

SPRING/SUMMER
EDITION 2023

Explore Valley Mills *Like Goin' Home*



Cover photo: Cowgirl at Heart Photography

an official publication of the Greater Valley Mills Chamber of Commerce

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.



2023 Greater Valley Mills Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors

Susan Glime—President
The Painted Bunting

Bryant Schuetz—1st VP
First National Bank

Jennifer Pliscott—2nd VP
Valley Mills Feed and Hardware

Terry Curlee—Treasurer
Jurgensen Pump

Cynthia Philipp—Secretary
Jurgensen Pump

Greater Valley Mills Chamber of Commerce
PO Box 479
Valley Mills, TX 76689

valleymillschamber@gmail.com
www.valleymillschamber.com

Valley Mills Independent School District

“Every Step, Eagle Pride”

Elementary Campus
2021 National
Blue Ribbon School

High School Campus
2022 National
Blue Ribbon School

Calendar of Events

February

- 11th Cayote Chili Supper and Bingo @Cayote Community Center
- 18th Grief Share Class @ Top Hand Cowboy Church
- 25th Home Run Derby Benefit for Brandon Wilson @VMYBA

March

- 2nd Bosque County Alzheimer's Expo @ Clifton Civic Center
- 4th VMVFD Chili Supper
- 18th Bake Sale Fundraiser for Fireworks
- 25th Spring Vet Clinic @ VM Feed and Hardware
- 31st Bosque County Wide Garage Sale

April

- 1-2 Bosque County Wide Garage Sale
- 2nd 2nd Annual Resurrection Drive @ Top Hand Cowboy Church
- 8th Valley Mills Market Days @Santa Fe Park
- 8th 4H Truck & Car Show @VMHS
- 8th Easter Egg Hunt @Santa Fe Park
- 8th First Baptist Church Mission 5k Fun Run
- TBD Pancake Supper Fundraiser for Fireworks

May

- 4th National Day of Prayer 5:00pm @ Santa Fe Park
- 13th Valley Mills Market Days @Santa Fe Park

June

- 10th Valley Mills Market Days @Santa Fe Park
- TBD Golf Tournament Fundraiser for Fireworks

July

- 4th Heritage Society Parade and Festivities
- 4th Fireworks @VMYBA
- 5th Blood Drive @First Baptist Church

Recurring Events

Last Thursdays—Food Fix on 6 • Last Tuesdays—Chamber Meetings



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Be sure to invite your friends and family for another great year at the Annual Bosque County-Wide Garage Sale!

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Valley Mills and the Chisholm Trail



Credit: Chisholm Country

The Chisholm Trail, a post Civil-War era trail that cowboys and vaqueros used to drive cattle from Texas to the railheads in Kansas, is an important part of Valley Mills History. Between 1867 and 1884, it is estimated that 6 to 10 million head of cattle ran through this trail

during its heyday. Over 150 years later, people still talk about this epic time in Texas and American history, inspiring over 27 films in Hollywood, countless folk-lore stories, and even songs.



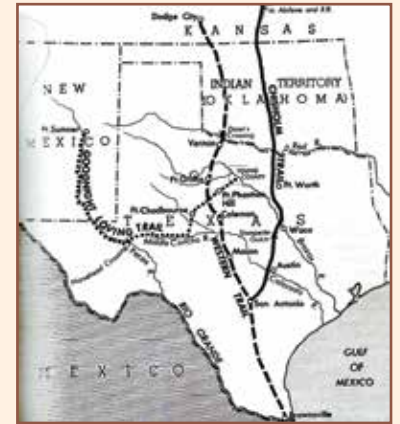
Credit: Texas State Historical Association

Jesse Chisholm, a trader who blazed a route from Wichita, Kansas, across the Indian Territory to the Red River, San Antonio — but never actually drove cattle himself up his namesake trail. Chisholm, half Scottish-half Cherokee born in Tennessee, was a trader, explorer, scout, and diplomat. He was responsible for brokering many important peace negotiations between the whites and Indians throughout the region. He was a brilliant linguist, speaking over 14 tribal dialects in addition to English and Spanish. Chisholm traded and bartered anything and everything from coffee, sugar, cooking pots, crops, cloth, furs, to even horses and mules. Unfortunately, he passed away in 1868 from cholera, before ever knowing that the trail he once blazed was named after him.

The large amount of cattle moving up the Chisholm trail and the volatile nature of the Brazos River, caused the City of Waco to construct the Waco Suspension Bridge in 1870 to be able to cross the river more easily. However, Waco would charge 3 cents per head to cross on the bridge. Some trail bosses didn't want to pay the charge, so they would veer off the trail to go towards Valley Mills to cross at the Bosque River. By 1900, the railroad and the nearby Chisholm Trail had made Valley Mills a prosperous retail and trading center for Bosque and McLennan counties.

The open fields between the Brazos and Bosque Rivers presented a great opportunity for the cattle to spread over the prairie and fatten up before heading north, it also served as a merging point for herds coming from the west. "Cowpunchers" would stock up on supplies to make the next stretch of trail, typically going about 8 miles a day. Each herd was accompanied by a trail boss, 10-12 cowboys, a cook with a supply wagon, and a horse wrangler. These men would push the herd 2,500 miles for approximately three months through major rivers, mountain ranges, canyons, Indian attacks, out-law cattle rustlers, and stampedes, making 60 to 70 cents per head at the end of the trip.

Chisholm Trail was finally closed around 1884 with the ever growing use of barbed wire and the Texas fever quarantine caused by a tick-borne ailment that could contaminate other herds. However, in its brief existence, it is still considered the greatest migration of livestock in world history.



Credit: Chisholm Country



Credit: Valley Mills Progress

Driving out of town on Hwy 56, just past the Bosque River, the Chisholm Trail is marked.





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Waco, TX 76712

PLACES TO EAT

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|------------------------------------|--------------|--------------|
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| 2. El Molcajete Mexican Restaurant | 107 Avenue C | 254-932-5140 |
| 3. Best Donuts & Kolaches | 209 Avenue C | 254-932-5827 |
| 4. Burger N Wok | 602 Avenue C | 254-932-6308 |
| 5. Subway | 607 Avenue C | 254-932-5333 |
| 6. Cefco Convenience Stores | 702 Avenue C | 254-932-5257 |
| 7. Brookshire Brothers Express | 902 Avenue C | 254-932-5349 |
| 8. Old Field's Eatery | 400 Avenue D | 254-495-6355 |
| 9. Valley Mills Vineyard | 1687 FM 1637 | 254-848-4343 |

PLACES TO SHOP

- | | | |
|--|----------------------|--------------|
| 10. Valley Mills Mantels and Saw Mill | 108 S. 4th Street | 254-722-4881 |
| 11. Keith Ace Hardware | 303 S. 4th Street | 254-932-5150 |
| 12. The Foundry Market & Floral | 409 Avenue C | 254-386-6604 |
| 13. The Painted Bunting | 413 Avenue C | 210-718-8422 |
| 14. L&J Fine Art and Antiques | 411 Avenue C | 254-447-0413 |
| 15. The Treasure Chest | 415 Avenue C | 254-709-6347 |
| 16. Bebe's Back Porch | 301 5th Street | 254-715-8162 |
| 17. Valley Mills Feed and Hardware | 707 Avenue C | 254-932-5781 |
| 18. Dollar General | 1202 Avenue C | 254-384-2091 |
| 19. JDH Iron Designs | 9685 N Lonestar Pkwy | 254-486-9150 |
| 20. Freedom Music Services | 927 FM 1637 | 254-932-5753 |
| 21. Chandler's Gun Shop & Shooting Range | 789 FM 1637 | 254-772-0000 |

PLACES TO STAY

- | | | |
|-------------------------------------|---------------------|--------------|
| 22. Boy Scout RV Park | 257 CR 3199 | 254-932-6146 |
| 23. Wagon Trail Air BNB | 165 CR 223 | |
| 24. 1891 Bosque Crossing Air BNB | 108 Tibbs Dr | 214-876-0677 |
| 25. J's Place Air BNB | 335 CR 1630/Whitney | |
| 26. Old Deer Hunter's Cabin Air BNB | 1561 FM 2490 | |
| 27. Ranch House Homestead Air BNB | 1561 FM 2490 | |
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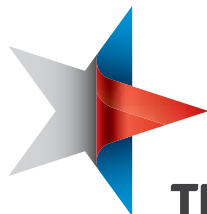


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Allison Gilliam, independent songwriter,
writer of

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about Valley Mills

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Valley Mills MARKET DAYS

2023 DATES:

APRIL 8,

MAY 13

JUNE 10

SEPTEMBER 9

OCTOBER 14

NOVEMBER 11

DECEMBER 9



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Exploring Valley Mills

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 Basketball court
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Tennis Courts
Baseball Fields

Eating:

Subway
Burger N Wok:
Brookshire Brothers
Backroads Food & Fuel
El Molcajete
Best Donut & Kolache Shop
Old Fields Eatery
Hot Cheeks BBQ and
Dogwood Delights

Historical Markers:

Santa Fe Railroad Museum and
Caboose
Searsville Church
First Methodist Church
Rock Springs Cumberland
Presbyterian Church
Poston-Odle Cemetery names
Lowry Hampton Scrutfield House
Pool Tibbs House:
The Odle Log Cabin
Roden Taylor Crain House
The Walnut Grove Baptist Church of
Christ (Patton Baptist Church)



Events:

Fourth of July celebration
Bosque County Wide Garage Sale
Street Dance
Easter Egg Hunt
Christmas in the Park
Farmers Market
VMVFD Chili/Bingo
Live Nativity Scene

Shopping:

The Foundry
Painted Bunting
Dollar General
Treasure Chest
Bebe's Back Porch
Keith's Ace Hardware
VM Feed and Hardware
Valley Mills Mantels
JDH Iron Designs
L&J Arts and Antiques

Must See/Visit:

Halloween House
Valley Mills Public Library
Valley Mills Vineyards
Bosque River
Valley Mills Murals
First National Bank
Bible House
First Baptist Church
Heart of Texas Equestrian Academy
Meyer Observatory
Prickly Pear Salon
The Looking Glass Salon
Chandler's Shooting Range and
 Gun Shop
Geocaching
River Road Bridge
Masonic Lodge Building
Hillcrest Cemetery
Old Valley Mills Historical Cemetery
The Election Oak
Lanes Chapel & Cemetery
Coyote Church & Community Center

**For more information about these locations and much
more, please visit our website:**

valleymillschamber.com

Valley Mills Chamber of Commerce Membership

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.

For more information, please call 254-855-6132.

Accountants//Bookkeepers

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Chamber of Commerce

Greater Valley Mills Chamber of Commerce

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www.valleymillschamber.com
valleymillschamber@gmail.com

Churches

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311 FM 56 ~ Valley Mills
(254) 932-5576

Church of Christ

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Farview Baptist Church

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First Baptist Church

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First United Methodist Church

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(254) 932-2842

Hope Ministries

407 E Avenue C ~ Valley Mills
(254) 709-6924

Mosheim Baptist Church

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Mosheim United Methodist Church

3224 FM 217 ~ Valley Mills
(254) 754-8838

Oak Grove Baptist Church

407 S. 6th Street ~ Valley Mills
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Patton Baptist Church

6677 Chisholm Trail ~ Valley Mills
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Searsville Country Church

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Top Hand Cowboy Church

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Old City Hall

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Santa Fe Depot

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Valley Mills Police Department

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Valley Mills Volunteer Fire

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Government

City of Valley Mills

101 W. Avenue E ~ Valley Mills
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www.vmtx.us

Valley Mills Post Office

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Graphic Design/Web Services/Drafting

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(254) 749-1631

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Healthcare-Services/ Facilities

Carter BloodCare

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Housekeeping

Chaos Coordinator

Valley Mills, TX
(254) 749-2612

Insurance Agencies

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Gaidusek
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(254) 934-2527

State Farm Insurance-|

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Texas Farm Bureau Insurance:

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kwinters@txfb-ins.com

Library

Valley Mills Public Library

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www.valleymillspubliclibrary.org

Lodging

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Media

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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

Rockin KH Properties

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

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

Salons

The Cattleman's Wife Salon & Co

901 12th St Unit B ~ Valley Mills
(254) 315-4047

Schools

Valley Mills ISD

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

Senior In-Home Assistance

Lutheran Sunset Ministries

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

Shopping/Gifts

Bebe's Back Porch

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

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 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

Telecommunications

Pathway Fiber Internet & Phone

427 N Broadway St. ~ Joshua
(817) 484-2222
www.usapathway.com

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

Bob Squires

Josh and Maggie Thayer

Michelle Valdez

Curtis and Neta Wiethorn

The Greater Valley Mills Chamber of Commerce needs your help raising money for the Fourth of July Fireworks Display!

Be on the lookout for upcoming fundraising events. Volunteers are needed!!!

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Clifton

1203 N. Avenue G
675-6570

Meridian

115 S. Main Street
435-6100

Ranch House

8213 N. Highway 6
848-4777

Valley Mills

418 Ave. C
932-5345



fnbbosque.com

