



# KEISER NEWS

# 2025

**"Small town, big heart - that's Keiser!"**

February Newsletter

Vol 22

## FROM MAYOR RICK CREECY

### Keiser Newsletter: Winter Updates and Progress

As the cold winter months settle in, we urge everyone to take precautions to protect themselves, their homes, and their vehicles. Make sure your car is prepared for emergencies by keeping it stocked with essential equipment and maintaining a full tank of gas. Winter weather can be challenging, but your city continues to operate smoothly day by day, thanks to the resilience and dedication of our community and city workers.

I want to extend a heartfelt thank you to all city employees who worked tirelessly during the recent snowstorm to clear snow from City Hall and the Post Office, ensuring the city remained operational. Your efforts exemplify the spirit of Keiser, and I am incredibly proud of our community's ability to weather these challenges together.

Despite the frigid temperatures, progress in Keiser has not slowed. Your City Council has reviewed and approved the Sewer Grant/Loan, and our city engineer is actively working on the design of our sewer to meet the Arkansas Natural Resources Commission and Health Department requirements. We anticipate work on this project to begin this summer. Additionally, the replacement of the Lift Station on Main Street has been approved, with the new station on order and scheduled for installation in late spring.

Efforts are also underway to improve our water system. We are applying for a grant from the Delta Regional Authority to install an aerator that will oxidize the water

before filtration, significantly reducing iron levels and improving the quality of our drinking water.

Exciting updates are happening in our parks as well. The newest playground equipment has arrived and is set to be installed, weather permitting, in January. This project was made possible through a \$100,000 grant from the state. Plans for a bike and walking track are moving forward, with installation scheduled for this summer. This track will provide a safe space for our citizens to exercise, and we are working with Entergy to see if it is feasible to install lights around the entire track making sure it is well-lit.

Our Volunteer Fire Department has also made significant strides, securing a \$29,425 grant to purchase three new SCBA air packs and two AWIN radios, replacing outdated equipment. These upgrades will enhance the safety and effectiveness of our firefighters as they serve the community.

Looking ahead, I am actively working with the Alliance for Rural Impact out of Harrisburg and Cotton to Steel, based here in Mississippi County, on a plan to bring businesses to Keiser. While we are still in the very early stages, this collaboration is a promising step forward. Developing a comprehensive plan will take time, but we are committed to making this vision a reality.

Keiser's future continues to look bright, and I am proud of the progress we have achieved together. Thank you for your continued support, and stay safe during these cold winter days!

City Council meeting on the 3rd Monday of each month at 6:00 pm. All welcome.

Follow us on Facebook and at our website

Water bills due the 16th of each month. Late charges will be applied on the 17th and shutoff on the 27th unless the 27th is Friday.

Remember riding ATV's on city streets is a violation of state law and will be enforced.

Remember the city has a leash law. If you are walking your dog in the city limits they MUST be on a leash. No exceptions.

If you have not yet registered your dog or cat. Please come to City Hall and do so.

You can buy 40 gallon garbage bags at City Hall. There are 50 in a roll and the cost is \$10.00 per roll.

Home owners and contractors are required to notify city hall before any mechanical excavation can be done.

City Hall—870-526-2300

### New City Hall Hours

Hours 8:00am to 4:45pm M-F  
Closed 12:00 to 1:00 for lunch

# Penny Wilbanks - Recorder/Financial Director

## The Importance of Peace and Tranquility

In today's fast-paced world, finding peace and tranquility is essential for maintaining overall well-being. With constant demands from work, technology, and daily responsibilities, it is easy to feel overwhelmed. However, taking time to cultivate inner peace can lead to a healthier, more balanced life.

Peace and tranquility begin within. Practicing mindfulness, meditation, or simply spending time in nature can help quiet the mind and reduce stress. Engaging in activities like reading, listening to soothing music, or taking a walk can also create a sense of calm. These moments of stillness allow individuals to recharge and gain clarity.

In a world filled with noise and distractions, prioritizing peace and tranquility is vital. By embracing stillness and fostering harmony, individuals can lead happier, more fulfilling lives. Furthermore, creating a peaceful environment at home and in

the community can enhance relationships and overall quality of life. Whether through setting aside quiet time each day, reducing unnecessary stressors, or encouraging positive interactions with others, small efforts to promote peace can have a lasting impact.

When people prioritize tranquility, they cultivate a space for personal growth, emotional resilience, and deeper connections with those around them. Communities that embrace peaceful living often experience lower stress levels, improved mental health, and stronger social bonds. Encouraging kindness, practicing gratitude, and fostering a culture of understanding can contribute to a more harmonious society. In the end, true peace is not just the absence of conflict but the presence of balance, contentment, and a sense of purpose. By making a conscious effort to slow down and appreciate the present moment, individuals and communities alike can create a more peaceful world—one step at a time.

## City Hall Hours



**Monday - Friday from 8:00 - 4:45**

**Closed for Lunch from 12:00 - 1:00**

## *Exciting News at Keiser City Park!*

We're thrilled to announce the installation of the newest piece of playground equipment at Keiser City Park! This exciting addition was made possible by the \$100,000 Fun Park Grant we received in 2024. It's a wonderful step forward in creating a space where our children can run, play, and develop important social skills while having fun in a safe and engaging environment.

This new equipment brings even more energy and joy to our already vibrant park and provides another reason for families to gather, connect, and enjoy the outdoors. It's an investment in our community and, most importantly, in our kids' health and happiness.

But that's not all—there's even more to come! Stay tuned for updates on other improvements coming to Keiser City Park as we continue working to make it a destination for all ages.

Thank you for your continued support in making our city a better place to live, work, and play!



# Improving our Water Quality

## Enhancing Keiser's Water Quality: Pursuing a Delta Regional Authority Grant for an Aerator System

The City of Keiser takes great pride in ensuring residents have access to safe and reliable water. Water is not just a resource—it's a cornerstone of health, economic growth, and overall quality of life in our community. To uphold this commitment, we are actively pursuing funding through the Delta Regional Authority (DRA) to install an Aerator System, a cutting-edge solution that will significantly improve our water quality.

Like many communities in Arkansas, Keiser's water supply comes from a city well that contains naturally occurring iron. While iron in water isn't a health hazard, it can create several challenges, such as discolored water, sediment buildup, staining of plumbing fixtures and laundry, and an unpleasant metallic taste. Currently, our water treatment system removes a substantial portion of the iron through filtration at our treatment house, but some iron still passes through. Over time, this residual iron can accumulate, affecting water quality and the efficiency of household plumbing and appliances. Addressing this issue is a top priority for Keiser.

To tackle this challenge, we plan to install an Aerator System. This advanced technology improves water quality by introducing air into the water supply, oxidizing the iron and converting it from a dissolved form into solid particles. Once oxidized, the iron becomes much easier to filter out, resulting in clearer, fresher, and better-tasting water. Beyond improving water quality, the Aerator System will bring long-term benefits to our water infrastructure by reducing wear and tear on pipes, pumps, and other components, leading to fewer maintenance issues and a more sustainable system.

Funding is a critical component of this project, and the Delta Regional Authority grant is an ideal resource for making it happen. Designed to support economic development and infrastructure improvements in the Delta region, the grant aligns perfectly with our goals for this project. If awarded, the grant will provide the financial support needed to install the Aerator System without placing additional costs on residents. This project will not only enhance water quality but also position Keiser as a leader in innovative infrastructure improvements.

The installation of an Aerator System will bring numer-

ous benefits to the community. Residents will experience improved water quality, including clearer, fresher-tasting water with fewer staining and sediment issues. Additionally, reducing iron levels will extend the lifespan of our pipes, pumps, and household plumbing systems. Reliable water quality is also a key factor in attracting new residents and businesses, supporting Keiser's long-term growth. Aeration is an environmentally friendly solution, furthering our commitment to responsible resource management.

This effort is part of a broader strategy to invest in infrastructure, promote community health, and ensure Keiser remains a great place to live, work, and raise a family. We are grateful for the continued support and encouragement from our residents, whose advocacy and feedback help secure the resources needed for projects like this. As we move through the grant application process, we are working closely with engineers, consultants, and regional partners to ensure the success of this proposal. If approved, planning for the Aerator System installation will begin promptly, and we will provide regular updates to keep the community informed.

We encourage residents to share any feedback or suggestions about this project. Your voice is an essential part of our decision-making process. Thank you for supporting our efforts to make Keiser's water system the best it can be. Together, we are building a stronger, healthier, and more sustainable future for our city. Stay tuned for updates and feel free to reach out with any questions about this exciting initiative!



# Valentines Day

## Valentine's Day: A Celebration of Love, Kindness, and Community

Valentine's Day is a cherished holiday observed every year on February 14th. While it's often associated with flowers, chocolates, and romantic gestures, its roots reach far deeper into history, blending ancient traditions, religious customs, and a spirit of kindness that continues to evolve. This year, as we prepare to celebrate, let's take a moment to reflect on the origins of this special day and how we can spread love and appreciation within our community.

The history of Valentine's Day dates back to the Roman Empire and the feast of Lupercalia, a festival celebrated in mid-February to honor fertility and the coming of spring. During this time, people participated in rituals believed to ward off evil spirits and promote health and prosperity. Later, as Christianity spread throughout the Roman world, the Church sought to replace pagan practices with Christian celebrations. One such effort was the establishment of St. Valentine's Day, honoring a Christian martyr named Valentine. The historical Valentine is believed to have been a priest who defied Emperor Claudius II's ban on soldiers marrying, performing secret weddings for young couples. For his actions, he was imprisoned and executed, and he became a symbol of love and devotion.

Over the centuries, Valentine's Day transformed from a solemn commemoration into a more joyous celebration of love and affection. By the 14th century, the poet Geoffrey Chaucer began associating Valentine's Day with romantic love, a tradition that gained momentum during the Middle Ages. By the 18th century, exchanging handmade cards and tokens of affection became a popular way to celebrate the holiday, and this tradition continues to thrive today, though it has expanded to include gestures of kindness and appreciation beyond romantic relationships.

In our modern world, Valentine's Day has become an opportunity to express gratitude to those we care about, whether they are family members, friends, neighbors, or colleagues. It's a reminder

that love comes in many forms and that even small gestures can have a big impact. A simple act of kindness, such as writing a heartfelt note, sharing baked goods, or offering a compliment, can brighten someone's day. For those who prefer grander gestures, gifts like flowers, jewelry, or a special meal can be meaningful ways to show appreciation.

This Valentine's Day, let's also remember those in our community who might feel overlooked or lonely. Whether it's visiting a neighbor, volunteering at a local shelter, or surprising someone with an unexpected act of kindness, these actions help foster a sense of connection and belonging. For parents and teachers, it's a wonderful time to teach children about the importance of kindness and friendship through crafts, storytelling, or community activities.

Supporting local businesses is another fantastic way to celebrate the holiday. Many of our local shops, bakeries, and florists offer unique and thoughtful items that make perfect gifts. By shopping locally, we not only find something special for our loved ones but also contribute to the vibrancy of our community.

Valentine's Day is more than just a day of romantic love. It's a time to celebrate all the ways we care for one another, to reflect on the history that brought this day to life, and to think about how we can continue to spread love and kindness throughout the year. This February 14th, let's make it a day to remember by cherishing our relationships and strengthening the bonds that make our community so special. After all, love, in its many forms, is what truly makes life beautiful.



# Support Keiser Businesses

## Supporting Our Community: Every Dollar Counts

I know I've written about this topic in the past, but it's so important to our community that it bears repeating. One of the most impactful ways you can help Keiser thrive financially is by spending as much money as possible right here in town. Every dollar you spend locally helps fund vital city services, maintain infrastructure, and support the growth of our community.

For example, if you need a car part or hardware supplies, consider visiting our local NAPA store instead of driving out of town. If it's time for a haircut, book an appointment at one of our two excellent salons—New Image or Jessica's Salon. And once our new diner opens, let's make sure to show our support by dining in town and enjoying the convenience of great food close to home.

Another way to make a difference is by rethinking your online shopping habits. When you purchase

items online and have them delivered to your home, the tax revenue from those purchases comes back to Keiser through the state. This can be a great alternative to making trips out of town, keeping your dollars circulating within our community.

This tax revenue is critical—it helps fund the day-to-day operations of the city, from maintaining streets to providing essential services. By choosing to spend locally or strategically online, you're directly contributing to the success and sustainability of Keiser. Together, we can continue to grow and strengthen our community for years to come.



# February 2025

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
						1
2 Groundhog Day	3	4 World Cancer Day	5	6	7 Nat'l. Wear Red	8
9 Super Bowl	10	11	12 Lincoln's B-Day	13	14 Valentine's Day	15
16 <b>Water Bill Due</b>	17 <b>Council Meeting</b> Presidents Day	18	19	20 Love Your Pet Day	21	22 Washington's B-Day
23 SAG Awards	24	25	26	27 <b>Cutoff Date</b>	28 Nat'l Tooth Fairy Day	

# City Fun Page

## Valentines Day

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Together

Celebration

Devotion

Roses

Flowers

Heart

Chocolates

Friendship

Sweetheart

Kindness

Cards

Cupid

Commitment

Affection

Passion

Romance

Hugs

Love

Gift

Kiss



Scan Me...

Contact Us

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