

MAY | 2025

K-BEAT

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE CITY OF KILLEEN



**KILLEEN'S BIRTHDAY
MEMORIAL DAY
AAPI HERITAGE MONTH
POLICE EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT**



Cover photo of Memorial Day Ceremony 2024

www.killeentexas.gov

MAYOR'S MESSAGE

The City of Killeen holds events almost every month of the year and we love to welcome local small businesses to join us as vendors at each event. I want to take the time to thank the businesses who have participated over the years, as well as all the citizens who have come out and supported those local businessowners.

Our City is proud to support small and local businesses because they are the heart of our community. They do more than offer goods and services—they create jobs, support families, bring a unique character to our neighborhoods and keep our local economy strong. When we support local, we're investing in our neighbors, our culture and our future. Every local shop, café and startup reflects the creativity, passion and resilience of the people who live here.

Supporting small businesses means investing in our own community—the backbone of our city. The dollars spent locally stay local, fueling our economy, supporting local causes and helping our city grow in a way that's vibrant, inclusive and sustainable.

That's why the City remains committed to creating a supportive environment where local businesses can start, grow and thrive. To every entrepreneur and small business owner: thank you for choosing our city. You make it a better place every day.

For a list of upcoming events for vendors, please visit our website at www.KilleenTexas.gov/DowntownEvents, www.KilleenTexas.gov/REC or simply our website calendar at www.KilleenTexas.gov/Calendar. We have some exciting events coming up, including the Red, White and Blue Music Festival on July 5, our Night Markets and our Movies in Your Park summer series.

Finally, I want to recognize the many observances our country and city celebrates this month, including Asian American Pacific Islander Heritage Month, Police Week, EMS Week, Public Works Week, Military Spouse Appreciation Week, Armed Forces Day and the National Day of Prayer. There are always more than we can name, but we recognize the members of each of these organizations, whether it's a role you have, group you belong to or an event you celebrate.



Delhi Noah King



HONORING OUR HEROES THIS MEMORIAL DAY

The City of Killeen will honor fallen service members during the 2025 Memorial Day Ceremony on Monday, May 26 at 9 a.m. at the Central Texas State Veterans Cemetery (11463 State Highway 195). Gen. James E. Rainey, Commanding General of the U.S. Army Futures Command, will deliver the keynote address. The ceremony will include a wreath laying, a 21-gun salute, and the playing of taps.

Veteran and civic organizations can register to participate by contacting the Area Veterans Advisory Committee at (254) 702-0465 by May 9. The City thanks the Texas Veterans Land Board and AVAC for their continued support in making this tribute possible.



HAPPY BIRTHDAY, KILLEEN!

On May 15, Killeen turns 143 years old! The city began in 1882 as a small train stop in west Bell County, named after Frank Patrick Killeen, assistant general manager of the railroad. Back then, only 40 residents called it home.

Today, over 165,000 people live in Killeen, and the city continues to grow while celebrating its strength in diversity and unity. As Killeen reflects on its past and looks to the future, residents continue to shape a vibrant and welcoming community. Here's to another year of progress and shared memories!



CELEBRATING AAPI HERITAGE

The City of Killeen will celebrate its Asian American and Pacific Islander (AAPI) Heritage Month Observance on Tuesday, May 6, at 2 p.m. in the City Hall Council Chambers.

This annual event honors the cultural contributions and vibrant traditions of AAPI communities. The program will feature live performances, an official proclamation reading by Mayor Debbie Nash-King and a guest address from Absalom Eteuati who is a native Pacific Islander employee. This observance is a tribute to the diversity and heritage that contribute to Killeen's unique identity.



**MAY
9 & 16**

Spring Night Market

Downtown Killeen
100 East Avenue D

The Spring Night Market continues for two Fridays in May from 6 to 9 p.m. Shop small, support local!

Rodeo Killeen

Killeen Rodeo Grounds
3301 South WS Young Drive

The 78th annual Rodeo makes its return to Killeen for three days. Call the Killeen Civic & Conference Center at (254) 501-3888 for more info.

**MAY
15-17**



**MAY
24**

Aquatics Opening Day

The Family Aquatic Center and Long Branch Pool will be open May 24 through September 1.

Info about hours, season passes and more at www.killeentexas.gov/swim.

Movies in Your Park This Summer!

Killeen Athletic Complex
2201 East Veterans Memorial Boulevard

Enjoy a free, family-friendly movie night under the stars with popcorn, themed giveaways and food vendors. More info at www.killeentexas.gov/rec.

**JUN
27**





Employee Spotlight Ofelia Miramontez

For 25 years, Ofelia Miramontez has played a vital role in building strong connections between the Killeen Police Department and the community. As Special Projects Coordinator and Public Information Officer, she manages media relations, community outreach and special programs like Crime Stoppers and the KPD Leaf program. She also leads the coordination of events and public meetings, helping to keep the department engaged and transparent.

Miramontez moved to Killeen in 1998 after visiting her sister-in-law at Fort Cavazos. What started as a short trip, quickly turned into a permanent move when she and her family fell in love with the community.

She finds the most joy in seeing kids interact with officers, especially when their faces light up while exploring a police vehicle or sounding the siren. Those moments, she says, build trust and lasting memories.

Miramontez doesn't shy away from challenges. When KPD introduced tasers, she volunteered to experience one firsthand, just like the officers in training. "It was the longest five seconds of my life," she says. "Would I do it again? Probably not."

Outside of work, Miramontez enjoys relaxing with Netflix and a good binge-worthy show. Her energy, dedication, and willingness to lead by example continue to make a meaningful impact at KPD and in the Killeen community.





The Easter celebration at the Lions Club Park Senior Center in April was lots of fun. It featured an egg hunt, a festive meal and photos with the Easter Bunny.



On April 26, our community united in Downtown Killeen for this year's Celebrate Killeen Multicultural Festival. This all-day event showcased live music, a car show, engaging activities and much more. It serves as a celebration of the rich diversity that defines our community.



On April 26, our young athletes and their parents gathered at the Killeen Athletic Complex to celebrate Opening Day and kick off the spring youth sports season. Mayor Debbie Nash-King welcomed everyone with a speech before throwing the ceremonial first pitch, marking the official beginning of the season.



On April 17, we celebrated Bob Gray Day in honor of Captain Robert "Bob" Gray, a local hero who participated in the Doolittle Raid over Tokyo during WWII. His legacy is recognized with Gray Street, the Robert Gray Army Airfield, and a bronze statue at the airport. The event was attended by Mayor Debbie Nash-King, Col. Lakicia Stokes, veterans organizations and Captain Gray's family.



On April 25, volunteers came together at Timber Ridge Neighborhood Park to plant trees in celebration of Arbor Day. Thank you to our Parks & Rec staff, Killeen ISD volunteers, and Mayor Debbie Nash-King for their support in making this event a success!



On May 3, runners gathered for the Fallen Heroes 5K at Purser Heritage Hike & Bike Trail to pay tribute to the brave men and women who made the ultimate sacrifice. Medals were awarded to the top finishers in each age group, as well as to the overall top male and female runners. This event marked the 11th annual race honoring those who lost their lives in the line of duty.

SCAN FOR OUR EVENT CALENDAR



2025 EVENTS

JAN 20	MLK DAY MARCH (NAACP) Downtown Killeen <small>CITY SUPPORTED</small>	AUG 09	BACK 2 SCHOOL SPLASH BASH Family Aquatic Center
JAN 25	LIBRARY LEGO DAY Killeen Civic & Conference Center	SEP 06	BOW WOW LUAU Family Aquatic Center
FEB 21	DADDY DAUGHTER DANCE Killeen Civic & Conference Center	SEP 06	TOUCHDOWN IN DOWNTOWN Downtown Killeen
MAR 01	MOTOWN IN DOWNTOWN Downtown Killeen	OCT 03	FALL NIGHT MARKET (BEGINS) Downtown Killeen
MAR 08	LOVE YOUR PARK DAY TBD	OCT 04	DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS WALK Lions Club Park
APR 05	SPRING FEST Lions Club Park	OCT 04	FIRE PREVENTION WEEK OPEN HOUSE Central Fire Station
APR 11	SPRING NIGHT MARKET (BEGINS) Downtown Killeen	OCT 07	NATIONAL NIGHT OUT Citywide
APR 25	NATIONAL ARBOR DAY TBD	OCT 10	FALL FEST Killeen Special Events Center
APR 26	CELEBRATE KILLEEN FESTIVAL Downtown Killeen	OCT 25	KPD DRIVE-THRU TRUNK-OR-TREAT Killeen Police Department Headquarters
MAY 03	FALLEN HEROES SK Purser Heritage Hike & Bike Trail	NOV 01	TURKEY TROT SK Stonetree Golf Club
MAY 15	RODEO KILLEEN (BEGINS) Killeen Special Events Center <small>CITY SUPPORTED</small>	NOV 07	TEXAS ARBOR DAY TBD
MAY 26	MEMORIAL DAY CEREMONY Central Texas State Veterans Cemetery	NOV 11	VETERANS DAY PARADE Downtown Killeen <small>CITY SUPPORTED</small>
JUN 21	JUNETEENTH PARADE & FESTIVAL Downtown Killeen <small>CITY SUPPORTED</small>	DEC 05	CHRISTMAS TREE LIGHTING Downtown Killeen
JUN 27	MOVIES IN YOUR PARK (BEGINS) Killeen Athletic Complex	DEC 06	JINGLE BELL DASH SK Andy K. Wells Hike & Bike Trail
JUL 05	RED, WHITE, & BLUE MUSIC FESTIVAL Downtown Killeen	DEC 13	CHRISTMAS PARADE & FESTIVAL Downtown Killeen
JUL 26	CALLIENTE SK Long Branch Park	DEC 20	HALF MARA-FUN Purser Heritage Hike & Bike Trail

Killeen2040 Forward WWW.KILLEENTEXAS.GOV/EVENTS



CITY COUNCIL MEETINGS

FIRST AND THIRD TUESDAY OF EACH MONTH @ 3 P.M.



KILLEEN CITY HALL
101 NORTH COLLEGE STREET



www.killeentexas.gov/councilmeetings



On air with Spectrum Channel 10

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