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Carter County Times

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cartercountytimes.com

Vol. 6, No. 22 NEWS/ADVERTISING 606-225-1258 CARTER COUNTY, KENTUCKY WEDNESDAY, MAY 28, 2025 \$1.00 PER COPY

From Carter County, with love

Small-town businesses and neighbors unite to deliver hope and healing to tornado survivors in Laurel County

By Miranda H. Lewis
Carter County Times

Last Friday marked one week since a deadly tornado ripped through several communities in Kentucky, leaving devastation in its wake. Seventeen people lost their lives in Laurel County alone. As the sun rose on May

17, the people of Carter County were already rallying—not only with words, but with action. What began as a heartfelt effort by MaKaylen Genung of The Olive Branch Market in Olive Hill quickly grew into a county-wide mission of compassion. Genung, moved by the news of the tragedy, organized a donation drive that would go on to impact hundreds of families in Laurel County. She was joined by small business owners, farmers, and residents alike, all contributing whatever they could to help people they had never met. “From the time I started the market, I knew that I wanted our mission to be around serving our community,” Genung said. “The

See **TORNADO** on A-4



Local business owners work together to load vans with donated supplies as part of a community-wide relief effort for tornado survivors in Laurel County. (Photo by Miranda H. Lewis, *Carter County Times*)

Streets and sirens

Fiscal court discusses road removals, additions, and fire needs

By Charles Romans
Carter County Times

The Carter County Fiscal Court voted to remove Gimlet Creek Road from the county maintenance schedule during their regular May meeting. FIVCO informed the court that the grant they had applied for, based on House Bill 723, had

been awarded. The grant will pay the \$500,000 matching funds for the EDA Grant for the Autism Center if the EDA Grant is awarded. The Genesis CBDG Grant was also discussed, and a public hearing will be held on June 2, 2025. Barry Webb of the Webbville Fire Department discussed the emergency siren at Willard with the fiscal court, and shared concerns about its operations. “The fire department used to test that siren every Wednesday to make sure it was working,” Webb said. “In the past little over a year the department was notified that the siren was put on a radio frequency and was tested

See **SIRENS** on A-6



Barry Webb, of the Webbville Fire Department Board, addresses fiscal court concerning the emergency siren in Willard. (Photo by Charles Romans, *Carter County Times*)

Spreading kindness, one can at a time

Local student builds community food pantry in Olive Hill

By Miranda H. Lewis
Carter County Times

In a small corner of Olive Hill, nestled between the city park and the utilities building, a simple wooden box stands tall with a powerful message: Take what you need, leave what you don't. It's called Faith's Blessings, and it was built with heart, vision, and a deep desire to help by 17-year-old Alivia Wagoner, who will soon begin

See **PANTRY** on A-3



Alivia Wagoner proudly stands beside Faith's Blessings the community food pantry she designed and built to serve Olive Hill residents in need. (Submitted photo)

Weekly arrests report

The following individuals were arrested and booked into the Carter County Detention Center over the past week. This list includes local arrests only. It does not include federal inmates being housed at or transported through the detention center.

- Taylor Tabor, 25, of Thibodaux, LA, arrested by Grayson PD, on a charge of endangering the welfare of a minor, arrested and booked May 19.
- Charles Burnett, 27, of Grayson, arrested by Grayson PD, on a charge of fourth degree assault (domestic violence) with no visible injury, arrested and booked May 19.
- Toni Kiser, 46, of Grayson, arrested by Kentucky State Police, on charges of operating a motor vehicle under the influence of a controlled substance, operating on a suspended or revoked operator's license, and

- failure to produce an insurance card, arrested and booked May 19.
- Lorey Lowe, 60, of Olive Hill, arrested by Olive Hill PD, on a charge of fourth degree assault with minor injury, and violation of a Kentucky emergency protection order/domestic violence order, arrested and booked May 20.
- Thomas Leslie, 68, of Olive Hill, arrested by Olive Hill PD, on a probation violation for a felony offense, and a probation violation for a misdemeanor offense, arrested and booked May 20.
- Paul Marcum, 45, of Olive Hill, arrested by Grayson PD, on a charge of second degree criminal abuse of a child 12 or under, arrested and booked May 21.
- Shawn Perry, 50, address unavailable, arrested by Grayson PD, on charges of public intoxication on a controlled substance (excludes alcohol), and third degree criminal trespass, arrested and booked May 21.

- Scotty Skaggs, 57, of Lime-stone, arrested by Olive Hill PD, on charges of theft by unlawful taking or disposition of items valued between \$1,000 and \$10,000, and being a persistent felony offender, arrested and booked May 22.
- Jordan Pennington, 26, of Prestonsburg, arrested by Kentucky State Police, on charges of second degree manslaughter, and first degree promoting contraband, arrested and booked May 22.
- Michael Salyers, 39, of Ashland, arrested by Boyd County Jail, on two counts of failure to appear, arrested and booked May 23.
- William Fomby, 28, of Louisville, arrested by Kentucky Department of Corrections, controlled intake, charges unavailable, arrested and booked May 23.

See **ARRESTS** on A-3

ISSN 2692-420X

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This Week's Obituaries

Garnet Louise Kilgore Butler, 82

Roger Lee Carper, 71

Gary Phillip Hanshaw, 76

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