

Frigid Firefighting

Written by Steve Frank
Friday, 24 January 2014 14:40

Avery firefighters have spent the morning battling two fires in temperatures hovering at or below zero. The first call was to a fire at a Buck Mountain Road residence, one that a number of departments responded to, then units were dispatched to an electrical fire on Elk River Road. Units arriving at the electrical fire sent most of their responding help to the Buck Mountain fire, which took at least two hours to clear.

6:15 AM Friday, the Wilkes County American Red Cross volunteers responded to a house fire located at 707 Elledge Mill Rd, North Wilkesboro. They assisted a family of two adults and 3 children by providing food and lodging.

Wilkes County firemen had to deal with the extreme temperatures—even at mid day—in a fire at a North Wilkesboro residence. The fire was at a home at 181 Duncan Street, North Wilkesboro, North Wilkesboro and other departments battled the blaze that left one adult without a residence, assisted by the Wilkes County American Red Cross. Volunteers responded to the house fire and assisted the resident with emergency lodging, food, warm clothing, and a storage container for goods salvaged from the fire.

There was some damage from a flue fire in Ashe County, with several departments spending several hours using thermal cameras to try to discover fire in the adjacent wall to be sure the fire was out before they departed. In Watauga, the cold weather meant more fire alarms, some with broken sprinkler pipes again, and more water damage from those. The thaw—expected by Sunday—could bring more of those as frozen pipes thaw.

Photos: Brian Fisher-WECR-AM, Dave Faherty, WSOC-TV