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In Killeen, the American story is deeply personal.

We are a community shaped by service. Here, military uniforms are part of the fabric of everyday life. We understand the meaning of an empty chair during a deployment, the relief of a long-awaited homecoming, and the courage it takes for a family to begin again in a new place. We know that service is not carried by one person alone. It is carried by spouses, children, veterans, neighbors, educators, employers, and an entire community willing to stand beside them.

Our connection to Fort Hood has brought people to Killeen from every state and from countries around the world. They arrive with different backgrounds, traditions, and dreams, but together they have built a community that reflects the remarkable diversity of America itself.

Killeen is also a community of new beginnings. It is where a soldier becomes an entrepreneur, a military spouse turns determination into opportunity, a student becomes the first in the family to earn a college degree, and a small-business owner takes a chance on an idea. These stories may never appear in history books, but they are an essential part of the American story. They remind us that progress is built by ordinary people willing to work, serve, create, and believe in a better future.

At the Greater Killeen Chamber of Commerce, we see that spirit every day. We see it in the businesses that invest in our community, the educators who prepare the next generation, and the leaders and volunteers who continue to show up when the work is difficult and recognition is unlikely.

As you celebrate 250 years, our hope is that your next chapter continues to make room for every person willing to contribute. May America remain a place where service is honored, hard work can become opportunity, businesses can grow, families can build a future, and people from every background can find a place to belong.

From a proud military and business community in the heart of Central Texas, happy birthday, America. We are grateful for those who came before us, committed to those beside us, and hopeful for the generations still to come.

On behalf of the Greater Killeen Chamber of Commerce, happy birthday, America! We are proud of our shared history and excited for the future we will build together.

Sincerely,



Michelle Flores
Vice President
Greater Killeen Chamber of Commerce