

Three Structures Burn--Two Destroyed

Written by Steve Frank
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At about 12:45 this morning, a Watauga County house— almost in Tennessee—was found on fire and was fully engulfed when fire units arrived. The call was on Bear Track Lane, a narrow road that left firefighters without the option of a large tanker to fight the fire, causing Zionville and Beaver Dam fire departments,

called to the scene, to have to resort to smaller trucks to get to the structure. The house was totaled in the fire.

Meanwhile, four departments from Ashe and southside Virginia battled a blaze out of Lansing that totaled a three-story farm house in Big Horse Creek. A neighbor saved the life of the woman living there after she was awakened by thunder at about midnight and saw flames coming from her neighbors' home. The neighbor ran next door and woke the lady living there, getting her out while Lansing, Pond Mountain, Mount Rogers and others responded to the fire. Flames were already coming out of the windows when first units from Lansing arrived, and in spite of an all-night effort, the Ripshin Road house was totaled.

Several Avery departments were called to a structure fire at 525 John Erwin Road after a woman called in a fire after lightning struck her house around 5am. The dome-shaped structure was hit near the propane tanks, and dispatchers ordered the woman out of her house to her car to await Banner Elk, Beech Mountain, Fall Creek and other departments. First arriving units report that fire was smoldering right on the propane tanks, but they managed to shut off the gas. Damage was limited due to that effort.