

Firefighters Respond to Blaze in Old Rob Hayes Store Building Monday



Firefighters responded to a fire in the old Rob Hayes Store building on Boone Trail (Old U.S. 421) in the Millers Creek Fire District about 3:30 p.m. Monday.

Niki Hamby, fire investigator with the Wilkes Sheriff's Office, said the fire started in a rented apartment room in the basement when an electric heater on a coffee table, left on full power, ignited covers on a bed only six to seven inches away.

Hamby said the fire was reported about 15 to 20 minutes after the man who rented the apartment left. He said there was smoke damage elsewhere but the only actual fire damage was in the room where it started.

The old store building was constructed in the 1940s and no longer is owned by Hayes.

Assisting the Millers Creek Fire Department were the Cricket and North Wilkesboro fire departments.

The fire was near the intersection of Boone Trail and Pads Road and the intersection of Boone Trail and Virginias Drive in the Millers Creek Fire District.

Traffic was temporarily blocked in both directions on Boone Trail.