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SCOTT COUNTY FISCAL COURT

Data center freeze extended; historic jail to be sold

By Jack Thomas

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Scott County Fiscal Court extended a moratorium that freezes the consideration or development of data centers in Scott County through March 13, 2027, to allow more time to craft data center regulations. Magistrates also approved the surplus of the old Scott County Jail building on North Water Street

in preparation to sell the historic property.

The data center moratorium, which applies to all of Scott County, first went into effect in March 2026, meaning Fiscal Court's extension will have made the moratorium last a full year after originally being planned for six months. The decision marks the second time magistrates have extended the moratorium.

The extension was requested by Georgetown-

‘Following the work that (GSCPC) has done, and the input that the public has made, we do not feel that we can adequately provide to Fiscal Court a draft ordinance before the moratorium would expire at the end of this year.’

Holden Fleming

Georgetown-Scott County Planning Commission Staff Director

Scott County Planning Commission (GSCPC) following a public hearing regarding a draft data

center ordinance on Sept. 17, where dozens of residents spoke out against the developments and called

for stricter regulations. GSCPC Staff Director Holden Fleming called the forum “very productive.”

“We heard not just from the planning commission and planning commission staff, but a large number of people here in the community,” Fleming said. “Really what was driven home is the importance of this subject and how important it is to get this right.”

“... Following the work that (GSCPC) has done, and the input that the public has made, we do not feel

See **DATA**, 14



NEWS-GRAPHIC PHOTO BY JACK THOMAS

Progress underway at Extension Office

Contractors cut tile flooring in an under-renovation portion of the Scott County Extension Office, where a 5,300-square-foot expansion project is underway. A new wing on the south-facing side of the build-

ing will feature multiple offices, a demonstration kitchen, and a large all-purpose room. The new rooms are currently under roof, with interior work taking place.

Man charged with burglary among indicted by grand jury

By Jack Thomas

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Justin Jennings, 37, of Georgetown, has been indicted on charges of second-degree burglary and persistent felony offender by a Scott County grand jury. Jennings is among over 20 individuals indicted during September hearings.

In June, Georgetown Police Department (GPD) responded to a burglary report at a Northern Heights Drive residence, where occupants were in the process of moving out, according to a GPD citation.

“At some point between (8:00 p.m. and 1:00 a.m.), an unknown subject broke into the apartment and stole a Playstation 4, multiple Playstation games, a

blue Esteban guitar in a blue leather case, an older small brown leather amp and a jar of change,” the citation reads.

Neighbors of the affected resident informed police that the missing Playstation video game console was in their living room, brought into the residence by Jennings, according to the citation.

“Mr. Jennings came outside and confirmed he had taken (the neighboring resident’s) items,” the citation reads. The playstation and other items were located in Jennings’ residence, and the guitar and amplifier were found in his vehicle. “Mr. Jennings stated he thought the items were abandoned and he did return the items.”

See **INDICTMENTS**, 14

SC Fire Department: Oliver named new Asst. Fire Chief

By Jack Thomas

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Revel Oliver is Scott County Fire Department (SCFD)’s new Assistant Fire Chief, bringing over 30 years of experience to the position. Oliver assumed the role Thursday, Sept. 24, after Scott County Fiscal Court unanimously approved his promotion.

“It’s a privilege and honor to serve the citizens of Scott County,” Oliver said of his promotion.

“I’ve been lucky enough to serve a lot of people in my career as a firefighter, and to continue to do that here at Scott County in this position, it’s a humbling honor to me.”

At age 16, Oliver began his fire service career as a volunteer with Stamping Ground Fire Department, he said. He’s served in a number of departments over the last

Oliver

30 years, including Franklin County, Georgetown, and Scott County, with some volunteer work and leadership positions along the way.

“I’ve done this for a long time,” Oliver said. “Everybody says if you have a job that you enjoy, you’ve never really worked a day in your life. To me, I feel like my career has just been a whirlwind of enrichment, and giving back to people is what being a firefighter’s all about.”

Oliver most recently held the role of battalion chief of training at SCFD, where he oversaw the training of 23 new firefighters across three recruit classes since 2023, he said. He currently works with a class of six recruits, whom he will oversee through their upcoming graduation on Oct. 7.

“(Battalion Chief of Training) is a busy role, especially if you have recruits; you have to deal with all their recruit training, getting it scheduled and set up, as well as the

full-time continuing training (for all firefighters),” Oliver said. “The biggest thing is being organized, making sure you’re a step ahead of everything and not procrastinating.”

Oliver follows former Asst. Chief Justin Baker into his new role. Baker, who spent all 22 years of his fire service with SCFD, retired at the end of July.

“Chief Baker, I mean, he was a huge asset to the department,” Oliver said. “I have really big shoes to fill. Hopefully I can make

him proud by doing that.”

Day-to-day, SCFD’s assistant chief oversees the department’s technical rescue committees and sees “a lot of paperwork,” Oliver said, who spent his first day as assistant chief updating run cards and meeting with other department leaders. Long-term, Oliver hopes to leave SCFD with lasting improvements.

“This is kind of cliché, but I think this is every-

See **OLIVER**, 14

**Coming up:
Property Transfers
Friday**



Area deaths

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