills native names.

History of the Chamber of Commerce

The Greater Valley Mills Chamber of Commerce started a little over five years ago. Within that five years we have grown to almost a hundred members. Throughout the year, we do many community events including, the Bosque County-Wide Garage Sale, the Community Wide Clean Up Day, the End of Summer Bash, Summer Movie Nights, 4th of July Fireworks Show co-sponsor, Farmer's Market and Trade Days, the annual Chamber banquet and Christmas in the Park. We have also done numerous projects through the city over the years including, putting Welcome signs on the outskirts of town, made new Christmas Pole Decorations, supplied paint for the Mural at the in-town ballfields, placed memorial benches and trash cans throughout the city, and much more. If you would like to be involved in these various events and projects, contact a board director today!

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| 13. The Foundry Market & Floral | 409 Avenue C | 254-386-6604 |
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| 27. Third Day Farm Air BNB | 924 Patton Rd | |
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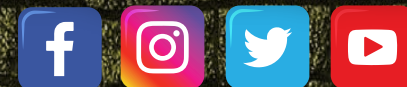


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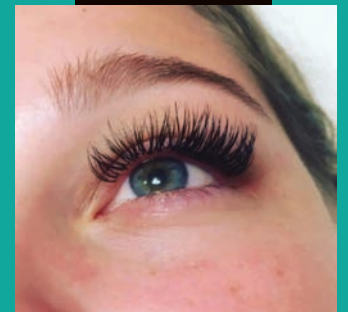


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The Valley Mills Chamber of Commerce Membership runs from year to date of sign up and an updated directory is published with every edition. If you are not currently listed in this issue, send in your membership application as soon as possible to be listed in the next directory and receive new and exciting Chamber benefits.

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Bosque County Sheriff's Office
266 FM 2480 ~ Meridian
(254) 435-2363
www.bosquesheriff.com

Valley Mills Police Department
101 W. Avenue E ~ Valley Mills
(254) 932-6300

**Valley Mills Volunteer Fire
Department**
107 N. 4th Street ~ Valley Mills
(254) 932-5101

Event Services

El Hurcan Mechanical Bull

(573) 552-6728

Sign Dreamers of Waco

(254) 709-3536
signdreamerswaco@gmail.com

Florists

The Foundry Market & Floral

409 E Avenue C ~ Valley Mills
(254) 386-6604

Fuel

Backroads Food & Fuel

101 Avenue C ~ Valley Mills
(254) 934-2021

Cefco Convenience Stores

702 W Avenue C ~ Valley Mills
(254) 932-5257

Funeral Homes

Foss Funeral Home

600 E. Avenue C ~ Valley Mills
(254) 932-5249
www.fossfuneralhome.com

Graphic Design/Web Services/Drafting

Studio J Designs

Jessica Marie Tomchesson
(254) 749-4546
StudioJDesign254@gmail.com

Tomchesson Professional Services

981 FM 56 ~ Valley Mills
(254) 749-1631

Government

City of Valley Mills

101 W. Avenue E ~Valley Mills
(254) 932-6146
www.vmtx.us

Valley Mills Post Office

501 Avenue D ~ Valley Mills
(254) 934-2593

Grocers/Food Suppliers

Brookshire Brothers

902 Avenue C ~ Valley Mills
(254) 932-5349

Gyms/Fitness Centers/Dance

Camp Gladiator

Jessica Hyatt
(254) 537-2134
jessicahyatt@campgladiator.com

Healthcare-Services/Facilities

Carter BloodCare

206 Archway Drive ~ Woodway
(254) 297-4004

Starry Counseling

3001 W Waco Dr. Suite B ~ Waco
(254) 399-6552

Insurance Agencies

RVOS Insurance: Agent, Johnnie Gaidusek

401 E. Avenue C ~ Valley Mills
(254) 934-2527

Texas Farm Bureau Insurance:

Agent, Kathy Winters
4471 Hwy 6 ~ Clifton
(254) 675-6456
kwinters@txfb-ins.com

Library

Valley Mills Public Library

405 5th Street ~ Valley Mills
(254) 932-6370
www.valleymillslibrary.org
www.valleymillspubliclibrary.org

Lodging

1891 Bosque Crossing, LLC Air BNB

108 Tibbs Drive ~ Valley Mills
(214) 876-0677

Boy Scout RV Park

257 CR 3199 ~ Valley Mills
(254) 932-6146

J's Place on Lake Whitney

335 County Road 1630 ~ Clifton
familycauley27@gmail.com

Media

Magnolia

601 Webster Avenue ~ Waco
(254) 235-6111
Magnolia.com

Museum

Santa Fe Railway Museum

507 Avenue D~ Valley Mills

Music/Music Services

Freedom Music Services

924 FM 1637 ~ Valley Mills
(254) 932-5753
Charlie@FreedomMusicServices.com
www.FreedomMusicServices.com

Sweet Gospel

Allison Gilliam, Independent
Songwriter
Po Box 278 ~ Valley Mills
(254) 447-0828

Newspapers

Valley Mills Progress

403 Avenue A ~ Valley Mills
(254) 644-9301
vmprogress.tx@gmail.com

Nursing Home/Hospice

Lutheran Sunset Ministries

1800 W. 9th St. ~ Clifton
(254) 675-8637
www.lutheransunset.org

Organizations

Bosque Valley Food Pantry

306 N 4th Street ~ Valley Mills
(254) 932-6637

Bosque County Genealogical Society

PO Box 478 ~ Valley Mills
(254) 932-6463
bosquegenealogy@gmail.com

Bosque Valley Heritage Society

PO Box 159 ~ Valley Mills
(254) 733-7953

Girl Scouts of Central Texas

3700 W. Waco Drive ~ Waco
(512) 490-2391
www.gsctx.org

John Armstrong Masonic Lodge #291

302 S. 5th Street ~ Valley Mills

Valley Mills Crossroads AA and NA

205 W Avenue C ~ Valley Mills

Valley Mills FFA Booster Club

PO Box 21 ~ Valley Mills

Valley Mills Library Association

PO Box 25 ~ Valley Mills

Valley Mills Lion's Club

204 W. Avenue H ~ Valley Mills
(254) 709-5676

Ranch/Farm

Chapultepec Farm

2197 CR 3505 ~ Valley Mills
(254) 214-3920
john@chapfarm.net

Five Oaks Ranch

505 E. Avenue C ~ Valley Mills
(254) 932-6182

Real Estate

Deborah Maher-Keller Williams

3701 W Waco Dr ~ Waco
(254) 709-8883
deborahmaher@kw.com

Rockin KH Properties

504 E. Avenue C ~ Valley Mills
(254) 717-7590

Texas Star Home & Ranch Realty Group

696 Rivercrest Rd ~ Valley Mills
(254) 749-2372
sandra@txstarhomeandranch.com
sandramelton.exprealty.com
www.facebook.com/
txstarhomeandranch
www.twitter.com/txstar_hrealty

Recreation/Parks

Boy Scout Park

257 CR 3199 ~ Valley Mills
(254) 932-6146

Santa Fe Park

507 Avenue D ~ Valley Mills

Robert Wilson Baseball Park (Splash Pad)

400 3rd Street ~ Valley Mills

Valley Mills Youth Complex

111 Highway 6 ~ Valley Mills

Rehab/Therapy/Retirement/Assisted Living

Lutheran Sunset Ministries

1800 W. 9th St. ~ Clifton
(254) 675-8637
www.lutheransunset.org

Schools

Valley Mills ISD

1 Eagle Way ~ Valley Mills
(254) 932-5201
info@vmisd.net
www.vmisd.net

Senior In-Home Assistance

Lutheran Sunset Ministries

1800 W. 9th St. ~ Clifton
(254) 675-8637
www.lutheransunset.org

Septic Services

Fisk & Hillin Pump Service

602 S. 1st St. ~ Valley Mills
(254) 644-2559

Shopping/Gifts

Bebe's Back Porch

301 5th Street ~ Valley Mills
(254) 715-8162

City on a Hill Boutique

303 5th St ~ Valley Mills
(254) 366-9250

JDH Iron Designs

9685 N. Lonestar Parkway ~ Valley Mills
(254) 486-9150
www.jdhirondesigns.com

Freedom Music Services

924 FM 1637 ~ Valley Mills
(254) 932-5753
Charlie@FreedomMusicServices.com
www.FreedomMusicServices.com

Magnolia

601 Webster Avenue ~ Waco
(254) 235-6111
Magnolia.com

The Cattleman's Wife

412 E. Avenue C ~ Valley Mills
(254) 315-4047
thecattlemanswife.1949@gmail.com
Shoptcwboutique.com

The Foundry Market & Floral

409 E Avenue C ~ Valley Mills
(254) 386-6604

The Painted Bunting

413 E Avenue C ~ Valley Mills
(210) 718-8422

Valley Mills Mantels and Saw Mill

108 S. 4th Street ~ Valley Mills
(254) 722-4881

Shooting Range

Chandler's Gun Shop & Shooting Range

789 FM 1637 ~ Valley Mills
(254) 772-0000

Utilities

Heart of Texas Electric Cooperative

111 S. Johnson Dr. ~ McGregor
(800) 840-2957
www.hotec.coop

Texas-New Mexico Power

1304 N Avenue G ~ Clifton
(254) 675-3908

Utilities Construction

P&F Contracting

1314 Tweedy Dr ~ Valley Mills
(254) 709-5957

Water Well/Waste Water Service

Jurgensen Pump

18099 N Hwy 6 ~ Valley Mills
(254) 932-6251
www.jurgensenpump.com

Individuals/Family Members

Anthony and Stephanie Bell
Darren and Sharon Callaway
Jim and Rachael Delaney
Allison Gilliam
Kurt and Rhonda Jernigan
Charles Olson
Lyndon Olson
Larry and Cynthia Philipp
Josh and Maggie Thayer
Curtis and Neta Wiethorn

The
FOUNDRY
MARKET & FLORAL
www.thefoundrymarketandfloral.com



409 East Avenue C, Valley Mills TX
254-932-5004 thefoundryandfloral@outlook.com