



KEISER NEWS

2026

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

February Newsletter

Vol 34

FROM MAYOR RICK CREECY

The Keiser Volunteer Fire Department (KVFD) has been awarded a **\$37,856.92 grant** from the **Firehouse Subs Public Safety Foundation**, providing a significant boost to the department's emergency response capabilities. This funding will allow KVFD to purchase critical lifesaving and safety equipment that will directly support firefighters as they protect the Keiser community and surrounding rural areas.

Through this grant, KVFD will acquire **three Scott Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus (SCBAs), six air cylinders, three facepieces, one Scott thermal imaging camera kit, and one gas detector with accessories.** Much of the department's existing equipment has reached or exceeded its service life, and these new tools will greatly enhance firefighter safety, situational awareness, and effectiveness during structure fires, vehicle accidents, and hazardous material incidents.

The new SCBAs and cylinders will ensure firefighters have reliable respiratory protection in smoke-filled and toxic environments, while the thermal imaging camera will allow crews to quickly locate victims, identify hidden fire conditions, and improve overall fireground safety. The gas detector will provide early warning of dangerous gases, helping protect both firefighters and residents during emergency responses.

The Keiser Volunteer Fire Department serves not only the City of Keiser but also assists neighboring rural communities when called upon, making this investment even more impactful. Fire officials expressed gratitude for the continued support of Firehouse Subs, noting that grants like this make it possible for small, rural departments to access modern equipment that might otherwise be out of reach.

City officials and KVFD members extend their sincere thanks to Firehouse Subs for recognizing the importance of volunteer fire departments and investing in public safety. This grant represents more than new equipment it is an investment in firefighter safety, community protection, and the continued ability of KVFD to respond effectively when emergencies occur.

Our Bike/Walking trail base has been fully completed and has successfully passed a compression test, ensuring a solid foundation that will last for many years. Unfortunately, Mother Nature has not cooperated, and weather conditions have prevented the paving phase from being completed at this time. Paving is currently planned for late spring to early summer, unless the city experiences a few weeks of unseasonably warm and dry weather in the coming weeks, which is unlikely. Once complete, the walking trail will be a long-lasting improvement for residents of all ages.

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

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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.

Disclaimer: The City of Keiser strives to ensure that all information published in this newsletter is accurate and up to date. However, errors or omissions may occur, and information is subject to change. The City of Keiser is not liable for any misprints, incorrect data, or reliance on the information contained in this publication.

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

SnowMageddon 2026

SnowMageddon 2026 will go down as one of the most challenging winter weather events Keiser has experienced in recent years. What began as forecasts calling for freezing temperatures quickly escalated into multiple days of snow, sleet, and ice that created hazardous travel conditions and disrupted daily life across the community. Roads became unsafe, power outages were a concern, and even routine tasks such as traveling to work, school, or the grocery store became difficult or impossible for many residents. As conditions worsened, the City closely monitored the situation and made decisions based on safety first.

Throughout the storm, City officials worked continuously to assess road conditions, utility operations, and public safety needs. Garbage pickup and other services were delayed when travel conditions made it unsafe for crews to operate. While these delays were frustrating, they were necessary to protect both City employees and residents. Regular updates were shared as weather forecasts changed, and City Hall remained in communication with emergency services to ensure that urgent needs could be addressed quickly.

The City of Keiser Police Department and Volunteer Fire Department remained on standby throughout the event, responding to calls for assistance and helping ensure the safety of residents. Public Works and utility personnel worked behind the scenes to monitor water and sewer systems, address any issues that arose, and protect critical infrastructure during the extreme cold. These employees and volunteers often worked long hours in dangerous conditions, and their dedication did not go unnoticed.

The City of Keiser would also like to extend special thanks to the University of Arkansas for having equipment on standby throughout the storm in the event it was needed. Their willingness to support our community during severe weather reflects a strong partnership and a shared commitment to public safety. We also want to thank Henderson Farms for stepping up and using their equipment to

help clear city streets, allowing emergency vehicles and residents safer travel during the worst conditions. Both organizations demonstrated what it means to be good neighbors to Keiser, and their assistance played an important role in our storm response.

One of the most powerful outcomes of SnowMageddon 2026 was the way our community came together. Neighbors checked on elderly residents, helped clear driveways, shared supplies, and offered assistance wherever it was needed. In times of hardship, Keiser continues to prove that it is more than just a town—it is a community built on care, resilience, and cooperation.

While the storm tested our limits, it also highlighted the importance of preparation, communication, and community support. The City will continue to review our response to SnowMageddon 2026 and look for ways to improve readiness for future severe weather events. From emergency planning to infrastructure investments, these lessons help ensure Keiser is better prepared for whatever challenges lie ahead.

The City of Keiser would like to thank all residents for their patience, understanding, and support during this historic winter storm. SnowMageddon 2026 was a reminder that even in the harshest conditions, the strength of Keiser shines through. Together, we weathered the storm—and together, we will continue moving forward.



Penny Wilbanks—Financial Director/Recorder

Winter Storm Reflections

There is a particular stillness that settles over a house during a winter storm. It starts quietly, almost politely, as snow taps at the windows, and the world outside softens into shades of white and gray. Inside, time stretches. The usual rush of errands, notifications, and obligations, feels muffled, as if the storm itself has pressed a pause button on life.

Being indoors during a winter storm turns the house into a small, self-contained universe. Every sound becomes noticeable; the low hum of the heater, the creak of floors as they warm, the whistle of wind finding its way through tiny cracks. There's comfort in these noises. They remind you that you're sheltered, held together by walls and warmth while nature does its dramatic thing outside.

Storm days invite simple rituals. A mug of something hot becomes essential, cradled in both hands like a tiny source of joy. Blankets are no longer optional; they're a lifestyle choice. Books get reopened, movies re-watched, and conversations slow down enough to wander into unexpected places. Even boredom feels gentler, more forgiving, as if it's giving you permission to rest instead of demanding productivity.

Looking out the window, the world seems temporarily rewritten. Familiar streets disappear, trees wear heavy white coats, and everything feels quieter, cleaner, almost new. There's a strange comfort in knowing that everyone else is likely to do the same thing. We are all staying put, waiting it out, and sharing the collective pause.

Being in a house during a winter storm isn't about being stuck. It's about being still. It's about noticing the warmth you usually take for granted and finding beauty in a day that asks nothing of you except to stay inside, slow down, and let the snow fall.



Neal Brown - Director of Public Works

This past month was a very challenging one for our Public Works crew because of the winter weather. The snow and ice made many of the streets slick and unsafe to drive on. Because of these conditions, we were not able to pick up trash during the last two days of the month. We know this caused problems for some residents, and we truly appreciate everyone's patience. The decision was not made lightly, but safety always comes first. Driving large trash trucks on icy roads can be dangerous, and we



did not want anyone to get hurt.

The cold weather also made the daily work harder for our crew. Most of their work is done outside, and spending long hours in freezing temperatures is tough. Cold weather slows down equipment and makes simple jobs take more time. Even with these challenges, our employees showed up each day ready to work. They kept going through the cold, helped each other out, and did whatever was needed to keep city services running.

I am very proud of the hard work our Public Works employees put in during this time. They care about the City of Keiser and take pride in their work, even when the weather makes the job harder. Their efforts often happen behind the scenes, but they make a big difference for our community. I want residents to know how much we appreciate their understanding and support, and I want to thank our crew for their dedication and commitment during a very difficult month.

Glenn Dunn III - Chief of Police

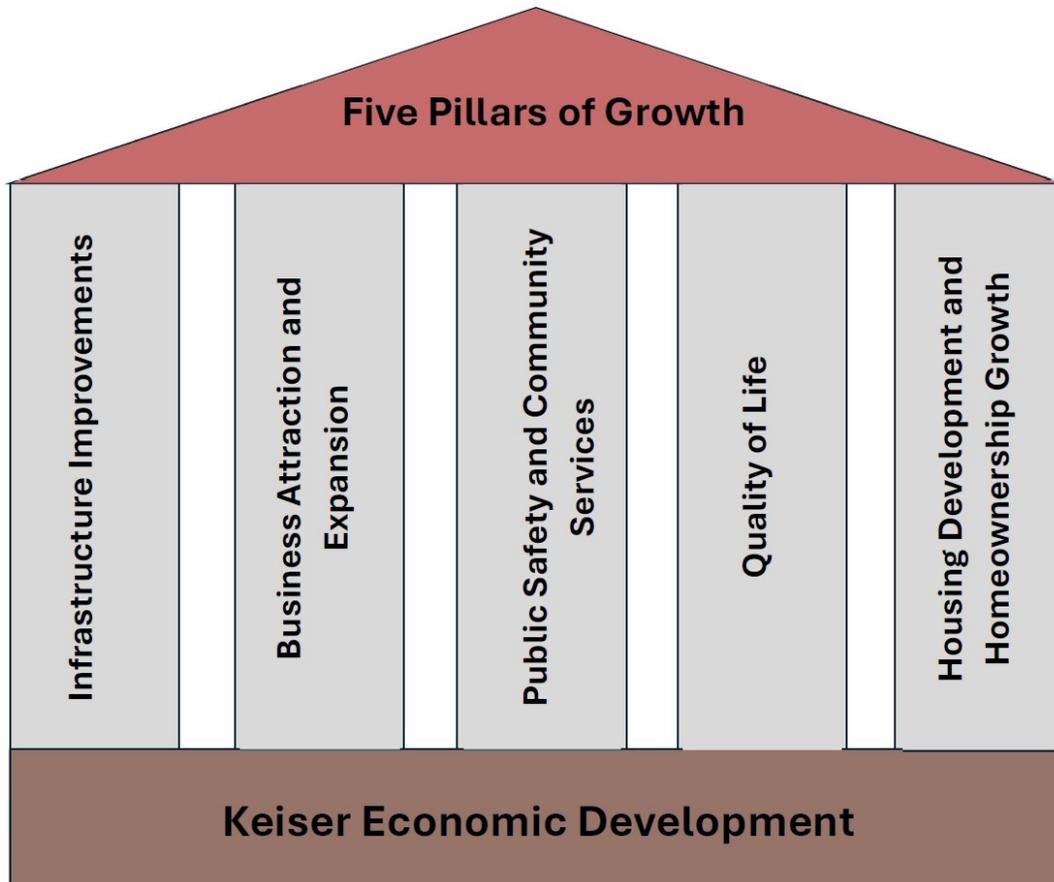
The winter has finally showed up in force and we have all been feeling the effects of the weather. We are looking to implement a Senior Focus program, where we will support our senior-age citizens with wellness checks, information sharing, and support through quality of life improvements. The program is completely voluntary and there is no fee. The program will allow us at the Department to know the citizens in the city who may need assistance in various areas, including mobility, communication, even with minor offers of assistance, like helping take trash to the roadway, or even stopping by to chat.

I am excited to be able to serve the community in this fashion, as everyone needs help at some point. A sign up form will be available at City Hall, so feel free to sign up and let us know how we can better serve our seniors.

We have been getting complaints of residents placing their trash out early and not collecting their cans from the roadway after pickup. Ordinance 2022-4 limits the time when a trash can may be placed at the roadway for pickup. Setting out trash early, not only is unsightly, but it invites animals, which compounds the problem. Please set your trash out no earlier than 6pm, the day prior to scheduled pickup. We all wish to keep the city as clean as can be.



Five Pillars of Economic Growth for Keiser



City Hall Hours



Monday - Friday from 8:00 - 4:45
Closed for Lunch from 12:00 - 1:00

City of Keiser Upgraded Water Billing Software

The City of Keiser upgraded its water billing software to RVS Mosaic beginning in January 2026 as part of an ongoing effort to improve service, accuracy, and efficiency for our residents. This upgrade modernizes how water accounts are managed and billed, helping ensure that bills are clearer, more accurate, and delivered in a more timely manner.

RVS Mosaic is a trusted utility billing platform used by cities across the country. The system improves account tracking, payment processing, and customer service functions while reducing the risk of billing errors. For residents, this means easier-to-read bills, improved online payment options, and faster assistance when questions arise.

January 2026 marked the first billing cycle under the upgraded system. As with any new software transition, residents may notice changes in the appearance of their bills or account numbers. City staff worked extensively behind the scenes to securely and accurately transfer customer information and complete system training to ensure a smooth rollout.

Upgrading to RVS Mosaic is another step in strengthening Keiser’s utility operations and investing in reliable infrastructure and customer-focused services. The City appreciates the patience and cooperation of our residents during this transition and looks forward to continuing to improve how we serve the community. Residents with questions are encouraged to contact City Hall for assistance.



February 2026

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
1	2 Groundhog Day	3	4 World Cancer Day	5	6 Nat'l Wear Red	7
8 Super Bowl	9 Nat'l Pizza Day	10	11	12 Lincoln's Birthday	13 Nat'l Cheddar Day	14 Valentine's Day
15	16 Presidents Day Water Bills Due	17 Chinese New Year	18 Ash Wednesday	19	20 Nat'l. Love Your Pet Day	21
22 Washington's Birthday	23	24	25	26	27	28

City Fun Page

Valentines Day

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| Enchantment | Candlelight | Sweetheart |
| Chocolates | Admiration | Lovebirds |
| Valentine | Devotion | Tenderness |
| Romance | Passion | Affection |
| Hearts | Cupid | Roses |
| Proposal | Serenade | Bouquet |
| Crush | Adore | |

Contact Us



Kids Fun Page

Color Valentines Day Lion



Contact Us

City Hall—870-526-2300 Email—financialdirector@cityofkeiser.gov Mayor—mayor@cityofkeiser.gov



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