

## Fires Damage, Destroy Area Structures

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A number of fires across the area, with icy travel on secondary roads causing problems for area fire departments. Late last night, Zionville Firemen responded to a fire possibly caused by a woodstove at 757 Silverleaf Road, a call just before 11pm that caused firemen to spend over three cold hours fighting the fire. Zionville Chief Donald Miller said that the owner's dog alerted to something amiss at the two-story home, the man at home opening the upstairs bedroom door to find smoke. He evacuated the home with the dog—his wife away at work—while calling in the fire. Zionville and Cove Creek had some trouble reaching the scene due to icy roads, but managed to knock down the fire in about ten minutes, according to Miller, who said they were still looking into the cause. BREMCO was called in to cut the power to the large home, while Watauga Medics, Watauga Rescue, and Watauga deputies stood by. The man was checked for smoke inhalation, according to chief Miller, but was not taken to the hospital. Miller said the house was repairable, but suffered more smoke damage than damage from the fire.

This morning, Elk Park firefighters crossed the state line to help with a house fire in the Roan Mountain Tennessee area, with more icy roads causing troubles getting there. Firemen on the scene say the structure was totaled, 'on the ground' the word as they arrived. Stewart Simmons firefighters had to venture into Wilkes County yesterday afternoon as Champion firemen found a garage structure and the vehicle inside fully engulfed in fire just off Sampson Road. The 2:45pm call was to 933 Bear Run Road, where icy roads caused a number of fire trucks to not be able to reach the scene as the building and vehicle were destroyed.