

Last Friday night, seven young men lost the home they were counting on to change their lives, as a house belonging to Freedom Farm Ministries burned to the ground in Ashe County. Fortunately, no one was at the house at the time—they were at a prayer meeting in Boone—but Rita Collie of Freedom Farms said a pastor on the site at first thought someone had a campfire, “But when he heard the propane tanks pop, he immediately called 9-1-1, and went down to the end of the road to help the fire trucks find the place.” Creston, Warrensville, and Pond Mountain fire departments all responded, and said the fire may have started in the kitchen, but the fire marshal has not reported on the cause. Collie said the seven men have lost everything they brought—and it killed a small dog they all loved—but help is already arriving, “If we can get the materials—and we believe God will provide—we have the talent in our ministry to rebuild it.” She also said they have received a \$10,000 donation as seed money to get started. If you would like to help—anything from clothing to building materials so they can rebuild a house on the site—send donations to PO Box 153, Boone, NC 28607, their website at freedomfarmministries.org, or their thrift store in the old bread store on the NC 105 bypass.