



# GEORGETOWN News Graphic



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2025 Graduates

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**NEWS-GRAPHIC.COM**

## Dr. Miller resigns as public health director

### Winkle named interim director

By **Mike Scogin**  
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Dr. Crystal Miller has resigned as director of the WEDCO District Health Department to become the Commissioner of Health of the Lexington-Fayette County Health Depart-

ment. Miller will join the LFCHD in July. Rachel Winkle, Director of Administrative Services, has been named Interim Director, WEDCO Board Chair Tim Thompson announced in a press release. Miller has led WEDCO for 18 years. WEDCO serves Scott, Harrison, and Nicholas counties. She was named Citizen of the Year in 2020 by the Georgetown/Scott

County Chamber of Commerce for her work during the COVID pandemic. “It was one of the most difficult decisions I’ve made in my career,” Miller said. “I love WEDCO and our communities.” Thompson, who is chief of the Georgetown Fire Department, praised Miller for her community work. “In my role as Chair of the WEDCO District



Miller



Winkle

Board of Health, I have had the opportunity, and more so, the honor to work with Dr. Miller. Seeing up close her dedication to public health, teambuilding, financial

stewardship, and leadership has been an incredible experience for me personally. During the COVID-19 pandemic, Dr. Miller was on the frontlines working around the clock to keep our communities safe. With the political climate involved during that time, she handled herself with grace and kept her head down because she knew who she was working for: the citizens within our district. Public

health is normally done behind the scenes, and the staff is normally taken for granted, but the pandemic showed the leadership that Dr. Miller had instilled in her staff, and they were able to manage the issue at hand and did an amazing job.” Miller also worked to establish a syringe exchange program for Scott County. The

See **WEDCO**, 12A



NEWS-GRAPHIC PHOTO BY JAMES SCOGIN

Jaime Morales arrives at his new smart home. With him is Bradley Blakeman, a board member for Tunnel to Towers Foundation, the organization that provided the home.

## Morales gifted smart home through Tunnel to Towers Foundation

By **James Scogin**  
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Jaime Morales was welcomed into a new smart home Thursday with family, friends and fellow first responders greeting him as the home was unveiled by Tunnel to Towers Foundation. “I can’t express how thankful I am for each and every one of you that came out today,” Morales said. “It means the world to me—this house, the beautiful words from all the people that know me means everything. I am looking forward to heal-

ing further and living a happy life thanks to Tunnel to Towers and every single one of you.” The 2,600 square-foot smart home features touch screens, low counter tops, accessible doors and spaces, with three bedrooms and an office. “This house is totally designed to our hero, Jaime Morales,” said Tunnel to Towers Board Member Bradley Blakeman. “Everything he could possibly want or need is considered in this home build.”

See **MORALES**, 12A



NEWS-GRAPHIC PHOTO BY JAMES SCOGIN

Jaime Morales is shown some of the new technology and features within his home.

### GEORGETOWN CITY COUNCIL

## Annexation vote sparks debate on city’s growth

By **James Scogin**  
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Annexation of the Gaines Farm property, 182 acres at 1367 Paynes Depot Road, passed 5-3 in Georgetown City Council’s meeting Monday. Council members Karen Tingle-Sames, Todd Stone and Michael Crisp were the three “no” votes. “The city council meeting was very disappointing (Monday) night,” Tingle-Sames wrote on Facebook Tuesday following the meeting. “The council voted to approve a new annexation of 180-plus acres. The council had the opportunity to slow down the growth for just a little while and be able to catch up with some of our issues we needed to take care of and get impact fees in place, but, no,

that did not happen.” Crisp also took to Facebook to ask how the citizens would like city leaders to address the issue of growth. “Do you think our city is growing too fast or not fast enough?” Crisp asked. Several commenters raised issues of increased traffic, lack of proper infrastructure and too many residential areas. Others suggested surveying citizens on wants and needs, or building more “support services” in the county to mitigate congestion. Growth of the city is a concern of many department heads, Tingle-Sames said. “Every department head has presented to us that growth is the number one threat,” she said. “Yet only three council mem-

‘Every department head has presented to us that growth is the number one threat. Yet only three council members tried to ease that threat.’

**Karen Tingle-Sames**  
Councilmember

See **ANNEXATION**, 12A

**Coming up:**  
Rotary Kite Fest  
Saturday @ 10 a.m.



### Area deaths

Stuart Kristen “Kris” Bratcher, 60

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