

The official word came in late yesterday afternoon from Medical Examiner Dr. Brent Hall—that the fire victim from Wednesday morning’s apartment fire was 23-year-old Christopher Alan Brubaker. The Boone native’s body was found in the rubble of the apartment on Homespun Hills Road, according to the Boone Fire Department. The cause of the fire is still under investigation of Boone Fire according to Captain Mike Teague. Brubaker graduated from Watauga High School and worked at Pepper's Restaurant and Black Cat Burrito. The fire call came in at 3:58 Wednesday morning as residents of the triplex apartment heard popping sounds and found flames coming from the upper portion of the structure. One man scrambled out of the basement while a woman, her exit blocked from the main floor by the fire, escaped with her dogs out of a window. Chris Brubaker’s funeral is Saturday at Boone United Methodist Church.

Photos: Hampton Funeral Service, WSOC-TV, Steve Frank