

Keysville City Messenger



CITY NEWS



FROM THE MAYOR'S DESK

February is the month of love, some of us celebrate Valentine's Day by giving candy and flowers to someone special. It is also a time to observe Black History Month. So as we celebrate the contributions that helped shape our United States of American, remember, love comes in many forms, there is romantic love, love for you best friend, and love that has no conditions or demands. For the month of February, lets focus on Real LOVE" that agape love that Christ commands of his followers.

All Loves work together, but agape love holds the glue and provides wisdom and patience when the other loves fail. If we make it our goal to be forgiving and to believe in doing good to all men, the other loves will stand, your life will be richly blessed with true friends, and a soulmate of the sweetest kind. When you say you love someone, be mindful of 1 Corinthians 13:4-8

"Love is patient, love is kind. Love does not envy, Love does not boast. Love is not proud, rude, self-seeking, easily angered. Love keeps no record of wrongs. Love does not delight in evil, but rejoices with the truth. Love always protects, trusts, hopes, perseveres. Love never fails. Now that's Love

"Always seek the high love Agape, this is the love of Christ and is freely given to all who ask and receive. So this month, as we celebrate Valentine Day and Black

History month, let show LOVE, not only to our family and friends but toward mankind everywhere. Kisses and Hugs to all.

Mayor Wilkes

WATER & SEWAGE

Note: Water meters are City property and are maintained by authorized City workers only. Tampering with water meter and shut off valves are prohibits and could result in a fine or jail time.

SAFETY AND SECURITY:

The City would like to thank the residents of Keysville for their support and continous concerns when there is a water leak. We know everyone have opionions, suggestions, and a resolution, but sometimes things can go too far and competitive behavior can cross the line into the realm of the improper and tortious conduct.

- **Intimidation:** includes, but is not limited to, stalking or engaging in actions reasonably intended to frighten, coerce, or induce distress.
- **Verbal Abuse:** the excessive use of language to undermine an individual's dignity and security through insults or humiliation, in a sudden or repeated manner. Etc.

Tortious interference, a common law economic tort, occurs when one party interferes with the contracts or relationships of another party with the intent of causing economic harm. For example, someone could improperly interfere with the City contractors. An individual could also induce someone to cease an informal business relationship. When this type of behavior occurs sometimes business relationships end and individuals and organizations can suffer because of it. The distressed party can bring a suit for tortious interference with a contract or business expectancy in many circumstances. (000101)

With this being said, the City is respectfully asking residents to refrain from the work zone of the city workers. The purpose is to provide a healthy and safe environment for our employees and our clients. In the community environments where we work, hazards can be found around every corner. It is our responsibility to watch for these and prevent them where we can, both for the safety of our employees and our clients.

BEAUTIFICATION

Correction

Building & Houses:

Keysville Administration would like rectify the incorrect information we gave in regards to " If there are any homes that the citizens have no use for or longstanding and unhealthy for habitation, the city ask that ownership/rights be released to the city so we can have them torn down at no cost. Burke County will demolish the buildings, but only if they belong to the city".

After additional research Burke County cannot assist in demolishing any buildings in Keysville. This decision is based on careful consideration of the Nuisance Abatement Law. **Nuisance Abatement Law.** Georgia law allows counties to establish a procedure to abate the negative impact of "nuisance" properties, even when an owner cannot be found. O.C.G.A. § 41-2-1 *et seq.*

A nuisance abatement action is against the property itself ("*in rem*"), not necessarily a person. Ultimately, it allows the county to go on to the private property, make the necessary repairs (or demolish the building) and put a **lien** on the property to recover the cost.

The City of Keysville has a Nuisance Abatement ordinance Code §150.22 Nuisance, §150.22 Abatement that shall be used in ordering repair and demolition.

We hope this correction will make you aware of the right information. We apologize for the inconvenience it may cause you.

Thank you for your attention. We look forward to serving you. (000045)

SEEK AND FIND



READ, READ you could be our next winner, find **your** water account number in this issue of the Messenger How to receive **10%** off your water account bill. If your household account number is listed in this volume newsletter. You will receive 10 % off your account only. Rule: The account number found must belong to you to receive the 10%.

AFRICAN AMERICAN FIRST

First black Mayor of a Mayor City,
Carl Stokes Cleveland Ohio 1967-1971

First black woman to serve as Mayor of
a major city was Sharon Pratt Kelly,
Washington D.C 1991-1995



ADVERTISEMENTS/ANNOUNCEMENTS

Congratulation Ronesha Nesfield who is featured in the True Citizens. She led the Lady Bears against ARC.

PT Superintendant meeting -February 9 @ 2pm

Volunteer meeting- February 10 @ 2pm

Happy Bithday
Mayor Wilkes – February 17th
Jacob Davis-February 16th

Black History Program to be announced.

The City is looking for a PT as needed maintenance worker with Tractor Backhoe experience. Please fill out application at City hall.

Congratulation to our local NFL team the Atlanta Falcons, for making the LI SuperBowl. Rise up Falcons and bring home the RING!!!!

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Q1. Can I pay my water bill in cash?
No, only credit card, check or money order.

Q2. Can I pay with a postdated check?
No, City Hall will not accept postdated checks.

Q3. After I received my disconnection notice can I place my payment in the mail or night deposit box?
No. Payments must be processed by office personnel

Q4. Can I advertise in the City Messenger?
YES. Advertisements/special announcements in the City Messenger are accepted for a small fee, please contact City Hall.

All announce must be submitted by the 15th of each month and will be available the following month. For example, information submitted Dec 15th will be printed in January 2017 Issue.

Q5. How is my property value determined?

Property tax is an ad valorem tax based upon the value of property, both real and personal. Real property is defined as land and generally anything that is erected, growing, or affixed to the land.

Personal property is boats, airplanes, business inventory, and any equipment, furniture, and fixtures needed to run a business. Property taxes are charged against the owner of the property of January 1st, and against the property itself if the owner is not known. Property tax returns are to be filed between January 1st and April 1st with the county tax assessor's office.

Fair Market Value

The Assessors are charged with establishing the fair market value of the taxable real and personal properties in Burke County. Fair market value means "the amount a knowledgeable buyer would pay for the property and a willing seller would accept for the property at an arm's length, bona fide sale."

Q6. How can I appeal my assessment?

After the assessors establish a new value on a piece of property, the tax payer is sent a assessment notice. The assessment informs you of the new proposed valuation of your property. You have 45 days to appeal the new valuation if you feel its incorrect. The appeal must be filed in writing. Late appeals are invalid. Basis for appeal

After you have given careful consideration to the value placed on your property and if you feel its incorrect, your appeal should be based on one of the following areas of appeal: • TAXABILITY• UNIFORMITY: • VALUE: Appeals Process When you file an appeal, the Board of Tax Assessors reviews it and determines whether a change in the valuation is warranted. If no change is made, it will then go to the next level of appeal, the Board of Equalization. Its specific function is to hear unresolved appeals from taxpayers. After hearing both the assessors and the taxpayer's position, the Board of Equalization renders a decision on the valuation. If either side disagrees with the decision of the Board of Equalization, the taxpayer or the assessor may proceed to the next level of appeal, Burke County Superior Court.