

FALL 2026

Welcome to the Fall edition of our Frog Talk newsletter. Here's what we've been up to lately and some news you may have missed.

Landmark Frog Sculpture Installed at Mill Stream Park!

After months of planning and anticipation, our long-awaited public art project has officially found its home at the entrance to Mill Stream Park—just in time for this year's Frog Jump Festival!

This special Valley City Community Group project pays tribute to a unique piece of Frog Jump history and honors the original 1969 cement frog that once stood in the yard of Valley City resident Jay Reynolds, the original "Mr. Frogman." After decades of exposure to time and weather, the beloved original frog eventually deteriorated.

Now, a new frog has taken its place—celebrating our community's history while creating a new landmark for future generations. We extend our heartfelt thanks to everyone who supported this project through the purchase of engraved boulders, and to Mack Industries, Lavelle & Sons, Jackson Hunter Landscaping, Liverpool Township Maintenance, Valley City Supply, and Minuteman Press Medina for their incredible contributions.

We are proud to present this sculpture as a gift to Liverpool Township and hope it becomes a favorite gathering spot where families and friends can stop for a

photo, make memories, and celebrate the unique heritage that makes Valley City special.





The 65th Annual Frog Jump Drew Record Crowds

Mill Stream Park was filled with sunshine and excitement on Sunday, July 19, as the 2026 Valley City Frog Jump Festival welcomed another record-breaking crowd of attendees. Throughout the day, 777 frogs competed across 37 flights, all vying for top honors. This year's event also caught national media attention. A film crew from *CBS Sunday Morning* was on site to capture the competition and document the festival's rich history. The segment aired on CBS this past Sunday, October 18, 2026, and put Valley City on the national stage! If you missed the show, here is a link to the broadcast

Matthew Malloy claimed the Grand Champion Frog Jump title when his frog, Sam Hersbach, leaped a Grand Jump-Off distance of 13 ft 10 inches. That leap also made him a winner for the Longest Jump of the Day. The Reserve Champion Trophy was awarded to Jaxson Daugherty. His frog Oliver P. Shagnasty had an impressive final-round jump of 13 ft 4 inches. The Shortest Jump Trophy was presented to JJ Angus of Valley City, after her frog, Leap Queen managed a tiny hop of just 6 inches.

Complete Frog Jump results and past winners can be found on our website valleycity.org.



October 31 – Halloween

The Valley City Fire Department Association hosts a parade and costume contest on Halloween night at 6:30. Parade lines up at 6 PM, starts at the Depot, and ends at the Fire Station, where the contest winners are announced

and snacks and beverages are provided. Costume contest is open to pre-K to 6th grade but all ages are welcome to join in on the fun!



December 12-13 Christmas in the Valley

Join us for a fun-filled Holiday event starting on Saturday evening, December 12. Everyone is invited to enjoy the “Night Before Christmas in the Valley” Community Sing-a-Long at St Paul Lutheran Church located at 1377 Lester Rd. Valley City. All are welcome to sing along with local choirs.

On Sunday, December 13, we start off the day with a 5K run/1mile walk. Next up, we close the streets for our annual Christmas Parade, complete with marching bands and dazzling festive floats, including the main man himself: Santa Claus, riding in style on his float as he makes his way to the Depot!

Want to be part of the parade? Whether you'd like to feature a decorated vehicle for your business, march with your local group, or build an extraordinary float, we want you in our lineup! Email us at

valleycitycommunitygroup@gmail.com for information on how you can secure your spot and help us make this Christmas parade our brightest and most unforgettable one yet!

There are lots of kid-friendly activities such as a special Kids Zone, scavenger hunts, Mrs. Claus story times, cookie decorating, and more. Of course, don't forget to visit Santa in the Depot, where he will be available to hear all Christmas wishes!

The Fire Station hosts our FREE Chili cook-off contest where you will also find a beer tent, raffles of all types, side boards, and chances to win lots of great prizes. Enjoy some chili while you watch the game on the big-screen TV, then stroll the downtown street to browse the 70+ Holiday Market vendors scattered in businesses throughout the downtown area.

Come and spend the day with us enjoying the FOOD, FUN, and SHOPPING! Well-behaved leashed pets are always welcome too!

Our website valleycity.org, contains detailed information as it is announced for Christmas in the Valley, along with registration information for the 5K race and Holiday Market vendor sign-up.

Stay Connected with the Valley City Community Group!

Along with our website, our main Facebook page now serves as the central hub for all Valley City event information. For the latest updates, follow our Facebook Page https://www.facebook.com/valleycitycommunitygroup.

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