

AUGUST | 2025

K-**BEAT**

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE CITY OF KILLEEN

**WATER TOWER MAINTENANCE
TOUCHDOWN IN DOWNTOWN
EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT
BOW WOW LUAU**

MAYOR'S MESSAGE

As summer draws to a close, families are cherishing their last-minute getaways and beach days before the school year kicks off. This season offers more than just sunshine and laughter; it beautifully highlights the joy found in togetherness and the adventures shared with our loved ones.

As we transition into the new school year, we want to extend a warm welcome back to all teachers and students. Your enthusiasm and dedication inspire our community, and we eagerly anticipate the new heights you will reach this year! With classes resuming, we kindly remind all residents to adhere to the school zone speed limits during school hours, ensuring the safety of our children as they travel to and from school.

August also signifies National Emergency Awareness Month, a necessary time to recognize the dedicated professionals in emergency management and reflect on how each of us can contribute to fortifying our community's resilience against unforeseen challenges.

Looking ahead to National Preparedness Month in September, this is an excellent opportunity to engage with resources that help us stay ready and safe during emergencies. One effective way to stay informed is by signing up for CodeRED, our community alert system. By registering, you'll receive crucial updates and emergency notifications directly to your phone, ensuring that you and your loved ones are always prepared to act when it matters most. You can sign up for CodeRED by visiting the City of Killeen's Emergency Management webpage at killeentexas.gov/ohsem. Additionally, don't miss the chance to register for Ready Killeen Accessible Alerts, which provide vital information to residents who are Deaf, Blind, and Hard of Hearing. To register, please visit kln.ahasalerts.com/register.aspx.

Amid all this preparation, remember to take time for joy! Mark your calendars for the Bow Wow Luau on September 6 at the Family Aquatic Center. For a complete list of upcoming events, visit killeentexas.gov/downtownevents, killeentexas.gov/rec, or check out our event calendar at www.killeentexas.gov/calendar.



Delhi Noah King

TOUCHDOWN IN DOWNTOWN

Killeen is gearing up for the return of its biggest block party of the year. Touchdown in Downtown is Saturday, September 6 from 6 to 10 p.m. in Historic Downtown Killeen located at 200 East Avenue D.

The City of Killeen invites residents and visitors to enjoy an evening filled with live performances, the Nyle Maxwell Jeep Jam, H-E-B's Fun Zone, food trucks, vendors, and more. This year's entertainment lineup includes KISD high school drumlines and cheer teams, Ray Lowe, the Darius Jackson Band, and a performance by the First Cavalry Division Rock Band.

The City thanks The Carlson Law Firm, American United Inc., FiberFirst, H-E-B, and Nyle Maxwell CDJR Killeen for helping make this celebration a success.

Mark the calendar, bring your crew, and get ready to experience one of Killeen's most anticipated events of the year!



MAINTAINING OUR WATER TOWERS

Some of Killeen’s water towers are getting a fresh coat of paint but it’s more than just a makeover. The City recently launched a multi-year Water Storage Tank Maintenance Program to proactively care for our storage tanks.



Over the next five years, crews will inspect, repair, and repaint each of the city’s tanks as part of a proactive strategy to prevent corrosion, extend service life, and maintain compliance with Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) standards.

The work is being completed in partnership with Viking Industrial Painting, a company specializing in municipal water tank care. The program includes improved safety features and a perpetual warranty that shifts risk away from the City. Improvements may be visible in the form of freshly painted towers, but behind the scenes, they’re helping to ensure clean, safe water continues to flow to homes and businesses across Killeen.



MEET TORRIE BETHANY

(Bottom left corner of image)

The City of Killeen has welcomed Torrie Bethany as its new Executive Director of Communications and Marketing. She officially stepped into the role on June 2, bringing more than 10 years of experience in strategic communications, public relations, and marketing.

Bethany previously served as Communications Director for the National Domestic Violence Hotline and has held roles with the Texas Education Agency and the Greater Austin Chamber of Commerce.

In the spirit of civic pride and connection, Bethany joined her new team for a group photo on City Hall Selfie Day—a nationwide campaign that highlights the people behind local government and the important work they do.



Saturday | 10 a.m.–2 p.m.

Bow Wow Luau

Family Aquatic Center
1800 E. Stan Schlueter Loop

We'll have fun competitions, prizes, and goodie bags for your furry friends. First 100 pups through the gate get in. No sign-ups, just show up! Bring rabies vaccination records on the day of the event for entry.

SEPT
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Friday Nights | 6–9 p.m.

Fall Night Market

Downtown Killeen

The Fall Night Market returns to Downtown Killeen starting Oct. 3. Shop small and support local for five festive Fridays from 6–9 p.m. (Oct. 3, 17, 24, 31 & Nov. 7). Handmade goods, fall treats, fresh produce & more!

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Tuesday | 6–8 p.m.

National Night Out

Neighborhoods throughout Killeen

A nationwide campaign focused on promoting community safety, unity, and police-community partnerships. Lock your doors, turn on your porch lights, and head outside to connect with your neighbors.

OCT
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Friday | 6–9 p.m.

Fall Fest

Killeen Special Events Center
3301 S. WS Young Drive

Join us for a haunted maze, hayrides, a pumpkin patch, costume contest, bounce houses, giveaways, and free candy all evening. Costumes encouraged! No registration is required.

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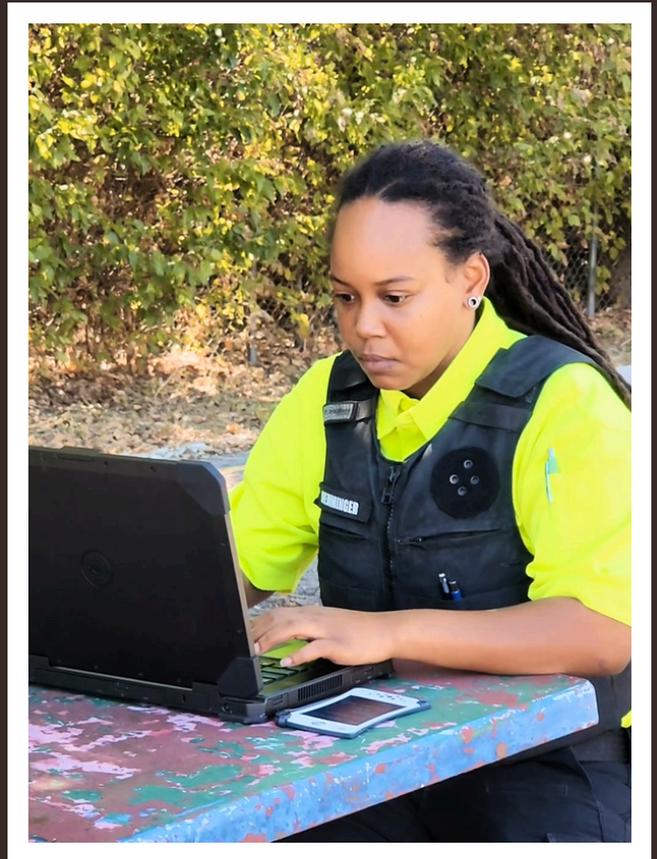
Employee Spotlight

Leila Memminger

Senior Animal Control Officer Leila Memminger plays a critical role in keeping Killeen’s residents—and their pets—safe. Since joining the City in February 2023, she has enforced animal ordinances, educated pet owners, and stepped in when animals faced neglect or cruelty.

Leila doesn’t just respond to calls. She investigates violations, guides residents through proper pet care, and ensures every animal she encounters receives the attention it deserves. She approaches each case with professionalism and patience.

In one memorable case, Leila and a fellow officer served a warrant involving five large, aggressive dogs.



“**Reuniting a stray pet with its owner—that’s the best part of the job.**”
—Leila Memminger

They safely secured every animal without injury and managed to get all five dogs to rescue groups.

“I love helping people and educating them,” Leila said. “Reuniting a stray pet with its owner—that’s the best part of the job.”



Leila grew up in Killeen after her father was stationed at Fort Hood. When she’s off duty, she enjoys watching movies, hiking, kayaking, BBQing, and going on cruises.

The City has recently honored Leila as Employee of the Quarter to recognize her dedicated service.





During the July 15 council meeting, Councilman Ramon Alvarez presented the Star Award to Kristin Smith for her leadership at Fort Hood Area Habitat for Humanity and her dedication to serving others.



On July 18, skaters hit the pavement at Rotary Park for the Summer Skate Bash. With music and food trucks, the event brought the community together for a fun night on wheels.



The Lions Club Park Senior Center hosted the annual Senior Prom on July 24 where attendees enjoyed live music, dinner, dancing, and the crowning of this year's Prom King and Queen.



On July 26, runners blazed the trails of Long Branch Park at this year's Caliente 5K. The event brought energy, competition, and spirit to the Cen-Tex Race Series.



Serve Your City. Shape Its Future!

Now accepting applications for various boards, committees and commissions:

- Animal Advisory Committee
- Board of Adjustment - Fire Prevention Code
- Capital Improvement Advisory Committee
- Killeen Sister Cities
- Parks & Recreation Advisory Board
- Senior Citizens Advisory Board
- and more!

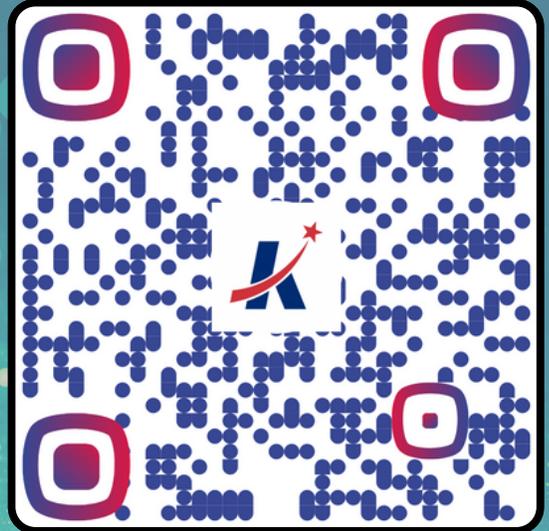
See a complete list and apply online at killeentexas.gov/boards

APPLY BY FRIDAY, AUGUST 15

For more info, email citysec@killeentexas.gov



EVENT CALENDAR



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

GET ALERTS!



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